



New Basel Church
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echo
New Basel Newsletter

JULY 2024

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

Isaac Potts. Ever hear that name? It kind of sounds like the husband of Mrs. Potts (the teapot from *Beauty and the Beast*) but no, Mr. Potts was a real person.

Isaac Potts was a Senator from Pennsylvania during the Revolutionary War. He was also a Quaker. When General Washington was encamped with his army at Valley Forge, Potts helped support the American cause by grinding grain for the troops. When a fellow Patriot named Nathaniel Snowden found out he was a Quaker, he was somewhat taken off guard: "I told him I was agreeably surprised to find him a friend to his country as the Quakers were mostly Tories." And Snowden was right: Quakers had, for the most part, supported England.

The reason that he supported the American troops, according to Mr. Potts, was the result of his eavesdropping. It seems that he was riding his horse near the encamped army, and wanted a better view. He rode in closer, and heard the sound of a man praying. His own words tell the story: "[T]o my astonishment I saw the great George Washington on his knees alone, with his sword on one side and his cocked hat on the other. He was at Prayer to the God of the Armies, beseeching to interpose with his Divine aid, as it was ye Crisis and the cause of the country, of humanity, and of the world."

So struck was Mr. Potts with Washington and his prayer, that he changed his view on the war entirely. He no longer feared the British armies and fleets that had the Americans so outmatched. He felt sure that this man was siding with the cause of God

himself, and that America would surely prevail.

Why do I write this story now? Two reasons.

First, God has had a hand in this country's development from the outset. Beginning with the Pilgrims (and arguably before that), the leaders of this great nation of ours have sought the Lord's guidance at every turn. Granted, some have been more successful than others, and some have been more faithful in their seeking. But this country has been blessed with leaders that walked with the Lord in their personal and public lives. There is a growing number of Americans today that would deny this, and would have us believe that God and country never intertwined. Utter balderdash.

Second, there can be perhaps no clearer demonstration of the power of prayer. To be clear, it was not Washington's prayer that swayed God to be an American Patriot. It was Washington's prayer that helped Washington to see the world through God's eyes. And it was his devotion to God that won over his critics.

You see, prayer matters. Prayer has the power to align ourselves with the will of God. And it has the power to not only silence critics, but to win them over.

This Fourth of July, celebrate our country. Celebrate its relationship with and dependence upon God. It truly is a remarkable thing!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council

Monday June 3, 2024

Called to order at 7:05 pm by President, Pam O'Neal

Present:

Elders: Pam O'Neal, Jen Reiff, and Chris Bethe

Deacons: Francis Anderson, Judy Barten, and Jennifer Latzke

Trustees: Gary Foltz

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion.

M/S/C to approve the May minutes as printed.

Communications: A flyer from St. Judes

Reports:

Financial Secretary Report was given by Jennifer Latzke.

Treasurer's Report was given by Judy Barten.

Pastor's Report:

Work Summary for 5/6/24-6/2/24

Worship-Preached and/or led Sunday Worship 4 times

Administration Meetings-1 Church Council, 4 Funeral Planning, 2 VBS Planning

Pastoral Care- 7 Phone Visits, 3 Home Visits, 1 Premarital Counseling Session

Other- 5 Cross Talk Class Sessions, 5 Vacation Bible School, 1 Cross Talk Local meeting, 1 Volunteer Reading Session at Rural Center, 1 Church Movie Night, 1 10-33 Training Session (online)

Vacation Days This month: 0 YTD: 3

Professional Development Days This month: 5, YTD:10

Mileage: 101; CrossTalk Mileage: 290

Elders Report: Chris Bethe reported 35 took communion 6/2

Deacons Report: Judy Barten reported deacons have decided to use some of the money set aside from the Endowment fund for VBS expenses.

Trustees Report: Gary Foltz discussed update on barn roof

Old Business:

Gave VBS Update

Men's Restroom, no new report

New Business:

M/S/C to pay presented bills

Scholarship Update: Riley Hunnicutt was the only recipient of a Scholarship

Church Improvement Fund Offering: discussed projects in need around the church, set July 14th for tentative date

Church Picnic Date: Set July 28th for tentative date

Harvest Home: Set date for September 29th

Announcements

Upcoming Events:

June 9th- Movie Night 5 pm

June 16th- Father's Day

June 25th - Echo Articles Due

June 30th- 5th Sunday Brunch

July 1st – Church Council 7 pm

July 7th - Communion

July 14th – Church Improvement offering

July 28th – Church Picnic



Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm by praying the Lord's Prayer in Unison

Jen Reiff, Secretary

On the 2024 Committees of the Church printed two months ago there are corrections on the Cares and Concerns Committee as follows:

- Cares and Concerns: Janis Haugh (Jan & April), Joleen Beemer (Feb & Sept)
Jan McAdams (March & July), Jane Haney (May & Nov.)
Janet Chamberlin (June & Oct.), Kara Cromwell (Aug. & Dec.)

IN OUR PRAYERS..

Maxine Kauffman

Judy Lauer

Naoma Foltz

Kelly Schrader

Dwight Meuli

Tony Herman

JULY INFORMATION

Anniversaries

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

Birthdays

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



Upcoming August Birthdays

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



July 28th

Church Service and the Church Picnic will be held in the Parish Hall. Bring a side dish or dessert. Grilled hamburgers will be provided by Church Council.



July 14th will be the Church improvement offering!

Greeters, Acolytes, and Usher for July

	<u>Greeters:</u>	<u>Acolytes:</u>
7 th	Dwight & Marion Kamm	Farah Rothchild
14 th	Ron and Sam Pryor	Jennesa Latzke
21 st	John and Peggy Meuli	Scarlet Murphy
28 th	Sam & Nicole Shrack	Axie Shrack

July Usher: Dwight Kamm

Thank you to Kevin Smiley for being the June Usher

