

LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH NEWS

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Simply Living the Gospel

July 2020

God Bless America

Psalm 33: 10-12 NIV ¹⁰ **The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. ¹¹ But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. ¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.**

May God bless America once again.

*“God bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above. From the mountains to the
prairies. To the oceans white with foam.
God bless America, my home sweet home.”*

We all know the lyrics to this song and most likely sing it with great love for our country and all it stands for. This song was written by Irving Berlin who was born in Russia in 1888 and originally named Israel Baline. He and his family fled to America to escape Russian persecution of Jews. They arrived in New York in 1893 and made Manhattan their home.

Later, as a young American, Irving served in our US Army and penned this song while stationed at an Army camp during WWI. Much like many hymns we sing, this song is truly a prayer put to a melody. This song though, is from the heart of an immigrant who experienced what it meant to live among the free and believed a country that followed God would remain in His blessing. In this song Irving is lifting up a prayer for God to continue to bless America and stay with her during the war and unrest. He is asking God to guide America with His light.

This independence day, and throughout this season we are in, may the words of this song and the heartfelt prayers of an immigrant who found a home here in America, be on our lips. May we call on God to stand beside us and guide us. May we pray for American hearts to return to serve our God faithfully for blessed in the nation whose God is the Lord.



Psalm 33:12

*Blessed is the
nation whose God
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inheritance.*

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LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH

Simply Living the Gospel

Carrying the Gospel to the Nations— Living Mission Minded

Acts 13:47 NIV 47 For this is what the Lord has commanded us: “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

We believe God is mission hearted and minded. The call for all Christians is to bring the Gospel to the nations far and wide, which includes our own back yard. We too, then must follow God’s heart and live as mission minded people. For this is how we show the world the heart of our God and the salvation offered through Jesus Christ.

Since we are half way through 2020 it is fitting to look back on where we have invested into His kingdom this year and how we are living as a light in our community and making Christ known around the globe.

Early in the year we focused on serving local missions and building up our community around us. We gave over \$300 to River Haven Shelter who serves all of Columbia County. In February, we have set aside over \$200 to support the Kindness Closet program that was newly offered for students in need. This will be delivered in the fall due to school shutting down. We gave \$580 to our Rio Area Food Pantry in March as Covid-19 hit. In May we focused on one of our global missionaries, Barbie and Tim Kusserow, who translate the Bible in Niger, Africa as their full-time mission and also focused on raising funds to help with a women’s literacy program they are launching. We will send \$1000 to this ministry. Thank you all so very much for being mission hearted!

These programs and ministries are still in full swing and need our help more than ever. For July we will focus on supporting our Kids Alive ministry partners in Constanza, DR. We are not sending a service team this year due to covid-19; in fact all teams have stopped for this ministry. For every team member sent, \$875 would go towards supporting this ministry—to pay for schooling, housing children, medical expenses and all staff to run this growing ministry. They raise 40 children in their houses at the Ark. They are not receiving that this year. Let us prayerfully and joyfully give to continue the great work God is doing to transform the community in Constanza, to be people of light!

Celebrating July Birthdays

Lois Thurber	July 2
Brittany Sugden	July 3
Delbert Curtis	July 4
Jr Abela	July 10
Nick Keunzli	July 17
Tracy Davis	July 19
Riley Landsverk	July 19
Reese Landsverk	July 21
Mia Strauss	July 24
Lexi PieKarski	July 27

Wedding Anniversaries

Shari and Rick Kleist	July 14
Cindy and Gary Waterworth	July 23

Please let Pastor Karrie know if we missed your special days so we can add them to our database. Thank you!



***Blessed Are We
Who Trust in the
Lord***

Psalm 84

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,
LORD Almighty!
² My soul yearns, even faints,
for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.
³ Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young— a place near your altar,
LORD Almighty, my King and my God.
⁴ **Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.** ⁵ Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

¹⁰ **Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

¹² **LORD Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.**

Amen.

May these praises be on our lips and in our hearts.



Called to be Free

Galatians 5:13 NIV ¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

As we remember and celebrate our freedom here in America, let us also be mindful of our eternal freedom given to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Death has no more sting and sin has no more dominion over any who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We are no longer bound in shackles to our sin and we are free from past mistakes and failures! Jesus came to set the captives free!

Jesus states this promise to all Believers found in John 16:33 **“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

When we live by faith in who Jesus is and what He has done, we truly find the freedom He intends for us to walk in. We only experience this freedom from worry, anxiety, fear, addictions, and harmful thinking **when we keep our eyes fixed on Him.** Jesus is our source of true freedom. Our world will have many troubles in it; all we have to do is look back at our own history in America to know this truth. This world is broken and the trials we face will try to imprison us to live as captives.

But let us remember this truth, **“you my brothers and sisters, were called to be free.”**

So even in these days of a pandemic and with every other trial we are walking through right now, let us remember **we are free in Christ.** Free to live in peace amidst the chaos in the world. Free to live with joy in our heart, amidst the pain of loss and hardship. Free to love fully amidst the hurt we feel at the hand of others. Free to trust in God with all our heart, amidst great uncertainty. So, let us live as children who are free, and let us love and serve others so they too can experience eternal freedom only found in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Coming Events: *We finally have some!*

Monday July 20th– Ladies Prayer Group. 9 am via Google Hangouts or some are also gathering in person- socially distant, at church. Both are acceptable. Let's gather ladies!

Graduation Parties (Open House) for our 2020 seniors.

July 12th: 3-9 pm Reese Landsverk, 328 Lincoln Ave; 4-8 pm Carson Richardson, Rio Firemen's Park.

July 18th: beginning at 1 pm-? Joseph Hawley 312 Railroad St. Rio.

Be Strengthened in the Spirit in These Days. *Connect online!*

Wednesdays: 6:30 pm Adult Study and Fellowship on Google Hangouts.

Search for Living Gospel Bible Study or let Pastor Karrie know and she will send an invite.

Sundays: 8 am Men's Study and fellowship via Zoom. Contact Pat Graham to join and connect with the men of Living Gospel! *New study starting!* 608 697-9018.

Let us not neglect coming together in fellowship and in the teaching of His Word, but let us do so all the more.

***Encouragement
is Just a Phone
Call or Message
Away***

We can always visit and encourage each other via the phone or online. I am also happy to meet one on one if you wish to pray together. **If you are struggling in this time please reach out and let's talk. Please don't isolate.**

Contact Pastor Karrie.
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Or via cell phone:
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE