
TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

July 2025

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

RURITAN FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JULY 3 – NO PAYER MEETING
- JULY 4 – RURITAN CELEBRATION AT YELLOW
SPRING (SEE ARTICLE)
JOANN THOMPSON'S BIRTHDAY
- JULY 6 – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
- JULY 7 – NO BIBLE STUDY
HEIDI VANDERLINDEN'S BIRTHDAY
CAPON BRIDGE VBS BEGINS 6- 8:15 PM
(SEE ARTICLE)
- JULY 10 – NO PRAYER MEETING
- JULY 11 – LAST DAY OF CAPON BRIDGE VBS
- JULY 12 – MENS BREAKFAST AT HAYFIELD
RESTAURANT 8:00 AM
ERIC & SUZANNE REID'S ANNIVERSARY
- JULY 13 – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
COUNCIL MEETING (FINANCIAL &
DOCUMENTS DUE JULY 10)
- JULY 14 – BIBLE STUDY 10:00-11:30 AM
- JULY 17 – PRAYER MEETING AT CHURCH 6:30-7:30 PM
- JULY 20 – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
- JULY 21 – BIBLE STUDY 10:00-11:30 AM
CHRIS ORNDORFF'S BIRTHDAY
MONICA CASH'S BIRTHDAY
- JULY 24 – NO PRAYER MEETING
- JULY 27 – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
- JULY 28 – BIBLE STUDY 10:00-11:30 AM
AL & JANE BILLINGS ANNIVERSARY
- JULY 31 – PRAYER MEETING AT LARUE'S 4:00-5:00 PM

The annual Ruritan Fourth of July Celebration will be held on the 4th beginning at 11 am at Ruritan Park in Yellow Spring. Anyone who would like to volunteer to serve food or help with the auction would be greatly appreciated.

CAPON BRIDGE VBS

Vacation Bible School at the old Capon Bridge School will be held from July 7 thru July 11, with our church preparing and serving the meal on Friday. If you wish to help with the meal, preparation may begin at the church and then served at the school from approximately 5:30 - 7:00 pm on Friday. Also, volunteers are needed for each night of VBS. Please contact Pastor Mike or Jeanie Spaid for further details.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL/HOMECOMING SERVICE

Our annual Memorial/Homecoming Service was held on June 15. Pastor Mike brought us an inspiring message and the Trustees reported that the "Restoring Americas Cemeteries" demonstrated last year on June 3rd was very enlightening and has prompted an in-house project to at least clean and possibly repair stones in our cemetery. In addition, the project to identify the gravesites in the cemetery in an electronic format for future reference and preservation of data is nearing completion. Any help with these projects would be greatly appreciated.

Next ladies fellowship will be August 2, mark your calendars.

We welcome any articles, comments or suggestions.
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Celebrating Freedom

July 4th is just around the corner. It's a day when the citizens of the United States of America celebrate their independence. They battled for their freedom from English rule, and now we mark the occasion with fireworks, hot dogs, picnics, and parades. Although it's great to celebrate our country's birthday, this article isn't about America. There is a freedom more important than American independence. It's the freedom Christ won for us on the cross.

Although studying the history of the revolution tells us what happened, it's hard for us to understand what it was like in the Colonies before we won our independence. Likewise, it's hard for us to understand the state of God's people before the cross. We live now in the era of the Last Days. The Holy Spirit has already come, indwelling God's people and empowering them to do great works for God. Having been set free, it's hard for us to remember the bondage that held us before we knew Christ. That's one reason a new believer is often radically different from someone who has known Christ for years.

Because our memory often needs help in recalling the implications of being set free by Christ, when the Fourth of July comes around this year, I encourage you to take time to reflect on what it means that Christ has won your freedom. In Romans 8:1-2 Paul writes, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." Before you knew Christ, you were held captive by the law. The law that convicted you of sin and condemned you to death. But in Christ, you have been set free! Now, you are no longer under condemnation. This should make fireworks go off in your head as you contemplate the wonder of your new standing in the kingdom of God.

In John 8:36, the Apostle tells us that Jesus said, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." It may not seem like you have been set free from sin or the penalty of the law. Remember, the writer of Hebrews does tell us that sin still clings closely. But, when Jesus said you would be 'free indeed,' he meant that you would be free in truth, fact, and reality. And since you have been set free, you are to live as someone who knows freedom.

In Romans 5:1 Paul writes, "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Here, Paul reminds us of just how great the gospel is in terms of freedom. Paul was under the obligation of the law. He knew it's tyranny. When he met Christ on the road to Damascus, it was then that he found freedom. A freedom that no one can take away from him. He found himself so free regarding the law that his entire outlook on life changed.

The gospel must affect us in the same way. We must celebrate the freedom we have found in Christ! There should be fireworks and celebrations, parades and picnics. (OK, maybe a parade is too much). However, every Sunday, when we gather at church, we should be reminded of the freedom we now have in Christ. And this should cause us to celebrate our new standing, enjoy our deep fellowship, and rejoice with one another that we are now part of God's kingdom. I, for one, am glad that America won her freedom so long ago. But I am even more excited about the freedom I have in Christ – and I hope you are, too.

~ Pastor Mike