

Heavenly Headlines

Publication of
St. Georges' United Methodist Church
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Believe,
Belong,
Become



From the Office of the Pastor

Wishing all Blessed and Meaningful Celebration
of the Independence Day'2023.

Celebrating Independence Day is one of my favorite activities in the summer. There are barbeques, time with family and friends, a concert of patriotic music on the Mall that you can watch on PBS, pool parties, chilled watermelons, outings to the beach – these are all fun summer activities.



But what makes the calendar date of July 4th so special to me is what it represents. July 4th is a secular holiday celebrating the anniversary of our nation declaring its independence and sovereignty. In 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote what is now the United States' most famous and cherished document, which enumerates a list of grievances that the colonists had against King George III of England. The Declaration of Independence was written to justify the colonies becoming a sovereign nation, independent from Great Britain. By signing this document, the Continental Congress declared our country's sovereignty and independence.

Think About This:

Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime.

~~ Adlai Stevenson



The truth is that for many of us it is difficult to fully grasp the meaning of what it means to be free. It is difficult for us to grasp this concept because most of us have never lived in a totalitarian regime where our civil freedoms and liberties are severely limited, and most of us do not comprehend what it means to be treated as a second, third, or even fourth-class citizen.

Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to work to preserve unity in spite of forces of evil that try to drive us apart.

If we are completely honest, most of us are average “joes and janes.” Most of us do not control large amounts of wealth, christen ships, or have enough influence to declare a war or broker peace. Most of us have succeeded in some things and failed at others, struggled with some decisions, and found others surprisingly easy to make. All of us have had our hearts broken at least once, and we have failed and overcome difficulties. Some of us have known hunger and loneliness. We have known strife and we have rejoiced in accomplishments and victories. Most of us want our lives to have meaning, we hope to live our lives in relative peace and quiet, and when we die, we want to face Jesus and hear, “well done good and faithful servant” (Matt 25:23).

For us, average Americans, these experiences, strife, victories, and hope are woven into the fabric of what it means to be a human and what it means to be an American, a member of a nation envisioned and built by imperfect men and women who overcame many horrors and difficulties in our 247 years of shared history. That is what makes our nation the best example of free men and women that ever came together, united by common dreams, hopes, vision, and goals for the future.

For me, the Declaration of Independence embodies the spirit that celebrates the values that the country was founded upon. It reads: “**We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.**” The Declaration of Independence asserts that every person has inherent rights, called “self-evident truths.”

It should not come as a surprise to anyone to read that we live during one of the most divided and adversarial periods in the history of our nation. Divisions drive a wedge of animosity between us across racial and ethnic lines, economic standing, political party affiliations and a myriad of other distinctions.

For many of us it is difficult to fully grasp the meaning of what it means to be free because most of us have never lived in a totalitarian regime where our civil freedoms and liberties are severely limited, and most of us do not comprehend what it means to be treated as a second, third or even fourth-class citizen.

As we prepare to celebrate the 247th anniversary of our nation, I think that our challenge as St. Georges’ United Methodist Church is to figure out how to be a healing and uniting presence during this time of enmity and division

among our neighbors and different groups of people. As a church we are called to be followers of Jesus Christ who gave us a higher purpose and a far greater reason for living than to allow our differences to draw a chasm of separation between us. We have been unified by the love of God, the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the blood of Jesus Christ!



While each of us is unique, we are so much more than individuals; together we are partners in Jesus' ministry, agents of God's Grace, and tools in the Holy Spirit's hands. In this divided age filled with anger, vindictiveness, and animosity, we as a church are called to be God's beacon of unity, demonstrating to the world how our Creator intended diversity to be celebrated and enjoyed. Our challenge is to preserve unity in spite of the forces of evil that try to drive us apart.

May God Bless the United States of America!

May God Bless the journey that our beloved country is on!

May God Bless our church to be God's servants in the world around us!

