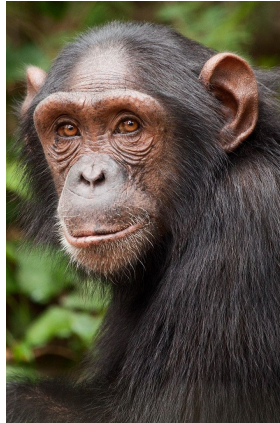


## Freedom Is Not Free

For many years at the University of Oklahoma, a project was underway to teach a fifteen-year-old female chimpanzee named Washoe to “talk” by combining sign language with simple recognition. Over time, the chimp learned 140 signs.



Eventually, the project directors decided that Washoe was prepared to “conceptualize.” This meant that instead of merely imitating human words, the chimp would express thoughts of her own.

Remember that Washoe was a pampered animal in the university’s laboratory—well fed, physically comfortable, and safe from harm. She had real security. And yet, when she was able to put words together into a phrase on her own, these were her first three words: “Let me out!”

Freedom is a precious commodity for the human race as well. Yet, as inscribed on the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., “Freedom Is Not Free.” Someone paid for our liberty with his or her blood.

What is true of our country is also true for our souls. When Jesus said, “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free,” He was prepared to make His own death the very core of that divine truth (John 8:32).

Every man and woman in bondage to sin can cry, “Let me out!” and know that he or she can be emancipated because of what Jesus did on the cross.

“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36).

Randall Medlin  
Bulletin Digest



Vol. 34 No. 26

June 28, 2026

## America’s Semiquincentennial 1776–2026



### Elders

Ron Akers  
Phil Degelia  
Tim Simmons

### Deacons

Mike Fox  
(Building and Grounds)  
Jeff Kiel  
(Building and Grounds)  
Dean Rosser  
(Safety)  
Roland Snipes  
(Benevolence)  
Keith Tolbert  
(Education)

### Minister

Bryan Winn

### Secretary

Carrie DePass