



New Basel Church
1075 1100 Ave Abilene, KS 67410
785-479-5501
www.newbaselchurch.org

echo
New Basel Newsletter

JULY 2023

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's that time of year again! In just a few days, Americans from coast to coast will invest heavily in celebratory explosives. It is a strange phenomenon when you think about it: commemorating the country's independence by blowing up their yard and watching their hard-earned paychecks literally go up in smoke. But the reason we do this is because we are free to do so. Freedom is what we celebrate. We celebrate with food, family, and fireworks, and we reflect upon the freedom we have that comes as a result of living in the United States, where so many have sacrificed so much to pass that freedom down to us.

Yet even as we reflect upon our freedom as Americans, we must also realize that we also have freedom from being Christians that outshines our national, and seemingly impermanent, freedom. When talking about our freedom as Christians, John 8:31-32 puts it like this: "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Those listening were confused and offended, wondering why Jesus said they needed to be freed, and He answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin."

You see, even though Americans are free to pursue happiness and determine for themselves their relationship with God, neither the Founders of the country, nor the soldiers who defended her ever since, could free us from our enslavement to sin. They could do nothing to help us to stop sinning, nor could they protect us from the

consequences of our sin. That has to be Jesus, and just as John continues, we read, "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." (36) The people listening to Jesus that day thought they were free, just as Americans do today. But it is Jesus, and only Jesus, that truly liberates.

This means that if you are a Christian, you have been liberated! It doesn't always feel like it at first, but hang in there. Through Jesus, we have already been forgiven! The consequences of our sin are only temporary. If you drive down the highway at twice the speed limit, the police officer is going to give you a ticket and you will lose a lot of money, yes. But the everlasting consequences of your sin, eternal separation from God in Hell, are not a possibility.

Two types of freedom. As you celebrate your holiday this month with your friends and loved ones, take a moment to express your gratitude for those Americans that made these freedoms possible in the first place. But the story doesn't end there. The greater freedom lies in Christ. How might you express your gratitude for your freedom from sin to your loved ones? Even more important, how can you use the freedom you enjoy as an American to help release others from their bondage to sin, as Jesus described it? How can you help others live in the freedom of Christ?

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council
Monday June 5th, 2023

Called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Kenny Chamberlin

Present:

Elders: Kenny Chamberlin, Jen Reiff, Pam O’Neal,

Deacons: Judy Barten, Francis Anderson, Mitch Cromwell

Trustees: Drew Snitker, Gary Foltz,

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion and prayer

M/S/C to approve the May 1st minutes

Communications:

*Thank you cards from: the O’Neal’s & Vacation Bible School kids

Reports:

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Mitch gave the Financial Secretary report for May

Judy gave the Treasures report for May and also suggested thinking about organizations to donate to.

M/S/C to approve the Financial Secretary and Treasurer’s reports

Pastor’s Reports:

Worship: Preached 5 Sunday worship services; Led 2 worship services at Abilene Place

Administration Meetings: 1 Church Council meeting & 8 Planning Meetings

Pastoral Care: 3 Phone Visits, 5 Home Visits

Other: 5Days of VBS, 5 CrossTalk Class Sessions, 3 CrossTalk Local Meetings,

1 Volunteer Readings (RCGS), VBS set up 8 hours, 1 Phone Consultation (Tri Co Tele)

Professional Development days: 5

Miles: 163.6

291 (Cross Talk Class)

454.6 = total miles

Elders:

Jen Reiff reported 54 people took communion on May 1st

Deacons:

Judy discussed about the special meeting that was held to pay for camp scholarships and was approved.

Trustee:

Drew gave quotes that he got for HVAC repair. M/S/C to approve Wuthnow Heating & Air to do the repairs.

Old Business:

- *Church Picnic will be July 30th – Council will grill hamburgers after church.
- * Harvest home has been set for October 1st
- * \$300 Scholarships have been awarded to Travis Beetch & Kieryan Anderson.
- *Church improvement fund with be collected on Sunday July 16th.

New Business:

- *M/S/C to pay bills that were presented
- *M/S/C to pay for other kids this year to go to Church camp who are not members.
- * M/S/C to purchase more Hymnals for Abilene Place Worship services.
- * Discussed donating a piano to take to Abilene Place
- * It was discussed that all new members joining the church must be approved by council.
- * Discussion of adding a Video screen at the front of the sanctuary. Anonymous donor willing to pay for a portion of it.

Upcoming Events:

- June 18th – Father’s Day
- June 23rd – Echo Articles Due
- July 4th – Independence Day
- July 10th – Council meeting – 7pm
- July 16th - Church Improvement Fund offering
- July 30th – Church Picnic in the Parish Hall

No Other Announcements:

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm by praying the Lord’s Prayer in unison
Pam ONeal, Secretary

In Our Prayers...

Elaine Bethe
Naoma Foltz
Dwight Meuli
Cecil Schrader
Bob O’Neal

Kelly Schrader
Tammy Anderson
Rodney Anderson
Judy Lauer
Ed McAdams

JULY INFORMATION

Anniversaries

10th Robby and Emily Haynes
 12th Bob & Pam O'Neal
 14th Kenneth & Rita Gantenbein
 17th Ed & Jan McAdams
 28th Greg & Kari Beetch
 29th Austin & Jessica Murphy

Birthdays

6th Sara Hunnicutt
 9th John Meuli
 11th Arlee Snitker
 29th Tim Reiff
 31st Chris Bethe
 Glenna Dautel



Upcoming August Birthdays

1st Maxine Kauffman
 2nd Joleen Beemer
 5th Diane Loftness
 5th Deborah Lathan
 7th Elaine Bethe
 8th Stephanie Gfeller
 10th Stetson Shrack



July 30th
 After Church Service

July 9th at 5pm

★ **MOVIE NIGHT** ★

The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe

Greeters, Acolytes, and Usher for July

	<u>Greeters:</u>	<u>Acolytes:</u>
2 nd	Dwight & Marion Kamm	Devin Kamm
9 th	Ron & Sam Pryor	Scarlett Murphy
16 th	John & Peggy Meuli	Farrah Rothchild
23 rd	Sam & Nicole Shrack	Axie Shrack
30 th	No Greeter needed	No Acolyte needed

July Usher: Randy Barten

Thank you to Kevin Smiley for being the June Usher

