



We fly the flag in order to . . .

- **GIVE THANKS TO OUR LORD FOR THE FREEDOM WE HAVE TO OPENLY GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP HIM.**

*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.*

*The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution*

- **GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY TO DEFEND OUR FREEDOM—INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO WORSHIP.** We should never forget that many of our brothers and sisters in the faith fought, and some died, to honor their God and protect this nation.

- **SERVE AS A REMINDER TO PRAY FOR OUR NATION AND OUR LEADERS.**

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

*1 Timothy 2:1-4 ESV*

# CALLED TO FREEDOM



**Three cars side-by-side on a two lane road —** that was our experience on our recent vacation. Hwy 97 is always a "Keep your eyes open" route as impatient drivers seek to pass slower vehicles and trucks. This is an absolute NO-NO when the center line is solid. But the yellow line becomes dashed it means FREEDOM!! Unfortunately, the [censored] driver behind me chose a poor time to exercise their "freedom" causing us and the oncoming car to use our respective shoulders and horns.



**FREEDOM has never been intended to be a license to do whatever we want to do.** That horrible driver thought the dashed yellow line gave them the freedom to drive as they saw fit. It almost caused bloodshed and heartache. In this great nation, we are the best version of ourselves when we utilize our freedom in defense of and for the betterment of others.

**Paul tells us that "For freedom Christ has set us free."** Galatians 5:1 From what has Christ set us free?

- FROM **BONDAGE** to sin;
- FROM the pain and sorrow of **DEATH**;
- FROM the reign and rule of **SATAN**;
- FROM the futility of a **PURPOSELESS LIFE**.

**Blood was shed for this freedom.** The holy, precious blood of Jesus, was spilled on the cross. A Lamb without blemish was the sacrifice required to pay the debt our sin had accumulated. The very life of the Son of God was given to set us free. With the cost so high and the freedom so rich, why do we so often neglect or misuse this freedom?

**Friends, since Christ has called us to freedom, let us use the right to freely exercise our religion to actually worship our God!** Let us gather to thank and praise our Lord for loving us, rescuing us, and blessing us with His gracious presence. Let us gladly hear His precious Word that corrects us, encourages us, and shows us how we should live. Let us use our freedom to help one another, especially those with particular needs or worries. Let us be active in our communities as people of life and love. Let us truly be a free people!

**To God be the glory!**

## The Word

*For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.*

Galatians 5:13 ESV

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In **Jesus'** name,

*Pastor Adams*

# Feeding the Funny Bone



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Thanks to Mikel Rice 07-07-1998

MANNA, IT'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER ... AND LUNCH ... AND BREAKFAST

## Divert Your Course

This is the transcript of an actual radio conversation of a US naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October, 1995. Radio conversation released by the Chief of Naval Operation 10-10-95

**Americans:**

Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

**Canadians:**

Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid collision.

**Americans:**

This is the Captain of a US Navy Ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

**Canadians:**

No...I say again, you divert YOUR course.

**Americans:**

THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS LINCOLN, THE SECOND

Acknowledgements

Pictures:

reverendfun.com

Jokes:

From www.jokes.christiansunite.com

LARGEST SHIP IN THE UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET. WE ARE ACCOMPANIED BY THREE DESTROYERS, THREE CRUISERS, AND NUMEROUS SUPPORT VESSELS. I DEMAND THAT YOU CHANGE YOUR COURSE 15 DEGREES NORTH, THAT'S ONE FIVE DEGREES NORTH, OR COUNTER-MEASURES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THIS SHIP!

**Canadians:**

This is a lighthouse.... Divert YOUR course.

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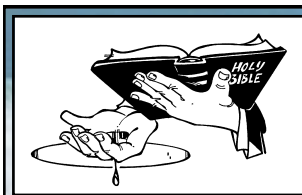
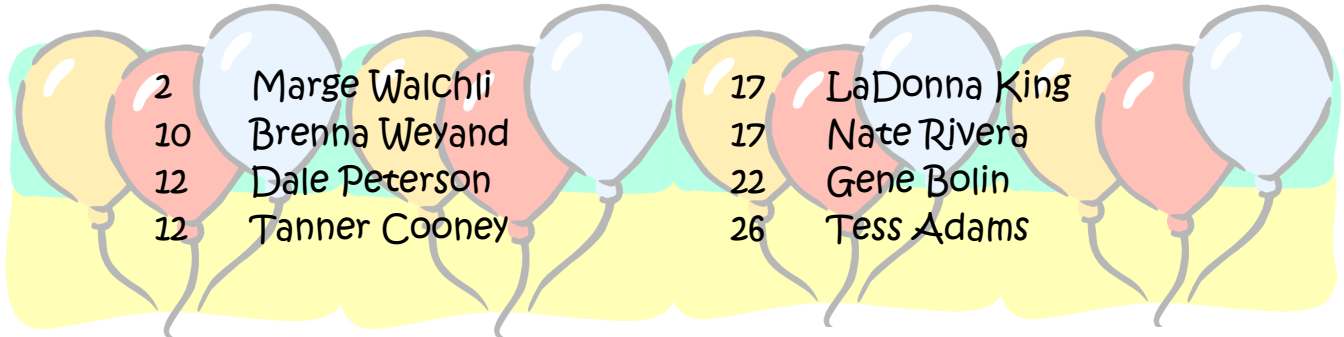