Philos,

Pastor Asher



Donna Goes Walkabout

“We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

Our founding Father’s did an awesome job of creating and molding this country over 200 years ago but we all know that it has not been a smooth road. With each and every struggle, we have turned to God for guidance, and Lord we need you now. On this Fourth of July, may we remember how



blessed we have been to be born an American, and may we do all in our power to be the best citizens we can be. May we ask God to give us the strength we need to do what is right. God Bless America and America, Bless God. I pray you have an enjoyable and relaxing holiday. Eat your burger or hot dog just the way you like it. Sit around with family and friends and make memories. Then watch with awe, some fantastic fireworks.



Many committees and groups will be taking the next couple months off for a summer break and we look forward to some relaxation and summer fun. Be safe.

Plans are in the works for our annual Vacation Bible School in August and we are hoping to have a picnic for the whole congregation over the summer as well. Stay in touch for more details on both those events.



That’s all for this month. I’ll see you on Sunday morning!

Donna

Prayer for Independence Day

Loving and Gracious God!

We stand today as our forefathers have stood before you in times gone by, celebrating our history and reveling in all the great things that our country has achieved. We thank you for the blessings of liberty; we pray for wisdom and courage to pass these blessings to future generations. We thank you for our independence and for all those who have bravely given their lives in the defense of freedom and justice.



Yet as a nation and people we have not always chosen the right way. Forgive us, we pray, for our mistakes. We pray for your guidance, and for the courage to commit ourselves to honoring and serving you wholeheartedly with everything that we are.

Make us a generous people, a holy nation, a people set aside to love you forever, for the sake of the land of the free and the home of the brave, and the peoples and nations of this world.

Today, we ask for your grace for our country. Our people, industries, businesses are in need of you. Help us to see the world through your eyes and to serve you by serving the world in which we live.

We pray asking for your blessing on our nation; renew our resolve, breathe new life into us. May your justice flow like rivers, and righteousness like a never failing stream, until our whole nation is filled with your glory, as the seas are filled with water and team with life.

We pray all this in the wonderful name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Young Disciples Page and Activities

4th of July Word Search

Can you find all the words in the word search below?

STARS	FOURTH	JULY
STRIPES	RED	SUMMER
FLAG	WHITE	PICNIC
BAND	BLUE	UNITED
PARADE	FIREWORK	STATES

R	O	F	O	U	R	T	H	F	S	Z	V
S	U	S	M	P	E	D	R	L	Y	S	C
T	P	T	Z	Y	C	S	T	A	T	E	S
R	W	A	R	Z	K	Z	T	G	T	A	R
I	A	R	G	T	L	P	A	R	A	D	E
P	H	S	Y	U	A	T	H	C	D	Y	D
E	R	B	S	N	N	W	H	I	T	E	H
S	B	D	F	H	P	I	C	N	I	C	L
J	E	B	A	N	D	H	T	K	D	T	A
U	S	L	C	G	P	E	U	E	V	Q	O
L	U	U	S	U	M	M	E	R	D	T	D
Y	O	E	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S

Young Disciples Page and Activities

Name_____

INDEPENDENCE DAY COLOR BY SIGHT WORD

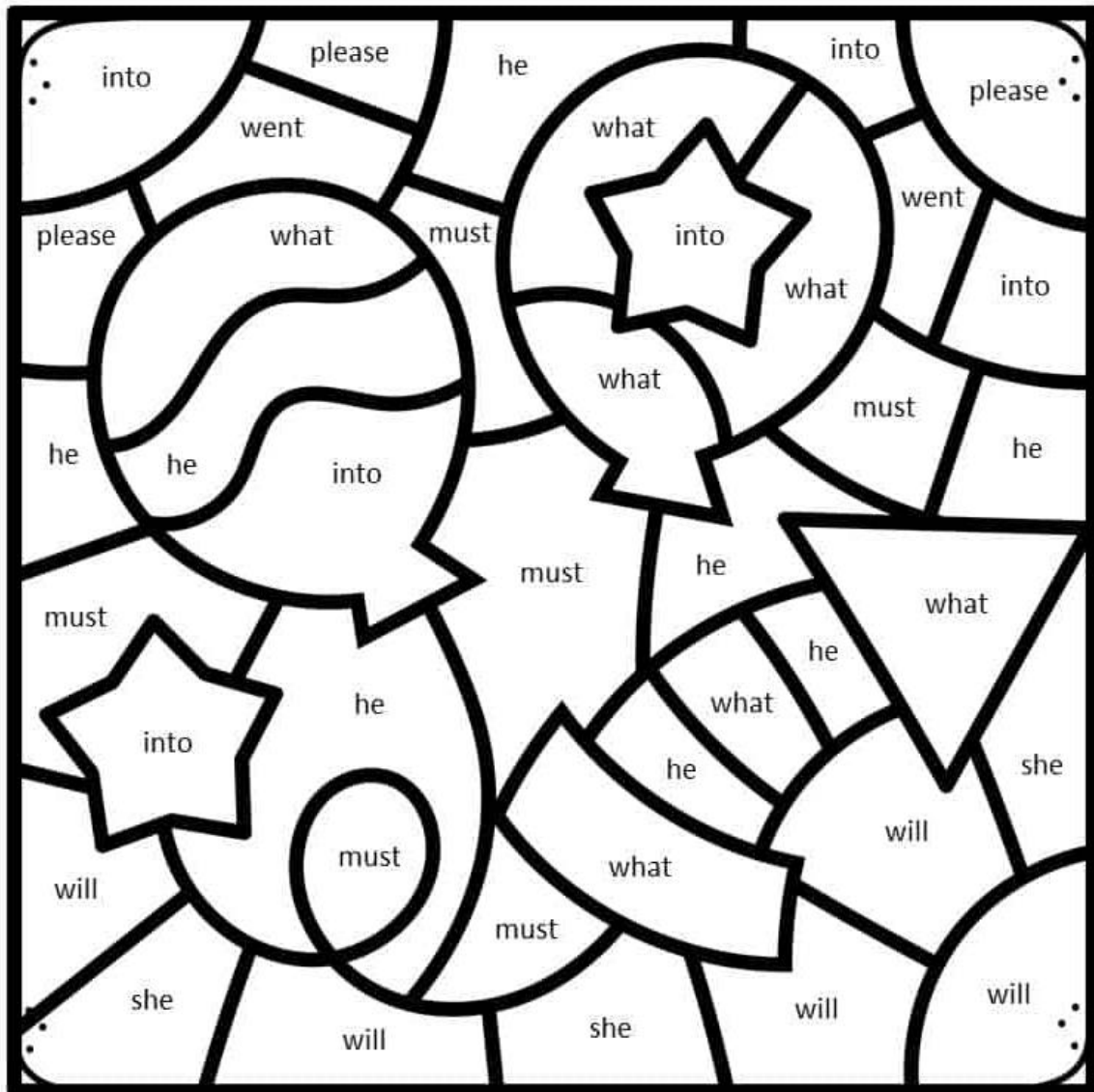
Directions: Color the picture according to the code.

what – Red
into – Yellow

went – Pink
will – Dark Green

please – Orange
he – Dark Blue

must – Light Blue
she – Light Green



Mission Update

It's hard to believe that the school year is over. The older I get, the faster time ticks by.

Now is the time to start planning for the kids to return to school. There are many children in shelters, or their families can't afford to purchase school supplies.

I have received information from Sunday Breakfast Mission that they will be doing their yearly collection of school supplies. I've contacted Hope Center on Airport Road to see if they will be collecting school supplies as well. When I dropped off the personal care bags filled by



our Women's Group, I was told that there 50 children residing there. The Hope Center is in the Colonial School District and I think it would be good to help support those children, if possible.

For now, whenever you're out shopping and you see school supplies, pick some up. No matter where they end up, it will make a difference for a student. I will keep you informed which direction the donations will go and suggestions for which agency.

