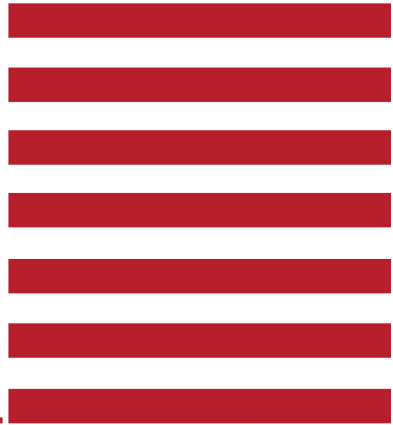




July 2026
volume 3 • number 7

GOD BLESS



Circuit Writer

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WHOEVER LOOKS INTENTLY INTO THE PERFECT LAW THAT GIVES FREEDOM... WILL BE BLESSED IN WHAT THEY DO. JAMES 1:25.NIV

Special Dates:

- July 4 - 250 Anniversary of Independence Day.
- July 5 - Patriotic Worship Service
- July 20 - 24 Choir Camp
- July 26 - Choir Camp Show

Blountstown United Methodist Church

250 Anniversary of America



Join us on Sunday, July 5, at 11:00 a.m. for a special worship service honoring America's 250 years.

Breaking News - Choir Camp is coming!

We are excited to be hosting our sixth Choir Camp! This year we have selected Faith News. The musical highlights several Bible characters, during the most defining moments in their lives.



Our Choir Camp will give kids, Kindergarten through Eighth grade, an upfront seat to meet some of the Bible's most newsworthy people who decided to follow God even when they didn't know where they were going.

The dates for the 2026 Choir Camp are Monday through Friday, 8:30-11:30 a.m., with show time set for 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 26th. We are accepting registrations now. Spread the word, tell your little neighbors. The camp is open to children who have finished Kindergarten through eighth grade. We also have high school volunteer hours for those students who are applying for scholarships.

Volunteers are needed to help with snacks, crafts, games, and production. The more the merrier.

FROM THE PASTOR

Appointment with God

The Sanctuary of Blountstown United Methodist Church is open every Sunday evening, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Come by, spend as much time as you wish in the quietness of God's presence.

No preaching, only quiet meditation as you sit in the presence of the Almighty, unburdening your soul, sharing your grief and pain, receiving His encouragement and comfort.



250 years is a long time; a quarter of a millennium. But the bedrock principles of our nation stretch even further back into the archives of ancient history. All the way back to the ancient Greeks and Romans for the philosophy of good governance and the value of individual thought and freedom. More importantly, our understanding of human nature comes from the 10 Commandments and the teachings of Jesus Christ. The explanation for the frailty of the human spirit and our tendency to be self-centered and egotistical can only be found in the Scriptures. The founders of our nation clearly recognized this truth. Their formational values growing up were formed on the truths of the Scriptures preached by George Whitfield and Jonathan Edwards in the First Great Awakening of the 1740's and 1750's. These values have guided our educational philosophy and moral development in the school rooms for generations until recently.

The founding fathers were thoroughly grounded in the Scriptures, and the instruction from the Bible guided their understanding both of human nature and governmental philosophy. Our three branches of government; executive, judicial and legislative, come from Isaiah 33:22; "For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us." The need for the separation of powers between the branches of government came from Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" Accountability between the branches of government is necessary to hold each branch within the bounds of fair and just government. Tax exemptions for religious institutions is found in Ezra 7:24, "You are also to know that you have no authority to impose taxes, tribute of duty on any of the priests, Levites, musicians, gatekeepers, temple servants or other workers at this house of God." John Adams observed, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

This month, I would encourage you to take some time and check out David Barton and Wall Builders on Youtube for outstanding information about the founding fathers, their values, their convictions and the influence the Bible had on them as they laid the foundation of our republic. You will be surprised at what you will learn and have never been told about these men to whom we owe such a deep debt of gratitude for their vision and tenacity to the truth. The Scriptures remind us, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose or his inheritance." Psalm 33:12



Continues on page 3

Continued from Page One

May God give us wisdom and courage to return to the One who has blessed us with liberty and serve Him without reservation. The God of our fathers is our only hope for a blessed future.

