

Eastminster Eagle

Volume 33, Issue 7

July 2021



Notes From Fred

Do you know the stories of some of our most loved Patriotic Songs/hymns? If not, here are some of those stories.

One of the most sung hymns, especially during worship services and Patriotic Programs, is *America The Beautiful* (*Glory to God* hymnal "GTG" page 338) from "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" a poem written by Katherine Lee Bates.

In 1893, at the age of 33, Bates, an English professor at Wellesley College, took a train trip to Colorado Springs, Colorado to teach at Colorado College. Several of the sights on her trip inspired her, and they found their way into her poem. Sights such as the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the "White City" with its promise of the future contained within its gleaming white buildings; the wheat fields of America's heartland Kansas, and the majestic view of the Great Plains from high atop Pikes Peak.

On the pinnacle of that mountain, the words of the poem began to come to her, and she wrote them down upon her return to her hotel room at the original Antlers Hotel. The poem was first published two years later in *The Congregationalist* to commemorate the Fourth of July. It quickly caught the public's fancy. An amended version was published in 1904.

The first known melody written for the song was by Silas Pratt when the poem was published in *The Congregationalist*. By 1900, at least 75 different melodies had been written. Samuel A. Ward, the organist and choir director at Grace Church, Newark, composed a tune in 1882. And by 1910, this tune was generally considered the best music and is still the popular tune today. Just as Bates had been inspired to write her poem, Ward, too, was inspired. The tune came to him while he was on a ferryboat trip from Coney Island back to his home in New York City after a leisurely summer day and he immediately wrote it down. He composed the tune for the old hymn *O Mother Dear, Jerusalem*, retitling the work "Materna." Ward's music combined with Bates' poem were first published together in 1910 and titled *America the Beautiful*.

Ward died in 1903, not knowing the national stature his music would attain. Bates was more fortunate, since the song's popularity was well established by the time

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

of her death in 1929. It is included in songbooks in many congregations in the United States.

America The Beautiful was a candidate to be the national anthem, but in 1931 *The Star-Spangled Banner* was chosen. During President Kennedy's administration there were bills written trying to give *America the Beautiful* legal status either as a national hymn or as a national anthem equal to, or in place of, *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee) (GTG, page 337) is also a popular American patriotic song. When I was in elementary school, we use to sing the first verse after we recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The lyrics were written by Samuel Francis Smith. The melody used is the same as that of the national anthem of the United Kingdom, *God Save the Queen*. The song served as one of the de facto national anthems of the United States (along with songs like *Hail, Columbia* and *America the Beautiful*) until the adoption of *The Star-Spangled Banner* as the official U.S. national anthem in 1931.

Samuel Francis Smith wrote the lyrics to *America* in 1831 while a student at the Andover Theological Seminary in Andover, Massachusetts. The use of the same melody as the British royal anthem can be described as a contrafactum which reworks this symbol of British monarchy to make a statement about American democracy.

Smith gave Mason the lyrics he had written, and the song was first performed in public on July 4, 1831, at a children's Independence Day celebration at Park Street Church in Boston. The first publication of *America* was in 1832.

A.G. Duncan wrote an Abolitionist version of the lyrics in 1843 used by the movement into the Civil War but another abolitionist song became the most sung tune by the abolitionists and others during the Civil War.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic, aka *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* (GTG, page 354), and known by that title around the world. It was written by abolitionist writer Julia Ward Howe and has become one of the most popular songs heard at patriotic programs and services. By the beginning of the 20th century, its popularity had diminished. It was brought back into wide popularity by Roy Ringwald, choral and orchestra, for the Fred Warning Singers and was broadcast January 1, 1943. Peter Wilhousky wrote the concert arrangement of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* and published in 1944.

Howe wrote her lyrics to the music of the song *John Brown's Body* in November 1861 and first published them in *The Atlantic Monthly* in February 1862. The song links the judgment of the wicked at the end of the age (through allusions to biblical

Continued on Page 3

Notes—Continued from Page 2

passages such as Isaiah 63:1–6 and Revelation 14:19) with the American Civil War.

