



Swift Creek Chronicle

July 2015

From the Pastor's Pen ~

The United States of America is 239 years old this month. That's a long time for a nation to remain free. But, when you look at our history in the context of world history America is just a CHILD among the nations. Egypt, China, Japan, Rome, Greece all make America's history seem so short. Consider what a brief time we've really been here as a nation: When Thomas Jefferson died, Abraham Lincoln was a young man of 17. When Lincoln was assassinated, Woodrow Wilson was a boy of 8. By the time he died Ronald Reagan was a boy of 12.

There you have it. The lives of four men can take you all the way back to the beginning of our country, 239 years ago. We are so young. And yet we stand tall among these nations because of the principles on which we were established: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

Thus begins the Declaration of Independence, which we celebrate today. And do not let anyone fool you. Freedom ought and need be celebrated. This month we celebrate the freedoms which God has blessed this great nation of ours. Now I cannot tell you whether God has blessed us with liberty and therefore we are free or we have wisely and simply built our liberty based on biblical principles. In any case our freedom is from God.

Now let me temper our celebrations with a caution: With freedom comes great responsibility. We are not free to live excessive lives. We are not set at liberty to pursue selfish ends. Our independence should not make us infidels. As Paul so eloquently puts it: "You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature." Christian maturity reminds us that our freedom is a gift to be used to bring God's grace to everyone around the world. May God help us to not only enjoy our freedom, but use it for the building of the Eternal Kingdom.

In God's Grace,
David Vess

Swift Creek Baptist Church
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www.swiftcreekchurch.com

Church Staff:

Dr. David Vess, Pastor

Rev. David Beaver,
Minister of Music

Robin Atkins, Director of
Children and Youth Activities

Bobby Mills,
Grounds Maintenance

Susan Moore, Financial Secretary
Deborah Hutchins, Secretary
Eloise Garland, Custodian

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 a.m.-1p.m.

Sunday Schedule:

Coffee Fellowship—9:30 a.m.

Bible Study—9:45 a.m.

Worship Service—11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Schedule:

Prayer & Bible Study 6:15 p.m.

In the sanctuary for summer

Adult Choir 6:15 p.m.

Children's Bible Study 6:15

Monthly Events:

2nd Sunday-Grounds 5:00 pm

TBA – Youth

2nd Monday - Finance 6:30 pm

1st Tuesday - Deacons 7:00

pm

3rd Thursday - WOM 7:00 pm

4th Wed.-C.A.R.E. 10:00 am

Deacon Update

On June 2, at the regular monthly meeting, in addition to the Family Ministry concerns, the Deacons discussed the following items:

- *New staff hired: Eloise Garland, custodian; Deborah Hutchins, secretary
- *Discussed possibility of getting minutes and Treasurer's report of Quarterly meetings in newsletter.
- *Nominating Committee is Cindy Beaver, Jo Anne King, Janet Yunker, Margie Britt, Dianne Davis and Matt Leggett.
- *Constitution Update Committee is getting close to completing its work.
- *Portico Update: Special order piece from CA was not the correct size and it will have to be re-done. Furnishings are being selected, but this was not a budgeted item. Finance Committee will be consulted about paying for this. We have borrowed \$17,000 from construction account and approximately \$8,000 is still needed to pay for the Portico/Foyer project. The back pew in the choir and the pews in the Fellowship Hall will be placed in the back of the Sanctuary after modifications are made. More lights are needed in the back of the Sanctuary and over the choir.
- *It was decided that a new committee should be appointed to determine what updates and renovations would be needed to our buildings and recommend the best way to proceed. Several people will be approached to see if they are willing to serve.
- *Pastor passed out calendars of the next 2 months.
- *All thought Communion went smoothly with just 4 Deacons.

New Roof on Sanctuary

At their June meeting, the Finance Committee voted to proceed with the Building Committee's recommendation to replace the roof on the sanctuary. The Building Committee found a leak around the Steeple and a couple of soft spots that need attention. The Finance Committee decided to use funds on hand to get this job done before we have any damage. The best of the 3 bids received was around \$17,000. Any repairs beyond the roof materials would be extra. Anyone who would like to donate to this project, please mark you donation for the "roof."

Please help the Church Clerk update our records. The following people have not removed themselves from church membership, but do not attend and we have no current contact information for them. If you have any updated information please notify Lynne Cullins.