Grace and peace,
Bro John



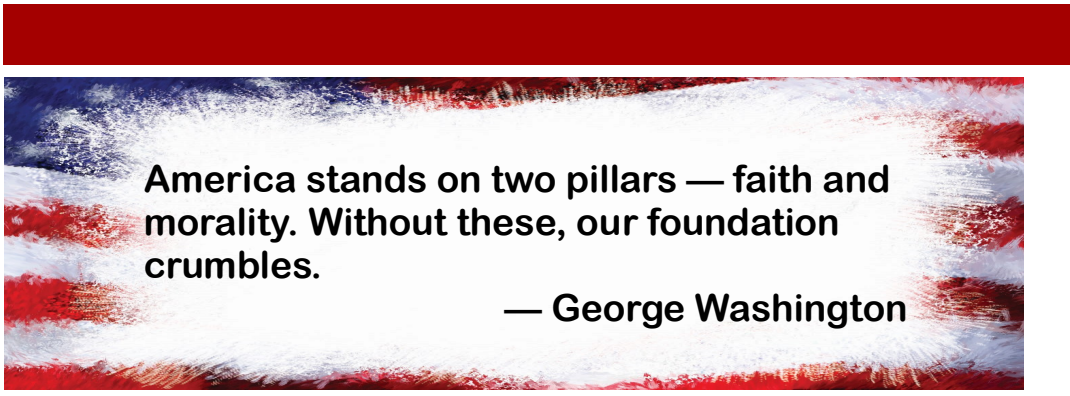
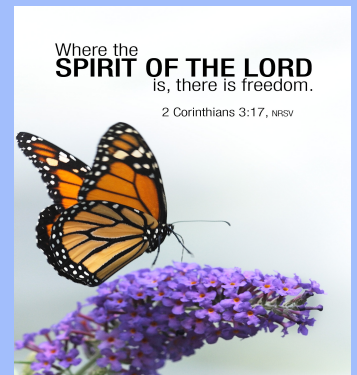
FREEDOM

Each one of us is born most free
And we alone can choose
To do what God would have us do,
To use what God would use.

Or, we are also free to seek
The proud and selfish way —
A life where other gods come first
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ leads,
We find that freedom's place
Is really in God's Will for us,
And we have chosen GRACE!

— Peggy Ferrell,
Prayers and Poems.



Freedom Worth Guarding

Because many Americans have never known life without freedom, it can be easy to take our liberties for granted. The Israelites, however, knew the harsh reality of slavery. Yet even after God led them out of Egypt, they struggled to embrace their newfound freedom. Faced with uncertainty, they grew fearful and complained against Moses and Aaron, longing for the familiarity of their former bondage rather than trusting God's provision.

Their story feels surprisingly familiar. As Christians, we have been set free through a far greater deliverance. Our freedom was secured at a great cost through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And yet, we sometimes drift back toward old habits, attitudes and patterns that once held us captive.

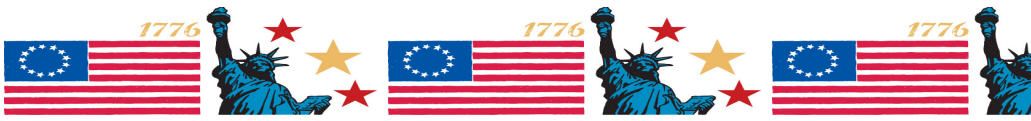
Scripture reminds us to stand firm in the freedom we have been given. As Paul writes in Galatians 5:1 (NKJV), "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

True freedom is not simply the absence of restraint. It is the opportunity to live fully in God's grace, walking in obedience, joy and purpose. This kind of freedom is worth celebrating, protecting and living our every day.