07-28-1998

O WAIT, THERE'S SOME EVEN FUNNIER STUFF IN CHAPTER TWO

# Happy Birthday

# Bethlehem's July Celebrations!



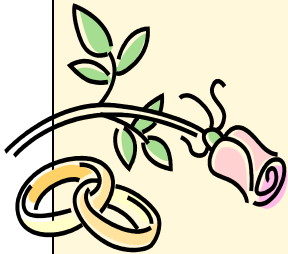
## BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

11 Denise Marks

20 Whitney Bahrns

11 Jason Middleton

## Happy Anniversary!



July 6, 1985 (34th) Richard & Michele Misener

July 6, 1996 (23rd) Jason & Cindy Middleton

July 10, 1965 (54th) Tom & Kathy Nichols

July 10, 1976 (43rd) John & Lorinda Schwarz

July 13, 2013 (6th) Ray & Meleen Anason

July 15, 2000 (19th) Kyle & Brenna Weyand

July 19, 1975 (44th) Mike & Peggy Martin

July 20, 1991 (28th) Curtis & Dawn Johnston

July 22, 2006 (13th) Ryan & Ericka Keefauver

July 25, 1992 (27th) Jason & Mindy Barron

July 29, 2005 (14th) Nate & Andrea Rivera

July 31, 1982 (37th) Barry & Sandi Trapp

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Hermiston, Oregon  
Office 567-6811 Preschool 567-7829  
www.bethlehemhermiston.org



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bible Study in lone 7 a.m.  Peacemakers 9:00 am.	3  Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's 6 a.m.	4 <i>Independence Day</i> 	5	6
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday aft. Pentecost	7 Christ Alone Lutheran, lone Worship @ 8 a.m.  Worship 10:30 a.m.	8	9 Bible Study in lone 7 a.m.  Peacemakers 9:00 am.	10 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.  Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's 6 a.m.	11 Women's Bible Study 2:00 p.m.	12	13 Men's Group 8 a.m. Hermiston Airport
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday aft. Pentecost	14 Christ Alone Lutheran, lone Worship @ 8 a.m.  Worship 10:30 a.m.	15	16 Bible Study in lone 7 a.m.  Peacemakers 9:00 am.	17 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.  Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's 6 a.m.	18	19	20
6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday aft. Pentecost	21 Christ Alone Lutheran, lone Worship @ 8 a.m.  Worship 10:30 a.m.	22 <i>Right to Life Mtg.</i> 6:30 p.m. ARC Buildingf	23 Bible Study in lone 7 a.m.  Peacemakers 9:00 am.	24 Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's 6 a.m.	25 Women's Bible Study 2:00 p.m.	26	27
7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday aft. Pentecost	28 Christ Alone Lutheran, lone Worship @ 8 a.m.  Mite Box Offering  Worship 10:30 a.m.	29	30 Bible Study in lone 7 a.m.  Peacemakers 9:00 am.	31 Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's 6 a.m.	Memory Verse for July  <i>In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect</i>  1 Peter 3:15 ESV		

**Flowers**

July 7 **Rich & Michele Misener**  
16 **Ramona Wagner**  
23 **Nate & Andrea Rivera**  
30 **Mark & Tess Adams**

**Those Who Serve**

**Pastor:** Rev. Mark Adams  
**Elder:** John Liebe  
**Preschool Director:** Tess Adams  
**Organist:** Kathy Nichols & Judy Hall  
**Greeter:** Ramona Wagner

**Family Prayers**

July 7 Tom & Helen Huebner  
14 Jaclyn Jenkins  
21 Patti Jenkins  
28 Curt & Dawn Johnston