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Sherry Clayborne | Greg Porter & daughters | Woodrow & Kathy Caudle |
| Faye Atkins | J.C. Cousins | Keith Davis |
| Katherine Southall | Beth Ozment | Betty Hobbs |
| Sonya Steward Clodfelter | Brian Childress | Rhonda Wise |
| Amelila Krumsiek | Beverly Gelvin | Heather & Raley Horton |
| Matthew Poole | Steve Ragan | Jay & Penny Howell |

CARE
Wed. July 22nd 
10:00 am

Fellowship Coffee Schedule 2015

January	Journeymen	Angie Vess
February	Shepherd's Flock	Lynne Cullins
March	Busy Bees	Steve Cox
April	Disciples	Tony Lineback
May	Journeymen	Angie Vess
June	Shepherd's Flock	Lynne Cullins
July	Busy Bees	Steve Cox
August	Disciples	Tony Lineback
September	Journeymen	Angie Vess
October	Shepherd's Flock	Lynne Cullins
November	Busy Bees	Steve Cox
December	Disciples	Tony Lineback

Music



Notes

On July 5 the choir will sing an excerpt from the musical “America, A Pilgrim’s Prayer, A Patriot’s Dream.” Plans are being made to present this patriotic work in its entirety in September. From the composer are these words; “*America!* This land built on the prayers and dreams of her pioneers, who possessed a deep inspiration and an unfaltering vision for a nation where freedom reigns... now is the time to acknowledge a dream that only prayer could bring to life... now is the time to give thanks for this nation, unique in all of history... now is the time to celebrate our heritage of liberty.” Indeed, your heart will be stirred listening to these songs that have become an integral part of our rich musical heritage. We are truly blessed!

David Beaver

Psalm 33:12 *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.*

Robin’s Roundtable

Dear Church Family,

My family and I would like to thank each and everyone of you for your love, prayers, hospital visits and loving support during Robert’s illness in the hospital and his passing of earthly life to his eternal life with Jesus. My family was in awe of the love and support you all have shown to me and them during this time. We are truly blessed and thankful. God gave Robert and I many blessings during this time and we were thankful. We felt God’s presence, love and grace throughout this time. God is Good!

In Christian Love and Service,
Robin Atkins

A Note from Macedonia Baptist Church:

Dear Dr. Vess,
Thank you so much for the generous contribution from Swift Creek Baptist Church. Your generosity will enable us to provide more backpacks to children than ever before. It is appreciated so very much and many children that would not have had backpacks with school supplies will be very grateful.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jimmy Brown
Senior Pastor



Cans for Christ Shopping List

Baby diapers (size 4 & 5)
Baby wipes
macaroni & cheese
jelly/peanut butter

pasta
cereal
saltine crackers
beans
fruit cups

rice
canned meat
spaghetti sauce
applesauce
canned soup

Swift Creek Baptist Church
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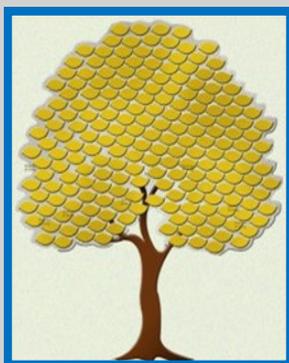


July 20



**Swift Creek Baptist Church Clothes Closet and Food Pantry
 AS OF June 26th WE HAVE FED AND CLOTHED
 283 PEOPLE IN NEED!**

**Don't forget the food pantry on your next shopping trip.
 Anything you donate that is store bought is greatly appreciated.**



The 200 leaf "Giving Tree" has been delivered and is temporarily on display in the hallway on the organ side of the sanctuary. It will be installed permanently in the new foyer once construction is complete. Leaves are available for a minimum donation of \$250 per leaf and may be purchased by contacting Charles Livengood, Susan Moore or the church office. An order form is available to assist you with placing your order. Engraving is included with each purchase. Please provide **in writing** the exact wording to be engraved on each leaf. Suggestions for engraving include: in memory of, in honor of, friends of, or the name of a particular organization. Engraving is included with each purchase and is limited to no more than 4 lines with a total of 24 characters and spaces per line.

Upcoming Events:

- July 3 Church Office Closed
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 7 Deacons Meeting 7:00pm
- July 12 Grounds Meeting 5:00 pm
- July 13 Finance Meeting 6:30 pm
- July 20 Newsletter deadline

Average Attendance & Giving

June 7, 2015 to June 21, 2015

Bible Study Attendance	54
Worship Service	80
Tithes and offerings	\$4,419
Needed weekly to meet budget	\$4,244

Online giving available at
www.swiftcreekchurch.com

July Nursery

Dianne Davis 919-469-2305

- 7/05 Dianne Davis, Kristin Holmes
- 7/12 LaRue Holmes, Janet Yunker
- 7/19 Jennie Jones, Margie Britt
- 7/26 Christian Leggett, Judy Durden