

THE MESSENGER

Newsletter from Westminster

OUR MISSION IS TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE IN ALL WE DO

Independence Day

A time to remember our freedoms and thank God for them.



02 ~ Lorraine Chretien
18 ~ Craigen Frazier

“No longer do I call you servants, but I have called you friends.”

— Jesus

John 15:15

Who are you? Who am I? We all can be described in many ways – spouse, dad, mom, son, daughter, male, female, child of God, Cub fan, sinner, saint, believer, disciple, slave – yet one of the most shocking things that can be said of us is that we are a “friend of God.” To be clear, Christ’s statement in John 15 does not mean that God is “my buddy.” Nor does it imply that I am God’s friend in the same way that He is mine. (He does not need me like I need Him). But He does call me friend. And that is amazing.¹

You and I are called “a friend of God.” That ought to stop us in our tracks causing us to be in awe and wonder at this God who calls us friends. This God who holds the entire cosmos together, who is the most joyous being in the universe, who has no need yet who chooses friendship with us – it is this God who calls us friends.

My cousin is related to Julie Andrews. When I was younger this was a big deal to me as I thought Julie Andrews was awesome. She is in *The Sound of Music*, a favorite Broadway musical, therefore being related to Julie Andrews made my cousin important. We all know people who name drop and in passing let us know that they had lunch with the mayor or someone famous or perhaps even the president. Yet not one of these people holds a candle when it comes to the sovereign God of our world. And yet it is this God, in Jesus, who says – no longer are you my servants, instead we are friends.

For some of us we might look at this a give a yawn. Yet it is important that we find a way to be awestruck and inspired. That Jesus is our friend is a big deal. Think about Isaiah’s response when he saw the Lord high and exalted, seated on a throne. In this vision, the train of the Lord’s robe filled the temple. Just the train! Around him were celestial beings crying out “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” Isaiah’s response was “Woe is me, I am ruined for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips.” Isaiah experienced the holiness of our God and the sinfulness of himself and his people. The gulf between humans and God is enormous, yet it is this God who has moved us to friend status.

~continued from page 2~

Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus we are called into obedience and friendship! Therefore, we can stand in the presence of this holy, awesome, life-giving God as a friend alongside Moses and Abraham.

This inspires me to live into that friendship. To discover more and more what it means to be a friend of God so that this relationship is the one that grounds all other relationships. How can I be a friend to God today?

Pastor Angie

BILLY GRAHAM: THE MEANING OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

July 4th commemorates the day in 1776 that our nation declared itself to be an independent nation, and no longer a colony of England. On that date, a number of our leading citizens signed what is known as the Declaration of Independence, stating our determination to become a free country.

Our independence did not come easily; only after several difficult years of war would it finally be won. Nor were our first years as a nation free from problems and controversies (as is still true). But our forefathers were determined to establish a free and democratic system of government, and the Declaration of Independence (together with our Constitution and the Bill of Rights) became the foundation for this. They have stood the test of time, and on July 4th we give thanks for the wisdom and faith and courage of those leaders.

Although it is not a religious holiday like Christmas or Easter, for many Americans July 4th is a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a nation. Molded into the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia (which proclaimed our independence) are these words from the Bible: "*Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof*" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV). Our legal system reflects our Judeo-Christian roots.

While we look with gratitude to the past on this July 4th, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. The ancient words of the Psalmist are still true: "*Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord*" (Psalm 33:12).

<https://billygraham.org/answers/fourth-of-july-celebrations-recall-americas-history-and-enduring-faith-in-god>



Westminster Presbyterian Church Chapter 1337— “Prayers and Squares” The Prayer Quilt Ministry.



Westminster Presbyterian joined “The Prayers and Squares—The Prayer Quilt Ministry” in 2024 and became Chapter 1337. Our first meeting was held April 22, 2024 and soon after, The Versailles United Methodist Church joined us in this ministry.

The purpose of the Prayers and Squares Ministry is to promote an active prayer life among the participants, as we make and give away quilts. We strive to involve as many people as possible in our prayer efforts.

Please join us for this fun, creative, worthwhile mission. All are welcome and if you do not know how to sew, we will show you! Meetings are from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, every first Saturday and every third Monday of the month unless rescheduled.

