



New Basel Church  
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**JULY 2025**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Words to live by.

These words provide the foundation of the opening salvo of the Revolutionary War, the Declaration of Independence. We see in this quote that in this dark and frightening time in American history, faith in God was important to the Founders right from the outset. Christianity has always been important to the US, and the country has been blessed because of its relationship with God.

But it is worth examining this paragraph in greater detail. Specifically of note are the phrases ‘self-evident,’ ‘created equal,’ and ‘endowed by their Creator.’

Thomas Jefferson, who put pen to paper when writing this document, was not fighting for racial equality, as we are today. Nor were any of those Founding Fathers. No, they were striving to remove the British king and his influence from the Colonies. When they used the phrase, ‘created equal,’ they were attacking the notion of Divine Right, the idea that the King’s right to rule came straight from God. Part of the absolute genius of the phrase, however, was that it was specifically crafted *so that it could be used* in the inevitable struggle against slavery and racism. All humans are

created *equal*, and this fact is obvious; it is self-evident.

Equally obvious is the notion that humanity’s Creator, God, built in certain rights. There is a Creator, and it is obviously so. And because God created all of us, not just the King, certain rights. Not the right to rule, as was being claimed by the monarch, but the right to life and freedom.

This 4<sup>th</sup> of July, take time to remember what a blessing it is to live in the US, and remember that as Christians, we are called to be blessings to others both as individuals and as a country.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Jamie

## **New Basel Church Council Minutes**

**Monday June 2, 2025**

Called to order at 7:04pm by President Pam O'Neal

### **Present**

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

**Deacons:** Judy Barten and Francis Anderson

**Trustees:** Drew Snitker, Gary Foltz

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion

M/S/C to approve May minutes

### **Communications:**

None

### **Reports**

**Financial Secretary:** Judy Barten gave report for Jennifer Latzke

**Treasurer's Report:** Judy Barten presented report.

**Pastor's Report:** Work summary for 5/5/25-6/1/25

**Worship-**Preached and/or led Sunday Worship 4 times

**Administration Meetings:** 1 Church Council, VBS Planning(lots)

**Pastoral Care-** 5 Phone Visits, 2 Home Visits

**Other-** 5 Vacation Bible School, 3 Cross Talk Local meetings, 2 Volunteer Reading Session at Rural Center(The Smartest Person in the World), 10-33 Debrief

Vacation Days This Month:0, YTD:5 Professional Development Days: This month 1, YTD:5

Mileage: 30

**Elders:** Chris Bethe reported 43 took communion June 1st

**Deacons:** Judy Barten discussed how the Mission Moment went well at church a couple of weeks ago. Said she will be in contact with Ashley Dodo to set up a date for them to come to our service to discuss their mission when they are back in the area. Also said she will try to get some updates from Irish Den, has tried several times to get in touch with them for more info from what's going on in their mission.

**Trustees:** Drew Snitker reported that the upstairs bathroom can be taken off of the list for now. Gary Foltz cleaned up all the rocks from snow removal. Austin Murphy and Drew Snitker replaced the lights downstairs in the bathroom. Austin has been working on the mower connectivity. Overall, the mower has been doing a great job!

Drew stated we need to organize a group to clean the parish hall floors. The date was set for June 11th at 3:00 p.m.

## Old Business:

56 Kids attended Vacation Bible School. 30 volunteers helped with Bible School. A meal was catered on the last day of bible school by an anonymous donor by a catering company in Inman called Snacky's.

Scholarship update- Riley Hunnicut received \$1000

June 29th will be the Church Picnic in the Parish Hall after the service. Meat was purchased from Abilene FFA BBQ. The congregation is asked to bring a side or dessert. The service will be held in the Parish Hall.

## New Business:

It was M/S/C to approve bills

The Church Improvement Offering is set for the Month of July. We are getting estimates for sheet rock. One for downstairs and one for upstairs.

Tony Herman is retiring as a pianist. He stated his last day would be June 29th.

Discussed the need for an additional pianist, prerecorded music, or generated computer music due to Jennifer Latzke being the only pianist.

Discussed ordering a new communion set

## Announcements

Upcoming Events

June 8<sup>th</sup>- Movie Night 5 pm

June 15<sup>th</sup>- Father's Day

June 25<sup>th</sup>- Echo Articles Due

June 29<sup>th</sup>- Church Picnic

July 6<sup>th</sup> –Communion

July 7<sup>th</sup> Church Council

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm

The Lord's Prayer was said in Unison

Jen Reiff, secretary

## In Our Prayers...

Maxine Kauffman

Naoma Foltz

Jane Haney

Judy Lauer

Tony Herman

Kelly Schrader

Clema Anderson

Family of Eric Kamm  
(who passed away in June)

## JULY INFORMATION

### Birthdays

5<sup>th</sup> Diane Loftness  
Deborah Lathan  
6<sup>th</sup> Sara Hunnicutt  
8<sup>th</sup> Justin Meyer  
11<sup>th</sup> Arlee Snitker  
29<sup>th</sup> Tim Reiff  
31<sup>st</sup> Chris Bethe  
Glenna Dautel



### Anniversaries

12<sup>th</sup> Bob & Pam O'Neal  
14<sup>th</sup> Kenneth & Rita Gantenbein  
17<sup>th</sup> Ed & Jan McAdams  
28<sup>th</sup> Greg & Kari Beetch  
29<sup>th</sup> Austin & Jessica Murphy

### Upcoming August Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Maxine Kauffman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Joleen Beemer  
Neil Tishcauser  
3<sup>rd</sup> Shaelyn Meyer  
8<sup>th</sup> Stephanie Gfeller  
10<sup>th</sup> Stetson Shrack

## ★ MOVIE NIGHT ★

**Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup>**

***Arsenic and Old Lace***

starring Cary Grant



Tony Herman was honored in June for sharing his musical gifts with the church.

### Greeters, Acolytes, and Usher for July

<u>Greeters:</u>		<u>Acolytes:</u>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Dwight & Marion Kamm	Farrah Rothchild
13 <sup>th</sup>	Ron & Sam Pryor	Janessa Latzke
20 <sup>th</sup>	Peggy Meuli and Carol Lawson	Scarlett Murphy
27 <sup>th</sup>	Sam & Nicole Shrack	Axie Shrack
July Usher: Dwight Kamm		

Thank you to Bob O'Neal for being the June Usher

