



A NOTE FROM YOUR DOM "Thank God for Our Nation"

It was a year ago that Ellen and I accepted the call to come to Barry County. We are thankful for this wonderful adventure and your graciousness toward us. We're looking forward to more years of continual service for the Lord together.

Youth Camp went very well. The two associations, us and Shoal Creek, blended together with both leadership and campers being blessed. There were nine professions of faith (can I hear an "AMEN"?). And several came to the altar to pray, seek counsel, and make other decisions. Thanks to all who made it such a great week and to every camper for a sweet spirit of cooperation. Thanks for sending your youth and for your prayers. To God be the Glory!

Planning for Children's Camp is being finalized and it promises to be another great week. Pray for those attending, that decisions will be made to follow Jesus. Pray for director Mindi Gates and all who will be serving.

Perhaps the most monumental celebration for this month is *America's 250th anniversary (the Semiquincentennial) of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026*. This milestone is being celebrated nationwide with numerous festivals, exhibits and community initiatives.

Don't let this season pass without thanking our God for allowing us to be a part of this great nation. Several of you have shared what your church/community is doing to celebrate. All are encouraged to participate.

At the June Workers' Conference, Missouri State Senator Michael Moon shared with us a presentation on the *National Monument to the Forefathers* in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Kirk Cameron's *Monumental: In Search of America's National Treasure* movie/documentary is available online to purchase and view. When Ellen and I first saw the movie, we were very surprised and disappointed that we'd never heard of it. In August of 2015, we drove to Plymouth, Massachusetts, to see it. It's a very impressive, solid granite structure, standing 81 feet tall. It was built in 1889 to honor the Mayflower Pilgrims. These five separate statues on the monument embody foundational Christian concepts directly tied to specific biblical principles, that formed our nation.

1. Faith (Main Statue)

●Symbolism: The 36-foot central statue points her hand to heaven while holding a closed Geneva Bible in her left hand.

●Scriptural Concept: Represents trusting God's Word as the ultimate standard for personal life, family and society. *Biblical Reference*: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." -Psalm 119:105

2. Morality

●Symbolism: Holds the Ten Commandments in her left hand and the scroll of Revelation in her right.

●Scriptural Concept: Signifies that inward heart transformation-not just government-imposed rules-dictates true morality. *Biblical Reference*: The giving of the moral law in Exodus 20:1-17.

3. Law

●Symbolism: Portrayed with a law book in one hand and extending the other in mercy.

●Scriptural Concept: Represents just civil government, which balances justice and mercy. *Biblical Reference*: "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" -Micah 6:8

4. Education

●Symbolism: Depicted with an open book of knowledge (the Bible).

●Scriptural Concept: Emphasizes that biblical truths must be passed down to youth and future generations by the family. *Biblical Reference*: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." -Proverbs 22:6

5. Liberty

●Symbolism: Depicted as a man in the full armor of God with a broken chain at his feet, standing over a slain lion.

●Scriptural Concept: True freedom requires internal and external deliverance from tyranny, secured through obedience to God. *Biblical Reference*: "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." -Galatians 5:1

We would all agree that since the Pilgrims arrived in 1620, our nation has veered far from its founding principles and values. Yet I believe our God reigns and His plan is for all creation to be submissive to the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:10). Pray for revival in our nation.

God Bless You!
BRO. ALLAN ☺

No Workers' Conference in July



Roaring River Campers' Church
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Roaring River Amphitheater

July 5th - Gerald Kirkpatrick
July 12th - ?????
July 19th - ?????
July 26th - ?????

August 2nd - ?????
9th - ?????
16th - Rich Cummings
23rd - Gerald Kirkpatrick
30th - ?????

Attendance: 5/24-7, 5/31-42, 6/7-9,
6/14-5, 6/21-14



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*August Workers' Conference will be on the 20th at FB Shell Knob

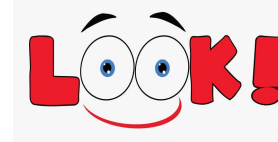
Children's Camp
(3rd-6th grade)
July 6-9, 2026

Director: Mindi Gates

Please pray for our Adults and Kids as they are at Baptist Hill this week!



Our August Workers' Conference is our Songfest and will be on the 20th at First Baptist Shell Knob. If anyone would like to share in song, please contact Steve Blankenship, our Associational Music Director (417-84603853) or you can call the Associational Office (417-847-2820)



ACP's and Leadership Reports will be mailed directly from the Missouri Baptist Building

in Jefferson City so be watching your mail for this important report! Please complete these so we can stay updated on your information and get your church updated in our Book of Reports under our Church Listings. Also, the Book of Reports supplement page, that we mail to you, will be sent out this month and we also need that information either mailed by postman or internet. This is the page that has those that have "Graduated to Glory", historical events and ordained deacons/pastors. Thank you clerks and church staff for your hard work, especially during this time!



The office will be closed on July 3rd for Independence Day and all of your Associational Office Staff will be at Children's Camp so the office will also be closed July 6-10.