The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Carole Jaques, Mission Chair

In Memoriam

We were all saddened to hear the news of the passing of our friend Jane Stewart Sunday, May 28th. Jane and her husband Jim have been worshipping with us at St, Georges UMC for many years and Jane was always willing to get involved with projects and programs at the church.



Jane was a fiercely spiritual woman and a prayer warrior like no other, We knew that she was continually praying for our church and anyone in our church family who was in need of prayer.

Jane had struggled with her health in recent years but she always seemed to rally and we were always happy to see her when she returned to church to worship with us. She will be greatly missed by her family and all of us in her church family. Rest in peace Jane.

His lord said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.” - Matthew 25:23:

Happy Birthday to...

- Mandie Tobin.....July 2
- Pastor Asher.....July 9
- Deanna Dorn.....July 13
- Bing Molina.....July 23
- Courtney Eaton.....July 27



Community Board

Please mark your calendars:

- **Wednesday, July 26 @ 9 am:** Pastor Asher and a few members of our community will meet at Asbury United Methodist church by the Wilmington Airport, **to pack food boxes for Harvest Outreach People Project** (HOPP -- <https://thehopp.org/>). For more information, or if you want to be a part of this project, please contact Pastor Asher on his cell-phone or via e-mail.
- **Sunday, July 30, immediately following the worship service:**

Please join us for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Bring your own lunch, and help our young disciples as they make tie-dye shirts. The image at right shows some t-shirts made by young disciples at one of the churches I served in the past.



If you want your kid(s) to participate, Pastor Asher needs to know their t-shirt size by July 12th. This project takes time and effort to organize and the 12th of July is absolutely the FINAL date to get info to Pastor Asher.

Community Board



MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



- Routes available throughout New Castle County
- Mon-Fri at lunchtime
- Flexible schedule
- 60-90 minutes round trip

a meal and more...

- As a volunteer you offer your neighbors a daily check to make sure they are okay.
- A friendly smile..
- A daily greeting..
- A meaningful connection..

Join our team TODAY!



call or text:
(302)293-0008
mealsonwheels@cityfare.org



How to Reach our Bishop and District Superintendent

Our Bishop



Rev. Latrelle Easterling

Peninsula-Delaware Conference

Bishop Felton Edwin May

Resource Center

139 N. State Street,
Dover, DE 19901

Website: www.pen-del.org

Phone: 302-674-2626

Toll Free: 1-877-736-3351

The Peninsula-Delaware Conference
office is open:

Monday thru Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Our District Superintendent



Rev. Joseph Archie

Delaware District Office

900 N Washington St
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Website: delawaredistrictumc.org

Phone: 302-655-8873

e-mail:

delawaredistrictumc@gmail.com

The District Office is open:

Monday thru Thursday
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



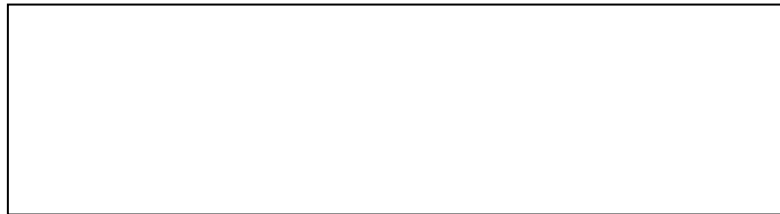
Our Pastor: Rev Asher F. Tunik

Email: pastorasher@gmail.com

Cell Phone / Voice Mail / Text: 443-350-5077

I am in the Church office on Friday mornings and by appointment. Rest of the week I work from my home office and can be reached via phone or e-mail/text.

St Georges United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 145
St. Georges, DE 19733



Please Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, July 2: Observance of
Independence Day
at St. Georges' United
Methodist church

Tuesday, July 4: Independence Day.
God Bless America!

Wednesday, July 26: Packing Food
for Harvest Outreach
People Project (HOPP)

Sunday, July 30: Bring your own lunch /
fellowship after church.
Young Disciples
Tie Dye party.