July



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers Jimmy Cox Frank Miller Standby David House	Christmas in July We will be accepting donations for our White Christmas Offering the entire month of July.		1	2 ♪ Courtney Doyle	3 ♪ Amanda McGhee	4 
5 ♪ Beth Herndon ♪ Billy Jordon	6	7 ♪ Marley Barfield	8	9 ♥ Angie & Billy Jordan	10	11
12 Church Council 12:00 noon	13 ♥ Ann & Mike Tucker	14	15	16	17	18 ♪ Mary Beth Williams ♥ Donna & Finlay Corbin
19	20	21	22 ♪ Glen McClellan	23	24	25
***** CHOIR CAMP 8:30 A.M. UNTIL 11:30 A.M. *****						
26 Camp Show 6:00 p.m. ♥ Beth & Mark Herndon	27 ♪ Cherie White	28 ♪ Maisie Jones	29	30	31 ♪ Philip Kastli	



Our Caring Ministry List

Short Term

Edward Dean
 Lorene Dempsey
 Art Eckerson
 Grant Golden
 Libby Griffin
 Annette Hires
 Karla Jenkins
 Olivia Molitar
 Diane Scholz
 Pat Sumner
 Rose Stopp
 Laddie Williams
 Laura Williams

Intercessory Prayers

Gale Ferguson

Those Battling Cancer

Gene Alford
 Melissa Bailey
 Edward Paul
 Shannon Whitfield

Shut-Ins

Betty Ann Cayson
 Alva Martin

Our Military

Ukrainian citizens
 Israel citizens
 Middle East

Caregivers

Persecuted Christians

UM Missionaries

Please contact the office by phone, email, or in person, with any requests and updates. Written requests may also be placed in the offering plate.



You may say, “I can’t go on.” God says, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

July Flower Calendar

- 05 Mrs. Don Stephens
- 12 Mrs. Joe Alford
- 19 Mrs. Eileen Hatch
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Russell Scholz



Our Awesome God

When our lives are focused on God, awe and wonder lead us to worship, filling our inner being with a fullness we may never have thought possible. Awe prepares the way for God’s transforming power within us. This transformation of our inner attitudes takes place as awe leads us into wonder, admiration, reverence, surrender and obedience before God.

Hidden Blessings

Dear Friend, God may send you some valuable gifts wrapped in unattractive paper. But do not worry about the wrapping, for you can be sure that inside he has hidden treasures of love, kindness and wisdom. If we will simply take what he sends and trust him for the blessings inside, we will learn the meaning of the secrets of his providence, even in times of darkness.

— A.B. Simpson

Blountstown United Methodist Church

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Family & Friends Prayer List

Volume 3 • number 7

1. Jackie & David House /
John David House Family
2. Nick Hughes Family /
Laurie James Family
3. Sandra & Jim Jines /
Seth Jones Family
4. Billy Jordan Family /
Becki Kastli Family
5. Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel /
Jonathan Kimbrel Family
6. John King /
Denise & Clay Knight
7. Annie Jo Landers Family /
Hester Leonard
8. Alva Martin /
Sally & Mike Mayo
9. Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill /
Marc McCaskill Family
10. Michael McCaskill Family /
Barbara & Hentz McClellan
11. Danita & Glen McClellan /
Heath McClellan Family
12. Kyle McClellan Family /
Sharon & Henry McCrone /
13. Perry McGhee Family
Frank Miller
14. Kathryn Mitchell Family /
Karen & David Murrell
15. Brenda Parrish /
Gary Parrish
16. Michele Pettis Family /
Jeremy Procter
17. Charmian & Jerry Register /
Diane & Russell Scholz
18. DellAnne & Michael Schrufer /
Tracy Cox-Stanton Family
19. Ken Sheppard Family /
Stacy Sims
20. Rodney Smith Family /
Donald Stanley Family
21. Sue & Don Stanley /
Mert Stephens
22. Scott Stephens Family /
Virginia House Szrowicz
23. Betty Sue & Ken Taylor /
Zach Taylor Family
24. Chris & John Tomlinson /
Ann & Mike Tucker
25. Janie & Jack Weiler /
Jarred Weiler Family
26. Cherie White Family /
Doug Whitfield Family
27. Drew Whitfield Family /
Vicky & Steve Whitfield
28. Grant Williams Family /
Laddie Williams
29. Laura & Roger Williams /
Marvin Williams
30. MaryAnn Williams /
MaryBeth Williams
31. Barbara Wilson /
Eric Alford