



THE PRESBYTERIAN REBELLION

Almost every July 4th, James and I will take some time to watch our favorite “Schoolhouse Rock” segments from the time of our nation’s Bicentennial. You might remember them, too. Titled “America Rock”, these segments covered everything from the American Revolution, to the Constitution, to the Suffragist movement in the 1800’s and 1900’s. I am thankful for these videos, as they made it highly likely that many of my generation can recite the Preamble to the Constitution from memory.

I love American History. Our nation is founded on the understanding that all are created equal. That among our rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. As a nation, we have often fallen short of these ideals, with the legality of slavery being the highest deviation.

We often hear about how the revolution was rooted in anger over Great Britain’s abuses of the colonial population in America. We remember that the colonists were taxed without any representation in Parliament. We remember that colonists were forced to quarter British soldiers in their homes. We know that great minds, such as Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were working out what independence from Great Britain would look like. But have you ever heard that the American Revolution was considered by King George III to be a Presbyterian conspiracy?

George III wasn’t alone in his assessment. The MP, Horace Walpole, lamented in Parliament, “Cousin America has eloped with a Presbyterian parson”, referring to Rev. John Witherspoon, a Presbyterian pastor and the only clergy who signed the Declaration of Independence. Ten other Presbyterians signed the Declaration as well. When Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, all but one of the colonels of the Colonial Army were Presbyterian, and it is estimated that one-half of the Revolutionary soldiers were Presbyterian.

So what is it about Presbyterian faith and our American Revolution? Our roots in the theology of John Calvin. Calvin taught that “We are subject to the men who rule over us, but subject only in the Lord. If they command anything against him, let us not pay the least regard to it.” Resistance to tyranny was, and continues to be, a hallmark of Reformed faith. We believe in the sovereignty of God. We believe resistance to that which offends God is our duty as Christians. For many Presbyterians in the American Colonies, this revolution was a Christian duty.

Think on this as we celebrate the 4th this year. Enjoy your freedoms, and celebrate our liberation from tyranny almost 250 years ago. And thank God for brave Presbyterians like John Witherspoon, who risked his life and property to stand up against that tyranny.



PRAYER GROUP



"Fervent prayer," says an old divine, "like a cannon planted at the gates of heaven, makes them fly open." The common fault with most of us is our readiness to yield to distractions. Our thoughts go roving here and there, and we make little progress toward our desired end. Like quicksilver our mind will not hold together but rolls off this way and that. How great an evil this is! It injures us, and what is worse, it insults our God. What should we think of a petitioner if, while having an audience with a prince, he should be playing with a feather or catching a fly? Continuance and perseverance are intended in the expression of our text.

David did not cry once and then relapse into silence; his holy clamor was continued till it brought down the blessing. Prayer must not be our intermittent work but our daily business, our habit and vocation. As artists give themselves to their models, and poets to their classical pursuits, so must we addict ourselves to prayer. We must be immersed in prayer as in our element, and so pray without ceasing. Lord, teach us so to pray, that we may be more and more efficacious in supplication. C.H. Spurgeon, "Morning and Evening"

Do your prayers make "the gates of Heaven fly open"? We try twice a month at prayer group. July dates will be July 13 and 27. Send prayer requests to our secretary, Becky or Susan Martter or any other member of our little group (Carolyn, Missy, Margaret, JoAnna, Rev. Sara) and we promise all prayers are between us and our Lord. And since all of us are pray-ers, why don't you join us? 1:00 on selected Mondays. We have been meeting by Zoom but will resume gathering at the church when we feel safe.

MISSION DEEP SEA VIRTUAL VBS

Our crew of deep sea explorers from the Sea Exploration Agency are setting off on a mission to explore the deepest depths of the ocean on Tuesday, July 7th! Each Tuesday in July, we will have packets available for pick-up and video recordings posted for Facebook in the evenings. Join us, as we search for knowledge about the Creator — and you're invited to be a SEA agent in training! As our crew travels deeper and deeper below the surface, experience the wonders of creation, face a few challenges, and discover that knowing our Creator doesn't require a special badge or a submarine. Our faith grows deeper when we spend time with God, spend time with others, use our gifts to serve, and share our stories of faith.



SESSION MEMBERS

Sarah Blakeman— *N&M/Nominating Co-chair*

Gail Burke— *Stewardship*

Carolyn Culbertson— *Nominating, Co-chair*

Ellen Drumm— *N&M*

June Hanes— *Worship Chair*

Phillip Hopkins— *F&M Chair*

Chuck Kaman— *Christian Education Chair*

Patti Smith— *N&M Co-chair*

Doug Quinn— *F&M*

Marcia Arthur— *Clerk of Session*



- July 1 Bryce Haase
- July 1 Francesca Lendrum
- July 4 Ellen Drumm
- July 4 Ron Ruble
- July 5 Robert Lippus
- July 6 Grace Moser
- July 7 Twila Rowe
- July 9 Herb Chapin
- July 10 Andrew Muntz
- July 11 Julie Koenig
- July 12 Megan Kirby
- July 14 Rev. Clair Brewer
- July 14 Robert Brouse
- July 15 John Drumm
- July 16 Janet Mueller
- July 21 Susan Martter
- July 21 Dennis Velliquette
- July 22 Mark Koch
- July 24 Gwen Aber
- July 25 Michael Prout
- July 28 John Glann
- July 29 Cynthia Brown Mathews
- July 30 Jane Williamson



We'd like to officially welcome Donna Myers as our new treasurer! Stay tuned for a special article featuring her next month in the Steeple Notes!

PRAYER CALENDAR FOR THE CHURCHES OF HURON

July 5, 2020

First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Sara Hodsden

July 12, 2020

Christ Episcopal Church
Rev. Michael Floyd

July 19, 2020

Lighthouse Assembly of God Church

July 26, 2020

St. Peter Catholic Church
Father Jeff McBeth



Photo Credit: Faithful Saver



JULY 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 Prout Baptism Worship @10:00 am (2-Cents-A-Meal/ Communion)	6 Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ noon	7 Virtual VBS Bible Study via Zoom @ 6 pm	8 Christ's Community Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ 5 pm	9	10	11 Lion's Club Food Drive @ 9am-2pm
12 Worship @10:00 am	13 Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	14 Virtual VBS Bible Study via Zoom @ 6 pm	15 Session Meeting @ 7pm	16	17	18
19 Worship @10:00 am	20 Steeple Notes Deadline Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ noon	21 Virtual VBS Bible Study via Zoom @ 6 pm	22 Christ's Community Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ 5 pm	23	24	25
26 Worship @10:00 am	27 Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	28 Virtual VBS Bible Study via Zoom @ 6 pm	29	30	31	