

*the*Will

July 2019 | Monthly Newsletter of God's Will Christian Church

Mark Your Calendar

**Sunday School: 9AM
Service Time: 10AM**

**Happy Birthday to those
born in July**

**GWCC 15 Year Anniver-
sary Committee is in need
of people. Please see
Sis. Janet for details.**

True Freedom

by Cathy Irvin

When you think about July 4th, what comes to mind?

Perhaps you think about a day off from work with picnics, fireworks, and those red, white, and blue flags displayed in front yards along your neighborhood.

This is all good, but the one word that comes to my mind is freedom.

It is a fact that we live in the United States of America where we can voice our opinions freely and can vote for the people of our choice. These are very good reasons why we should never take our freedom for granted.

Each year, I notice that some people really go all out decorating for every holiday.

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True Freedom cont'd

For the 4th of July, I display my flag in the yard for the entire month. The flag means a lot to me because of those in my family who have been in wars. I have also had friends who served our country, and I have known some who did not come home in the past and present war.

My father served in World War II. My mother was a Red Cross volunteer during that war. My niece and her husband served in Desert Storm. I also have had loved ones in the Vietnam War and a friend now in Afghanistan.

Because of their contributions in keeping us all free, I proudly display the flag.

Have you thought about the American flag and all that it stands for? This emblem of the greatest nation on earth is placed on graves of our honored dead who fought for us to remain a free nation, and it flies high during times of peace, as well as war. "Old Glory" is its name.

There is another real freedom we can have. We can display it every day of the year, and that is our freedom "In Christ" to live a life to glorify Him, so that His banner of love, truth, and peace can be seen by all.

"But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head." (KJV)

It is a flag flown high in the castle of my heart (taken from a song). We can be free in our spirit to serve the Creator of the whole universe and that my friends, is True Freedom.

Romans 8:2 says,
"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made me free from the law of sin and of death." (ASV)

Just like the flag that represents freedom, Jesus is a banner over us, protecting and shielding us. He is the "Glory and the Lifter of our heads" at all times. Let freedom ring out in your heart today.

Psalm 3:3 reads,
"But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head." (KJV)

REMINDER:
Please remember to download
our App in the App Store or
Google Play!

Member's Corner



This month, we shine the spotlight on Brother Amari Harris.

Who introduced you to Christ?

My mom introduced me to Christ by buying me books to study and understand the teachings of the Lord.

When did you join GWCC?

I joined GWCC in 2012.

What ministries do you participate in?

I participate in the youth ministry.

What do you do for a living?

I don't have a career yet.

What are your hobbies?

Playing basketball.

What have you found most rewarding about being a member of GWCC?

One thing I found most rewarding about being a member of GWCC is the activities that are planned for the youth .

What advice would you give a new Christian?

Pray to God every day, Tell him you're thankful for what he has provided for you.

Recipe Corner: Pepperoni Basil Tomato Puffs

INGREDIENTS

- 1 sheet puff pastry
- 1 or 2 tomatoes, sliced
- 1/2 cup shredded parmesan
- Pepperoni slices (2 per appetizer)
- Fresh basil, chopped
- 1 egg yolk mixed with 1 teaspoon water, for gilding
- Salt and fresh cracked pepper

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat your oven to 360°F (180°C). Roll out the puff pastry and transfer on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Cut 9 squares (approx. 3-inch/8cm)
2. On each square, arrange a tomato slice, topped with 2 pepperoni slices, parmesan, salt, pepper and chopped basil. Fold to opposite corners of each squares to form little boats.
3. Brush each pastry with the egg yolk, then refrigerate for 10-15 minutes before baking in the oven for 15-20 minutes, until cheese is melted and pastries are puffed and golden. Serve immediately, enjoy!

Note: Make sure the puff pastry is cold when it goes into the oven.

Our Daily Bread

Through a New Lens:

Exodus 25:31–40

“It must be amazing to look at a tree and see the individual leaves instead of just a blur of green!” my dad said. I couldn’t have said it better. I was eighteen at the time and not a fan of my new need to wear glasses, but they changed the way I saw everything, making the blurry beautiful!

When reading Scripture, I view certain books like I do when I look at trees without my glasses. There doesn’t seem to be much to see. But noticing details can reveal the beauty in what might seem to be a boring passage.

This happened to me when I was reading Exodus. God’s directions for building the tabernacle—

His temporary dwelling place among the Israelites—can seem like a blur of boring details. But I paused at the end of chapter 25 where God gave directions for the lampstand. It was to be hammered out “of pure gold,” including its base and shaft and its flowerlike cups, buds, and blossoms (v. 31). The cups were to be “shaped like almond flowers” (v. 34).

Almond trees are breathtaking. And God incorporated that same natural beauty into His tabernacle!

Paul wrote, “God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature” are seen and understood in creation (Romans 1:20). To see God’s beauty, sometimes we have to look at creation, and what might seem like uninteresting passages in the Bible, through a new lens.

By Julie Schwab

Weekly Activities

**Morning Prayer Conference Call
Men’s Bible Study Conference Call**

**Daily 7:00AM
Tuesday 7:00-7:30pm**

**Conference Number: 712-775-7031
Access Code: 443-268-839**