Saturday, July 04 meeting is cancelled due to the holiday. Next meeting is July 20th - 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Prayers and Squares prayer quilt ministry group meetings consist of group members working on their various projects, assisting each other as needed, and Sew & Tell showing work on their projects.

We welcome anyone to join us for our meetings. You can watch and visit, learn to sew and or quilt, help cut fabric or iron fabric, just be an extra pair of hands. What you don't know, we'll teach you!





GAME DAY

The first Thursday of the month at Versailles United Methodist church 1:00–3:00 p.m.
All are invited.

COMMUNITY BINGO

at the
Lovelight Café
113 N. Monroe St.

July 17 – 6:00-8:00 p.m.
There will be prizes and snacks.
Come join in the fun.



Feeding
Body & Soul



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL
THURSDAYS @ 5:30 PM
119 W JASPER
VERSAILLES, MO

Versailles Ministry House is a ministry where those of us that have been blessed with a passion for Jesus Christ and motorcycles can use our passion to share in the lives of those with a similar passion. Their mission is to provide a little relief and comfort to any in the community who may be in need.

Westminster Presbyterian will provide a meal at Ministry House, Thursday, July 16, 2026 – 5:30—6:30 p.m. Contact Pastor Angie to help out.



In June, several Presbyterians from the Synod of Mid America attended the Town Square Collaborative conference in Arkansas to discuss ministry in rural settings.

The United States is
250 years old



The Presbyterian Church
Is
roughly 466 years old



Westminster Presbyterian participated in 3MT on June 22 here in Versailles. We provided lunch for approximately 50 persons on Monday, June 22.



INFORMATION

- ▶ **SESSION MEETING**—Wednesday, July 01, 10:00 a.m.
- ▶ **GAME DAY**--The first Thursday of the month, (July 02) The Versailles United Methodist church has a Game Day from 1:00–3:00 p.m. all invited.
- ▶ **GOOD SHEPHERD NURSING HOME**— Pastor Angie will be leading Vespers July 12 - 2:30 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Nursing Home (every 2nd Sunday of the month.) All are welcome to join in this ministry.
- ▶ **MINISTRY HOUSE**—We will provide a meal at Ministry House, Thursday, July 16, 5:30 p.m.
- ▶ **COMMUNITY BINGO**—at the Lovelight Café on Monroe St. Friday, July 17 from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. There will be prizes and snacks. Come join in the fun.
- ▶ **PRAYERS AND SQUARES CHAPTER 1337**—Together with the United Methodist Church, we meet on the first Saturday and the third Monday of the month 9:00 a.m. to Noon unless rescheduled. July meeting for Saturday, July 04 is cancelled. Next meeting is Monday, July 20. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Holly Cagle. Ph. # 816-244-2543
- ▶ **LITURGISTS/LITTLE LAMB TIME SCHEDULE** — Please check the Schedule so you do not forget which Sunday you are the liturgist & Little Lamb time leader. Please sign up for available dates.
- ▶ **MINUTE FOR MISSIONS**— If you see the kids, during the Offertory, with “Bounty Buckets” please give them your change. We are collecting loose change for missions in our community via the Love Fund.
- ▶ **TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER** — 9:00 a.m. - upstairs in the conference room.
- ▶ **TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY**— 10:30 a.m.—downstairs in Clingan Hall.
- ▶ **MEN’S WEDNESDAY MORNING COFFEE**— starting approx. 7:00 a.m. downstairs in the dining area “Hill Hall.”
- ▶ **REFRESHMENT AND OR POTLUCK SIGN-UP LIST**— Please check the refreshment sign-up list in the kitchen to sign up on available dates. Please do not forget your date. Thank you!
- ▶ **SUNDAY SCHOOL—ADULT & CHILDREN**— 9:30 a.m.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Hours:

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship/refreshments after Worship

CONTACT US:

•Church Office ph. #: [573-378-4975](tel:573-378-4975)

•Church Website: www.westminpres.com

•Church Email: presby1902@gmail.com

•Church Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/VersaillesWPC>

Live streaming starting at approximately 10:30 a.m.



Westminster Presbyterian Church

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TO: