



**First United Presbyterian Church
102 North Main Street
Houston, PA 15342**



The Heavenly Herald

Pledge to the American Flag

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America
And to the republic for which it stands; One nation under God,
indivisible, With liberty and justice for all.

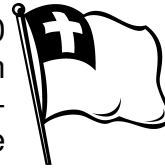


On June 14, 1777, Congress adopted a Resolution describing a Flag to be the symbol of unity and independence for the new country. The pledge was first recited in October 1892. The words "under God" were added in 1954.

Pledge to the Christian Flag

I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands; one Savior crucified, risen and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe.

The Christian Flag was 100 years in September 1997. 244,000 Christian churches around the world display Christian flags in their sanctuaries and classrooms. It stands for no denomination, but for Christianity and the Prince of Peace. The pledge was first recited in 1904.



Dear Friends,

The Fourth of July celebrations in our communities bring out the flags and decorations of red, white and blue. Parades and picnics are held to commemorate the founding of our great country. It is well worth celebrating!

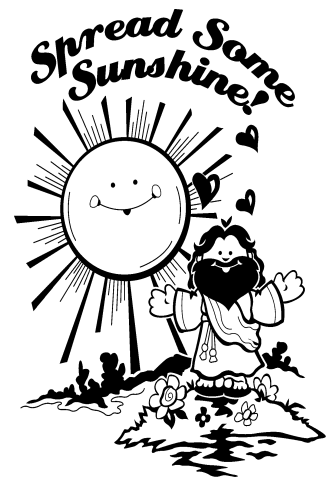
It is also appropriate to join in worship services and offer prayers:

- ◆ prayers of gratitude for the blessing of living here; for our form of government and for our abundant resources;
- ◆ prayers of intercession on behalf of all those who govern from the president to our borough and township supervisors;
- ◆ prayers of mourning for those servants who have lost their lives in service to communities and nations; prayers of blessing for those who continue to serve us as firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical technicians, relief workers and social workers, and soldiers.



2007

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Worship is as appropriate as a parade or picnic to mark the Fourth of July.

When we pledge allegiance, we use the phrase “one nation under God.” There are people who disagree with this relatively recent addition to the Pledge of Allegiance. But for us who are Christians, this phrase makes clear our order of priorities. Our first allegiance is to God for God is above the nation. All these good blessings to the citizens of these United States are gifts of God. The blessings of liberty and justice are for all the people. And we are grateful!

God charges us, as he charged Adam and Eve, to be good stewards, to be caretakers and managers of all God’s gifts on his behalf. Making sure that the good gifts are shared by all is one criterion to determine whether we are doing a good job as stewards. Making sure that the resources continue for generations is another mark of our good stewardship. Natural resources are not “OURS!” Intellect and abilities are not given for personal power only. We hold them in trust for the Maker. They are not to be used just for personal wealth and aggrandizement. They are not to be used to enhance individual personal power over others. The resources, both material and intellectual, are to be used for the glory of God and for the good of all. (See I Corinthians 12 and Romans 11-12.)

God Has Blessed America! O God, please, continue to bless and guide all the people of America!

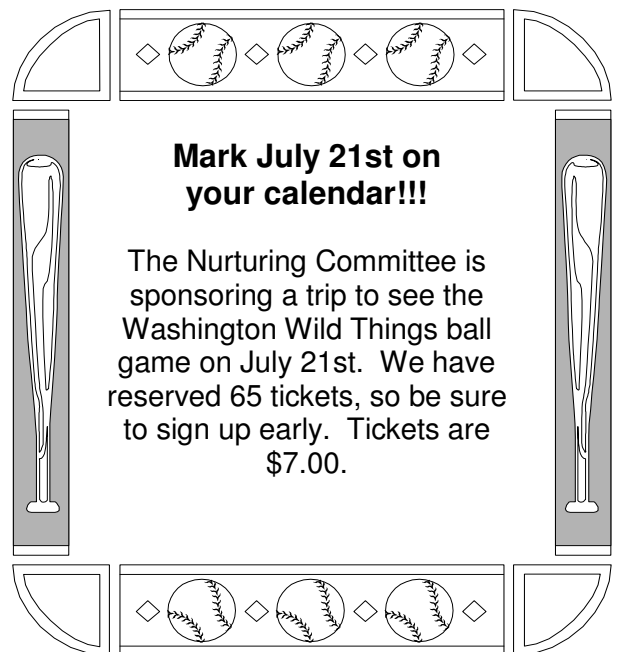
Yours in Christ’s Service,
Rev. Clarejean E. Haury

News from the Deacons

On Monday, May 21, 2007, the Deacons cooked and served dinner at the Canonsburg Up Church for Interfaith Hospitality.

The church picnic will be held on Wednesday, August 8th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at North Strabane Township Park Pavilion. The Deacons will furnish chicken and hot dogs, beverages and all the table service. A Deacons’ meeting to discuss the church picnic will be held on Sunday, July 15th after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

The next regular Deacons’ meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m.



Mark July 21st on your calendar!!!

The Nurturing Committee is sponsoring a trip to see the Washington Wild Things ball game on July 21st. We have reserved 65 tickets, so be sure to sign up early. Tickets are \$7.00.

Chronic Pain Devotional Proving Ground

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Rev. 21:4 & 5 NIV)

Walking this earth is not always easy, especially for those of us that suffer daily with chronic pain. We have our up days and we have our down days. Sometimes we question God as to why we go through the bad days.

As leader of a Chronic Pain Support Ministry my heart goes out when my members come to me or to the Group and tell heart wrenching stories of how some well meaning person has expressed to them that their faith is not strong enough or they would be healed, or if they did this or that, then their healing would come. Their hearts become broken and their spirit feels torn as they question their own integrity as a Christian.

What a sad thing for a person that is already hurting to have to hear this from someone that doesn't have a clue. This is not in God's perfect plan for us.

We do not live in a perfect world so we will never have perfect bodies until we reach that beautiful place prepared for all God's children in Heaven. How wonderful that will be... no crying, no pain, no hurt for all eternity.

When I think of Earth... I think of it as a "Proving Ground", a place where we can make that choice of what we are going to do with our lives down here to prepare us for that precious eternal place when we go to live with God.

How will we handle adversity down here?

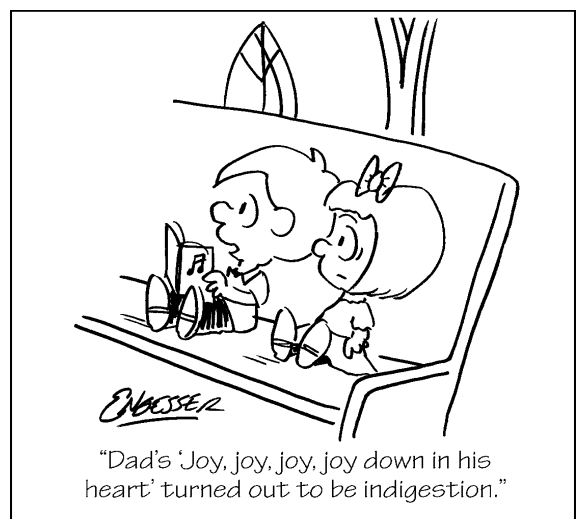
Take heart and press on my friends. Hold on for your God will always see you though.

Prayer: Father God help us to not allow adversity to bog us down. Help us to remain true to your faithfulness to us knowing that you have prepared a Heavenly place for us, where all will be perfect and lovely.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Nancy Dittert (Aka Pastor Nancie-rose) lives in a berm home in Rural Central Iowa with her husband & soulmate Patrick, 2 spoiled kitty's and a Lab/Sharpei dog. Nancy & Patrick are both pastors, retiring early because of illness. Nancy lives with Severe Fibromyalgia and Neuropathy, and her husband had a brain tumor that left him disabled. They are still actively involved in Internet Prayer Group, a Home Fellowship and Chronic Pain Support Ministry through the Internet.

Write Nancy at nancierose@msn.com and visit her Chronic Pain Web Site at: <http://Fibromyalgiahelp.homestead.com/index.html>



Trust Clause

There has been much misunderstanding about the trust clause in the Book of Order G-8.0201.

Property has been given to the local congregation for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. If that property were used in some way that compromises that ministry and mission, the larger church may be impacted and reason to look at the issue.

It was c. 1979 that the US Supreme Court asked the hierarchical churches (which they consider the Presbyterian Church to be) to place a trust clause in their constitution in order to help the court remain neutral on matters of church property. So in 1982 the UP-CUSA and the PCUS added a trust clause and with reunion that became a point in the PCUSA Book of Order.

The Trust clause says that we hold property in trust for the larger church. The local congregation owns the property. The local congregation holds title to the property. They can buy or sell the property, all within the provisions of the trust clause.

If, however, a congregation were to choose to sell their building to a local Muslim group, there might be reasons that other Presbyterians would be hurt by this decision. This might be considered a violation of trust.

Many churches are recipients of trusts given in a estate. In such a case, the money is held by a bank and it is the Trustees of the bank that determines whether the congregation is honoring the terms of the will. The money belongs to the church, but to use the money, the church must honor the terms of the trust.

The Presbytery might become involved in a property question if the local congregation were somehow using property in a way that

does not further the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ, and thus violates the trust. The Presbytery also might become involved if there were division with a congregation and one side tried to claim exclusive use and control of the property. In such cases, it will be task of the Presbytery to determine what use serves the mission and ministry of Christ.

I hope this is helpful.

David Stammerjohn

The Book of Order
Chapter VIII

G-8.0201 ALL PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST

All property held by or for a particular church, a presbytery, a synod, the General Assembly, or the Presbyterian church (U.S. A.), whether legal title is lodged in a corporation, a trustee or trustees, or an unincorporated association, and whether the property is used in programs of a particular church or of a more inclusive governing body or retained for the production of income, is held trust nevertheless for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

G-8.0300 PROPERTY USED CONTRARY TO THE CONSTITUTION

Whenever property of, or held for, a particular church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S. A.) ceases to be used by that church as a particular church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in accordance with this constitution, such property shall be held, used, applied, transferred or sold as provided by the presbytery.

JULY 2007 CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, July 1	Communion; Home Communion Delivery
Wednesday, July 4	Office Closed No Mommie and Me
Saturday, July 7	7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday, July 8	All Music Sunday
Monday, July 9	1:00 p.m. Rebekah Circle
Sunday, July 15	12:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting in Fellowship Hall to discuss picnic plans
Monday, July 16	August Newsletter articles due in office
Saturday, July 21	7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00 p.m. Washington Wild Things Baseball Game
Tuesday, July 24	1:00 p.m. Ruth Circle

Wednesdays, July 11, 18 & 25
10:00 a.m. Mommie and me

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, August 8 — Church picnic

Saturday, August 11 — Talent Show — if you have a talent you would like to share, please contact Karen Jones



Early worship services will continue through August 26. The service will be held in the chapel and will begin at 8:30 a.m.

To contact us: 102 North Main Street, Houston, PA 15342
Phone: 724 746-3040 —
Church Office 310; Open Door Nursery 311; Rev. CjE 313; Meals on Wheels 314
Fax number: 724 746-3041
Website: www.houstonpresbyterian.org
Email: fupchouston@hky.com; secretary@houstonpresbyterian.org (for Debbie)
revcje@houstonpresbyterian.org (for Rev. CjE)
fupc@houstonpresbyterian.org (for both Debbie and Rev. CjE)
treasurer@houstonpresbyterian.org (for Cherie)

DEADLINE



The deadline for articles for the August 2007 newsletter is Monday, July 16. Please leave any articles you may have on the secretary's desk or you may email them to the church. Thank you for your cooperation.

