

Declaration of Dependence

Arthur Barry

Today is Independence Day for Americans. We must not think that we are simply celebrating our independence, because no one is totally independent. We celebrate our freedom from the rule of the English monarchy. Many people just want independence without any accountability, but Christians must recognize their allegiance to Christ. We need to declare our dependence on God. These words from Psalm 33:10-22 give us some reasons why:

The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.

From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind;

From his dwelling-place he watches all who live on earth—

He who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.

No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength.

A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.

But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

From John 8:31-36 we see how true freedom is based on being dependent on Jesus:

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

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July 4, 2021

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: [God's Open Doors](#)

Larry Little will be preaching today.

Scripture Reading: [Acts 14:27,28](#)

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Mike Huddleston will be teaching the men upstairs, while Sandy Zimmerman will teach the ladies downstairs, continuing the discussion on spiritual gifts.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class: July 7th, at the building, 6:30pm-** The men will be meeting downstairs with Larry Little, and the ladies will meet upstairs with Nadine Huddleston. Come at 6 and eat with us before the lesson if you like.
- ❖ **Next Potluck:** July 18th.



BAPTISM! Paulette Frycek was baptized into Christ on Friday in Catherine Creek near Montour Falls. Please give Paulette a warm welcome when you meet her this morning!

- **Gail Westerhold** will probably need more surgery to remove cancer from her remaining kidney.
- **Our pre-July 4th hot dog roast was held here at the building yesterday. We served free hot dogs to our neighbors and friends who stop by. We had a few visitors and several good conversations resulted as well as invitations to worship.**

PRAYERS

- Pray for **Paulette**, our new babe in Christ, as she begins her Christian walk.
- **Dan Myers**, Paulette's friend, needs prayer for multiple health problems.
- Pray for **Zachary Cowles** as he will be deployed for two years once he leaves.
- **Jackie** had an MRI last week to evaluate the extent of Rheumatoid Arthritis. Pray that she can be pain free soon and not have to deal with side effects from meds.
- **Pat Guthrie** from Kittanning has lung cancer.
- Please pray for **Gail Westerhold** as she is possibly facing another kidney surgery to remove cancer.
- Pray for **Linnett Short, a former coworker of Paul's**. She has stage 3 lung cancer.
- **John Kashorek**, former preacher at the Massena, NY church, has been suffering panic attacks.
- **Arthur's younger sister, Sue**, has metastatic breast cancer and **his brother Chris** in England has Alzheimer's Disease. Please pray for their health and for their souls.
- **Don Myers**, former preacher for the Elmore, AL church, will be visiting a neurologist in Mobile for an evaluation on the 12th.
- **Ted** has been dealing with pain in his kidneys from kidney stones.
- **Amy Connor's friend Denise Whitfield** has colon cancer and will soon have surgery.
- Please pray for **Nancy Holcomb** from the Horseheads church as she is suffering from dementia and pray for her daughter **Sarah** as well.
- **Dawn's sister Alice** is in the final stages of cancer and in hospice care. Please pray for Dawn, Alice and the family.
- **Nancy Black**, who is a good friend of Ruthie's is suffering from complications of diabetes.
- **Sandy Zimmerman's dear friend Reniva**, age 93, is suffering ill health and grief as her daughter **Sharon** is on hospice care and not expected to live much longer. Please pray for Reniva, Sharon and Sharon's husband **Rob**.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.