

Crowders Creek ARP Church



Let Freedom Reign...

The Fourth of July, also known as Independence Day, is one of the United States of America's most important holidays. In 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed, making this a free nation. We were no longer under the King's rule, but had the freedom to govern ourselves independently.

Wikipedia's definition of Independence Day: "In the United States, Independence Day commonly known as the Fourth of July is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, declaring independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain. Congress approved the wording of the Declaration on July 4 and then sent it to the printer. Whether John Hancock, as the elected President of the Second Continental Congress, or anyone else signed the document that day is unknown, because that document has been lost — presumably destroyed in the printing process. On August 2 in the following month, an engrossed document was signed by Hancock and other delegates."

Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, picnics, baseball games, and various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States, but is often also viewed as simply a summer festival, apart from its patriotic overtones.

The United States of America is a strong nation that was founded on Christianity and freedom. We are a nation that stands proud and will fight to preserve that freedom at all costs. With that being said, it is no wonder that it is the American Eagle that is our national symbol. How much do you actually know about the eagle?

It states in Isaiah 40:31(NIV):

But those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

You see, the eagle is a mighty creature and durable by nature. In fact, the eagle has qualities that we need in our daily walk with Christ. For example: How the eagle trains its young, how they don't move from partner to partner because they mate for life, and eagles have a legendary boldness and tenacity. The eagle is strong and not fearful and I believe that all Christian Americans should possess these same qualities in order to walk the righteous path that God has laid before our feet.

Taken from: Christians-Today Ministry





JULY

- 07/02 Dot Faris
- 07/04 Christy Meadows
- 07/04 McKenna Wingard
- 07/07 Joshua Arrant
- 07/11 Jean Love
- 07/13 David Deal
- 07/13 Jimmy Mauney
- 07/15 Pat Carter
- 07/17 Nancy Jones
- 07/17 Laura Mauney
- 07/21 Gabrielle Carter
- 07/25 Alfred Stowe
- 07/26 Allison Stowe
- 07/28 David Styers
- 07/28 Owen Clarke
- 07/29 Jacqueline Jenkins
- 07/29 Amy Mistry
- 07/29 Jamie Sciba
- 07/29 Rebecca Sweeten
- 07/30 Kristy Best



Garrett Hills, son of Kenny and Susan Hills, and grandson of Helen White recently competed in the swim nationals in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. He competed in the 100 breast, 200 breast, and 100 butterfly. Garrett will be working this summer as a lifeguard. Congratulations Garrett.

Circles

No Circles will be meeting in July.



Pastor Ben will out of the office for vacation July 5-10, 2011. In case of an emergency, please contact the office during normal office hours, Monday-Thursday 9:00-1:30. After office hours please contact Cathy/Bill Best, or your shepherd leader. They can reach Pastor Ben on his cell.

Additional Ministers this Month...

Date	Children's Church	Nursery
7/3	Rick & Chris Oates	Felix & Michelle Alpizar, & Ava Mauney
7/10	David & Ginny Styers	Carolyn Champion, Heather Owenby, & Marilyn Brooks
7/17	Martin & Allison Moses	Rick & Chris Oates
7/24	NONE	Peggy Grigg, Bob, & Josh Grigg
7/31	Laurie Murphy & Shirley Edwards	Charlie & Christy Rhyne

July Visitor Sheets:

**Soldiers On Active Duty
Meredith Millar**

July Lectionary Texts

- July 3—Third Sunday After Pentecost**
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-6; Psalm 45:10-17 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.
- July 10—Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**
Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.
- July 17—Fifth Sunday After Pentecost**
Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.
- July 24—Sixth Sunday After Pentecost**
Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.
- July 31—Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**
Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.

SOCIAL CONCERNS OFFERING

The quarterly offering for our **Social Concerns Ministry** will be received Sunday, July 17th. This ministry affords our assisting individuals in the community who experience temporary financial needs. If you would like to contribute, please use a special offering envelope provided in each pew, notating "Social Concerns."

COMMUNION SUNDAY July 17th

Take time to reflect and prepare for this special time.