SERVING THE CHURCH IN JULY 2007



GREETERS

Deacon Greeters:

July 1 Jeff Paxton
 Tonya Decker

July 8 Virginia Rockwell
 Ruth Baxter

July 15 Amy Wiszczor
 Joe Wiszczor

July 22 Nancy Ward
 Lee Mason

July 29 Lala Patsch
 Inez Patsch

Elder Greeters:

July 1 David Fee (GH)
 Thelma Mitchell (GV)
 Rev. CjE (MH)
 Susan Stonebraker (MV)

July 8 Sandy Wallace (GH)
 Kathie Purtorti (GV)
 Buddy Jeffers (MH)
 Rev. CjE (MV)

July 15 Rev. CjE (GH)
 Carole Borda (GV)
 John Jones (MH)
 Cathy Cushey (MV)

July 22 Jonnie Swarow (GH)
 Rev. CjE (GV)
 Gloria Schmalz (MH)
 Rob Smith (MV)

July 29 David Fee (GH)
 Rev. CjE (GV)
 Thelma Mitchell (MH)
 Susan Stonebraker (MV)

Money Counters:

Peg Yost
 Thurman Yost



Liturgists: Buddy Jeffers
 Brian Jeffers
 Jonnie Swarow

Adult Ushers:

July 1 Rob Smith
 Cathy Cushey

July 8 Cyndi Powell
 Elaine Bigler

July 15 Bernadette Stager
 Mike Stager

July 22 Virginia Rockwell
 Skippy

July 29 Joe Wiszczor
 Amy Wiszczor

Nursery Workers:

July 1 Jami Craig
 Connor Craig

July 8 Sandy Wallace
 Haley Wallace

July 15 Carrie Cochran
 Tonya Decker

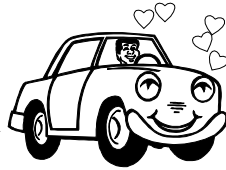
July 22 Tricia Fee
 David Fee

July 29 Tina Colletti
 Jami Craig



NEARING THE FINISH LINE!!

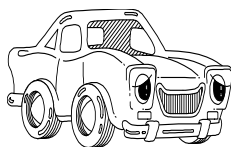
Our not-so-new Parking Lots are still looking **VERY** good! Have you forgotten the potholes and loose gravel you had to walk through just two years ago? When we stop to think about it, we can be thankful all over again that we got the job done – and done right. (As it turns out, we finished the paving before the prices of petroleum products went through the roof! Thank the Lord.)



When you are happily parking and walking safely into the church, please set aside a little extra donation to help finish paying for those nice parking spots. We divided the total cost by the number of spaces and discovered that each space cost \$1000.

We have covered \$62,334 of the original \$70,000 and repaid the investment fund. **Only \$7,666 left to FINISH!!**

That could be 7 families giving \$1100 each or, 15 families might contribute \$500 each. Perhaps it's more likely 76 families could donate another \$100 each. It is your decision, but every little bit helps. Support the Youth Group's tee-shirt and sweatshirt sale and the Music & Worship Committee Taters and Talent Night in August. Proceeds will **help FINISH the PARKING LOTS.**



Stacey Simpson	1
Jonnie Swarow	1
Marjorie Smagner	2
Meghan Cline	2
Evelyn Braun	3
Marsha Mason	3
Elaine Bigler	4
Derek McIlvaine	5
Keegan Decker	7
Marissa Yetter	8
Stephanie Wylie	9
Bill Welsh	11
Robert Blough, Sr.	11
Ethan Shober	11
Kara Petras	12
Dean Shober	12
Patrick Zeni	12
Heidi Swain	12
Kristin McCarty	13
Joseph Washabaugh	13
Alan Jester	16
Duane Conner	17
Heather Bogart	17
Marilyn Franko	19
Betty Wylie	19
Shana Wallace	20
Matthew Martik	20
Joanie Westcott	21
Dustin Westcott	21
Haley Wallace	21
Derek Hoover	21
Dolores Wright	23
Jill Vintorini	23
Becky Paxton	26
Heather Camden	28
Robert McIlvaine	30
Shannon Rungo	30
Lee Mason	31
Barry Parker	31

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FOR DETAILED
CONTACT
INFORMATION**

**Nonprofit organization
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"THE LOVE OF THE LORD IS THE HEARTBEAT OF OUR MISSION!"