

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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Enjoying Freedom

Well, summer is finally here. As I write these words, I am on vacation in Savannah, Georgia. Last Monday was Memorial Day, which is often considered the official start to summer. School is out for a while, and folks are ready to enjoy these warm summer months.

Memorial Day has passed, and Independence Day will be here soon enough. While the meaning behind those days has sometimes become lost in cookouts and fireworks (and vacations!), we should never forget that they serve as reminders of the freedom we enjoy. We possess enormous freedoms in this country, and we sometimes take these for granted. On this vacation, our family traveled from Tennessee through Mississippi and Alabama before we arrived in Georgia. On the way back, we will probably travel through South Carolina and North Carolina on the way to General Synod. Just to put that into perspective, consider a scene from the 1990 movie *The Hunt for Red October*. A Soviet submarine crew is planning to defect to the United States. The captain of the submarine asks his first officer about his plans after they are in the U.S. The first officer replies that he wants to live on a farm in Montana, own a pick up truck, and maybe even drive an RV from state to state and live in Arizona in the winter. Then he stops to ask if they will allow him to do that “without papers.” The captain assures him that he will not need any papers. Just the simple freedom to drive across state lines is something we likely take for granted.

There is a greater freedom that we enjoy in Jesus Christ. Believers have been set free from the penalty of sin in Christ, but they have also been set free from the power of sin. In Christ, we are no longer slaves to sin, and we are dead to sin (Romans 6:6, 11). This is summarized well in the Augustus Toplady hymn “Rock of Ages”: “Be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and power.” Sadly, there are many who may take this freedom for granted.

When I was a young boy growing up in south Georgia, the local Piggly Wiggly grocery store would have special paper bags (remember those?) printed up for this time of the year. There would be an American flag with the words “With Freedom Comes Responsibility.” Freedom is free for us because it comes at a great cost (the reason we celebrate Memorial Day). For the Christian, the great cost for the freedom we enjoy was paid by the Lord Jesus Christ, and it was nothing less than His own life which He laid down for His people. For those who are in Christ, we are to live responsibly in that freedom. That means not using our freedom in Christ as an excuse to indulge in sin. Paul writes in Romans 6:12-13, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.” True freedom for the Christian does not mean “I can do whatever I want to do.” It means living under the reign of our great King Jesus Christ, and enjoying the freedom (true freedom) that comes with being a citizen of His Kingdom. Therefore, let us live as those who have been set free in Jesus Christ.

Prayer List:

Bennett, Mary F – Shut in
 Billings, Richard – (Denise’s Dad) Cancer
 Boswell, Charles - Cancer
 Boswell, Mike – Health issues
 Bryant, Ty – Infant, Heart
 Cothran, Bill – Health issues
 Goulder, Helen – Heart Issues - Hospital
 Goulder, Martha Jean – Shut In
 Hopper, Claude – Shut in
 McCain, Pat – Health Issues
 McCain, Ken – Health Issues
 McCain, Kenny – Health Issues

Moore, Martha Lou – Hospice
Moss, Charlie
 Pugh, Kaleb – (Laura Kiphart’s grandson)
Stitt, Sam – Health issues
 Trotter, June – Shut in
 Williams, Sandy – (Huffman family)Cancer
 Wilson, Glenda – Bone Cancer
 Winford, Sherry – Health issues
 Yarbro, Ina – Health issues
 Heath, Kristin - Cancer

Rivercity Reformed Presbyterain Church – Church plant in Little Rock Arkansas

Military

Donahoo, Tim	Starnes, Austin	Hill, Debra	Hunt, Boyce
Dooley, Rod	Heathman,Matthew	Young III, Robert “Trip”	

Missionaries

Coad, Jim & Gala Rebekah Carson

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3 Rachel Lynn Goulder	8 Amanda Trotter	17 Stephanie Williams
6 Laura Kiphart	Robert Rhodes	22 Alexi Starnes
Zane Hill	Richard Cannon	24 Shane Maxwell
7 Barbara Heath	11 Colton Boswell	25 Faye Smith
Mary Frances Bennett	Jerry Molder	30 Leslie Alsbrook
Susan Cavin	13 Ruth Anne Goulder	Marlee Smith
	23 Carolyn Sides	Sara Griffin

<u>CHILDRENS SERMON</u>	
June 4	Lilly Alsbrook
June 11	John Moore
June 18	Leslie Alsbrook
June 25	Pastor Tim

<u>NURSERY ATTENDANTS</u>	
June 4	Leslie Alsbrook
June 11	Molly Huffman
June 18	Ashley Goulder
June 25	Lydia Maxwell

Upcoming Events

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-674-3851 or e-mail at chris_gravley@bellsouth.net.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Chris Woods. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Chris at 901-837-8950.

PLEASE NOTE If anyone is sick, in need of prayer or a visit, please contact Milton Murphy 901-476-2808.

PRAYER LIST: Thank you for the updates on the Prayer List. There are names still on the list that people do not know or have any information on. **Keep the updates coming!** Thanks!

PLEASE REMEMBER: The Sunday Bible Study at 6 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Photo's of the different church events are needed for the Website. If you have photo's that you don't mind sharing please send to Nick Goulder at nick.goulder1@gmail.com
Subject: Church Photos

PLEASE NOTE: The MVP Camp is July 10 – 15. The cost is \$260 non-members \$130 Members. Please let Ms. Denise know if you are interested in attending this year or would like to be a counselor. Those attending so far:

Ruth Goulder, Abby Maxwell, Byron Maxwell, Lydia Maxwell, Kase Templeton, Slade Templeton, Maddi Yarbro, Brooklin Woods, Ashlyn Allman, Lilly Alsbrook.

The total needed to cover the cost of camp is \$2600. If you would like to sponsor a child or even a portion would be greatly appreciated. Make checks out to the church and make a note that it is to go to the MVP Camp.

VBS: SPREAD THE WORD - Vacation Bible School will be June 11 – 15 starting @ 6 p.m. Theme: Faith EXPEDITION "God's Treasure Revealed". Ages: Pre K – 5th grade. Adult Bible Study will also be available. If you would like to help in any way please see Linda or Ashley.

PLEASE NOTE: Starting on June 28th there will be a Family Night Potluck and Prayer. This will continue through the summer months - July 26, August 30. Hope to see you there.

PLEASE NOTE: Synod will be June 6-8. Elder Richard Moore and Pastor Tim will be attending. Please keep this event in your prayers as well as traveling mercies for them and their family.

Personal Mention

SICK AND SHUT IN Mrs. Helen Goulder has been in the hospital with heart issues. She is at Baptist Hospital East Room 3204.

PLEASE NOTE: Ms Mary Frances Bennett's family will be having an Open House in honor of her **100th Birthday** on June 7th from 2:00 to 4:00 in the Brighton ARP Church Fellowship Hall. No Gifts Please. Please come by and wish her a Happy Birthday.

PLEASE NOTE: The session is asking that our church support both BJ and Lydia Maxwell with monetary and prayer support on their upcoming mission trip to Indonesia. Please see either one for any information about this exciting trip they are preparing for.