

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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JULY 2010: 'TRUE, LASTING FREEDOM' "Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him; 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free....Therefore if the Son makes you free, you are free indeed.'" (John 8:31, 32, & 36)

People in every nation believe that what is written down on some parchment or paper will secure lasting liberty and freedom for them. However, history reveals that the heart of people change and governments are altered. Political and economic upheavals can cause people to allow their leaders to enact measures which normally would never be allowed. Think of Germany in the 30's with the events that were taking place which allowed a man like Hitler to gain such a strangle hold on that country, that it's people gave up their liberties and freedom.

Have you ever considered the thought that perhaps one day in America we will have our freedoms drastically restricted, that churches will have to register with the state in order to operate? For decades organizations like the A.C.L.U. and other atheist groups have had ongoing pressure on our leaders to great limit or outright outlaw primarily Christianity from the public scene under the guise of the so-called separation of church and state. Once a nation's people allow their elected officials to knuckle under from the pressure of radical groups or individuals, to enact laws which greatly restrict the lawful expression of views, it is very difficult to stop the momentum of this run-away boulder from crushing the heart of freedom and liberty from the land. Christianity in general will become restricted to the confines of the church buildings and even the proclamation of God's word will be restricted due to its intolerant views.

I see the big problem as one of priority. If our liberties and freedoms are external then they can easily be taken away and we lose them. But, if we believe God's word is true for ages, times and situations, then the liberty and freedom which come from this understanding will never change. "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you are free indeed." (Jn. 8:36) The world did not give this to us, therefore no power of an earthly government, nor the power of Satan, will ever be able to take it away from us.

As A.R.P.'s we believe that the Old and New Testaments to be the only perfect rule for faith and practice. We therefore believe that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life, and there is no other way to the Father but through Jesus. This is the heart and soul of a true and lasting freedom.

I for one choose to stay in the power of God's to experience the everlasting freedom there is in Jesus and not be found wanting when I stand before God's throne. Man's idea of freedom and liberty is so fragile. But the freedom one has in Jesus will bring us through the storms of life.

Consider His word for us, His truth and make your stand upon the Solid Rock.

In His love, Meredith

SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

July 4	John 8:21-36 "Abiding Freedom"
July 11	Psalms 127:1; Proverbs 1:7; 14:26, 27, 33-34 "The True Fear Factor"
July 18	Galatians 6:7-18 "The Center of the Christian's Life"
July 25	Ephesians 4:7-16 "A Purposeful Ministry"

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH

July 5	Mr. and Mrs. John R. Moore
July 11	Mr. and Mrs. Alton Woods
July 19	Mr. and Mrs. Steve Hardy
July 24	Mr. and Mrs. Larry Crum
July 28	Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Molder

FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

Margaret Sherrill Circle

NURSERY ATTENDANTS FOR THE MONTH

July 4	Molly Huffman
July 11	Joanna Simonton
July 18	Ashley Goulder
July 25	Linda Boswell

PLEASE NOTE: We need information for the Brighton Light. We would like to make the church newsletter more interesting and informative. If you have any news about you or your family or any suggestions or ideas, please contact the church secretary.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-372-3995 or e-mail at chris_gravley@bellsouth.net.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Chris Gravley. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Chris at 901-372-3995.

CONGRATULATIONS: Molly Anne Heath. She was given the Sportsmanship Medal at the closing ceremony for her softball team. Molly Anne was also chosen as Most Involved Dunny at the Munford FFA Lamb Camp.

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY still has cookbooks for sale. These would make wonderful gifts for any occasion. Please see Linda Clarke if you would like to purchase one (or several!).

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY is selling Bed Sheets as a fundraiser for the kitchen. If you would like more information on this please see Jean Molder.

A WORK TEAM from our church will be going to French Camp, Miss. from July 5th – 9th. Please keep this group in your prayers.

MVP CAMP will be July 12 thru 17. Please keep this group in your prayers for safe travel and safety while at the camp. Campers are – Lilly & Haley Alsbrook, Taylor & Mallory Glass, Lauren Guthrie, Emily Kirk & Kirsten Rettig, Michael Miller, Kaitlyn Moore, Mary Grace Simonton, and Austin Starnes as well as the counselors - Denise & Stephanie Moore and Joanna Simonton.

CAR WASH will be held on Saturday July 10th from 9 am to 2 pm. This money will go toward the cost of MVP Camp. Come on out and support the Youth and get your car washed!

AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL will be held on Wednesday August 4th at 7:00 p.m. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship. We will be presenting the dreams and aspirations of our Vision Committee which was formed in December 2009. This is a very important presentation for the future which our Lord has in store for us as a body of Christ. Please put this date on your calendar and make every effort to attend.