Join us on Sunday mornings for a new summer sermon series

"Soul Searchin" based on the book of Ecclesiastes

Come and learn how to:

"Find your place in light of eternity"

"Find your place on Monday morning"

"Find your support people"

"Find your place in God's house"

"Find the purpose of your possessions"

"Find perspective in the Real world"



BONCLARKEN WEEKEND (August 12-14, 2011)

The Bonclarken Committee would like to remind everyone of our annual Bonclarken weekend in August. There are still rooms available. Once again, we will be meeting in the Conference Room in The Lodge for our meals, devotions, etc. There is a layout of the various rooms and camp sites posted and a list of those still open. This annual event is truly a good time for fellowship with your church family and friends. If you have never attended before or it has been a long time since you have, we want to encourage you to consider joining us this year. If you have any questions or need further details, please see Dave Brooks, Bonclarken Committee Chairman, or any member of the Bonclarken Committee.



HARPS

On June 15th, 13 people enjoyed a meal at the Firestone Grill on a HARPS outing. On May 18th, 8 HARPS members travelled to the NC mountains for lunch at Shatley Springs, a visit to the Ashe County Cheese store and factory, and a look at Ben Long's beautiful frescoes at 2 area churches.

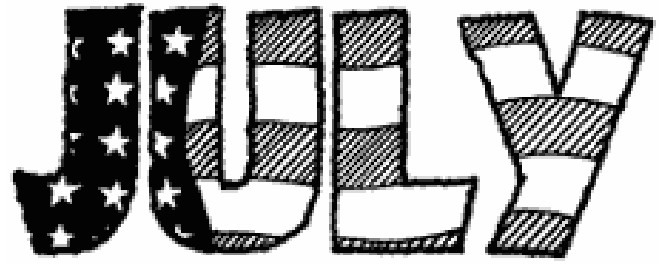


The church office will be closed Monday, July 4th for holiday.

CAM

Across our church, as well as volunteers at the Crisis Assistance Ministry are now seeing many people who have lost their jobs and are in need of assistance as well as elderly people whose only income is social security benefits.

Crowders Creek ARP Church is one of the contributing churches to the Crisis Assistance Ministry in Gastonia. Funds are allotted through the budget to assist this ministry. One month in the year we are committed to help provide food for the pantry (September). Instead of collecting food items, we collect money to allow CAM to purchase more items through a food bank in Charlotte. Please pick up one of the banks in the vestibule for placing your donations in for food. The CAM Committee will receive these between now and the middle of August. The money collected will be counted and one check will be sent by the first of September. (Those who wish to donate by check can make the checks out to the church and **turn these in to the committee**). **If you do not see a member of the committee you may place the banks in the wooden box in the vestibule.**



Growing Girls in Christ

For Girls 6th-8th Grade

July 18-21, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

\$15.00 per person

Join us for a fun-filled week as we worship, fellowship, and study from the book of Ruth.

**For more information contact Jennifer Wingard.*

*Before she becomes a bride,
Before she throws the bouquet,
Before she walks down the aisle,
Before the Big Day...*

Join us for a Bridal Shower

In honor of

Kelly Brooks

Saturday, July 30, 2011

10:00—11:30 a.m.

*Crowders Creek ARP Church
Fellowship Hall*

Given by: The Women of the Church

Registered at: Belks, Target, and Kohl's



Annual Summer Cookout

Wednesday, July 20th

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited—It's a family affair!!

A sign-up list for those attending, as well as for bringing food items, is in the vestibule. The Men's Fellowship will provide the hot dogs and hamburgers, but be sure to check the list in the vestibule to see what items you can contribute. You may also contact the church office for directions.

Upper Room Devotionals

Large print Upper Room Devotionals have been ordered for the following people:

Mona Davidson

Jean Barnes

Becky Nelson

Glenn and Betty Oates

Laurie Murphy

Mae and Mike Ferguson

Helen White

Gavin & Ashley Bell

Archie Oates

Tommy Davidson

The devotionals will arrive within 4 weeks. You will be able to pick up your copy in the HARPS box in the hallway. The church office will contact you when they have arrived.