Later 'The *Glory, Hallelujah* tune, a folk hymn developed in the oral hymn tradition of camp meetings in the southern United States and first documented in the early 1800s. In the first known version, "Canaan's Happy Shore," the text includes the verse:

Oh! Brothers will you meet me
 Oh! Brothers will you meet me
 Oh! Brothers will you meet me
 On Canaan's happy shore?

and chorus

There we'll shout and give Him glory
 There we'll shout and give Him glory
 There we'll shout and give Him glory
 For glory is His own.

This developed into the familiar "Glory, glory, hallelujah" chorus by the 1850s. The tune and variants of these words spread across both the southern and northern United States.

At a flag-raising ceremony at Fort Warren, near Boston, Massachusetts, on Sunday, May 12, 1861, the John Brown song, using the well-known "Oh! Brothers" tune and the "Glory, Hallelujah" chorus, was publicly played perhaps for the first time. The American Civil War had begun the previous month. The battalion leader did not like how the words from John's Brown's Body sounded so he asked

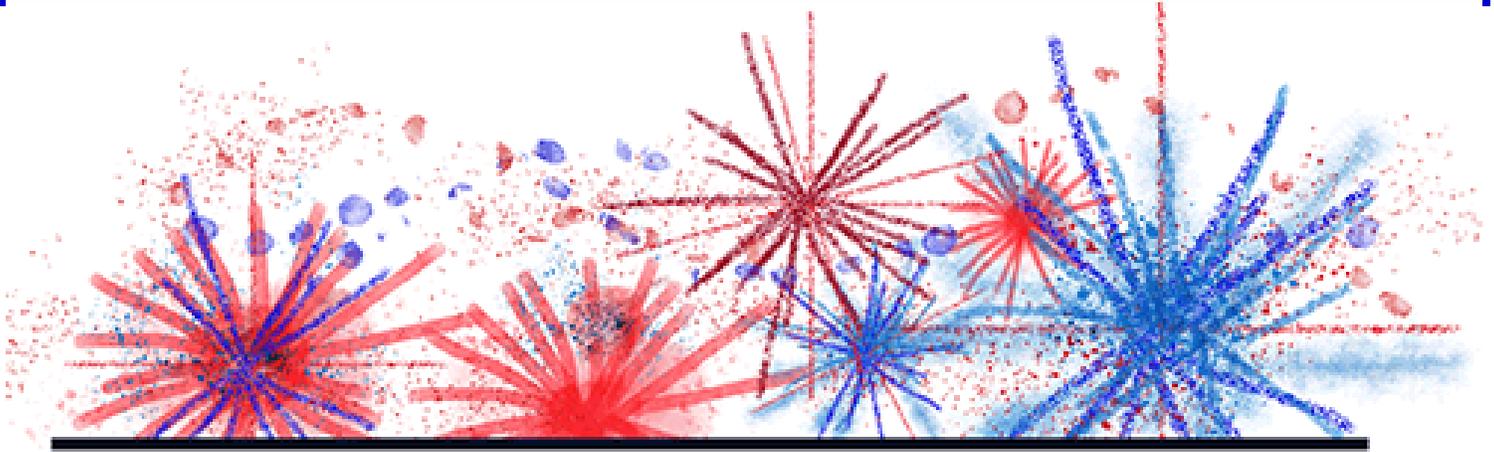
Dr. Howe to write some better lyrics. She did so by November 1861, and they were published in the *Atlantic Monthly* February 1862 issue. Shortly afterwards the "Canaan's Happy Shore" tune replaced the John Brown's Body's Canaan's tune adaptation because the "Canaan" tune verse and chorus were of equal length and rhythm to Howe's poem.

Roy Ringwald's version is the one the choir likes the best and his 4 hand piano played by Melody and Jake or Sean is very inspiring!

All of these pieces will be sung by congregation and some by choir at our 4th of July program.

COME JOIN US AND CELEBRATE
 OUR COUNTRY





*Down with the British!
Up with the Americans!*

The headline is from the movie *The Great Escape* where Americans with some help from their fellow British war prisoners are celebrating the Fourth of July all in good fun in spite of their conditions.

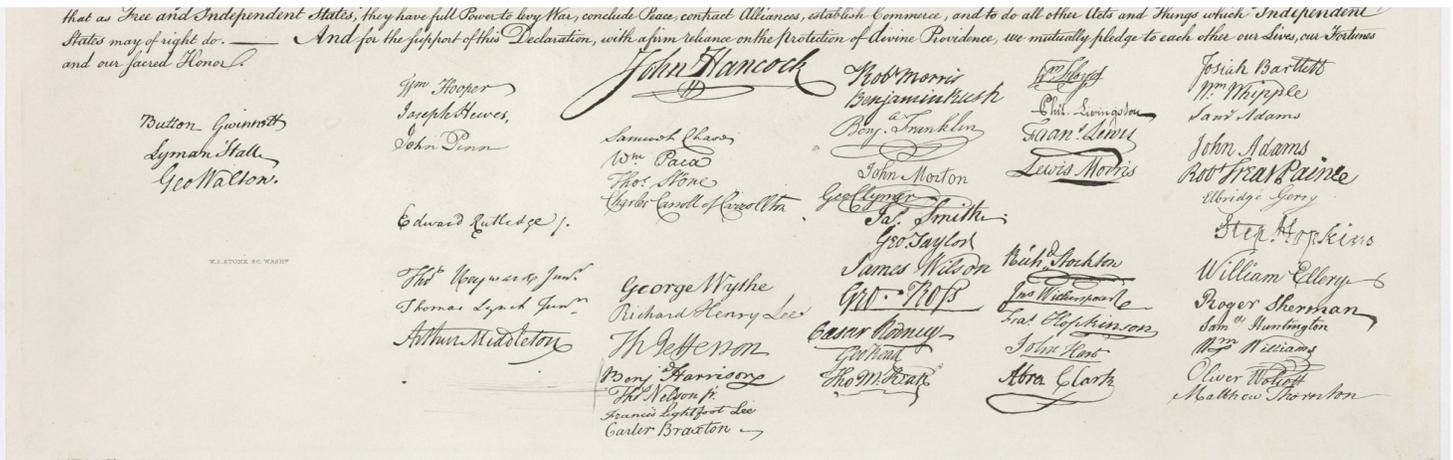
We don't know what our conditions will be like, but the Congregational Care and Worship Committees are planning a 4th of July luncheon and program on Sunday July 4th after worship.



The CCC is providing chicken. Could you provide side dishes and desserts?

Following lunch we will return to the Sanctuary for a program of the choir and congregation singing patriotic songs, all in a program highlighting excerpts from *The God Who Gave Us Liberty* by Randall Thompson based on some of the writings of Thomas Jefferson. Tom Pappas will read "The Declaration of Independence," and the "grievances" that caused the declaration to be written, and ultimately led to the Revolutionary War.

Put it on your calendar and attend in person that day to worship God, fellowship with others, and remember our country's founding.





	Families	Adults	Seniors	Children	Persons	Pounds
May 4	155	349	37	374	760	10,990
May 11	142	270	46	326	642	12,742
May 18	105	228	26	247	501	7,692
May 25	115	242	20	247	509	14,504
TOTALS	517	1089	129	1194	2412	45,928

Reach the sun

The quickest way for anyone to reach the sun and the light of day is not to run west, chasing after the setting sun, but to head east, plunging into the darkness until one comes to the sunrise. ... Walk into the darkness rather than try to outrun it.

—Gerald Sittser, *A Grace Disguised*

Living out scripture

When Texas suffered an uncharacteristic winter storm in February, one couple's act of kindness toward a stranger demonstrated the power of living by the Golden Rule.

Chelsea Timmons, a grocery store delivery driver, got stuck in the ice-covered driveway of customers Doug Condon and Nina Richardson. Because towing companies were inundated, the couple invited her to stay with them — which she ended up doing for five nights! The three shared meals and conversation, and Chelsea baked them a cake and befriended their dogs. In short, Nina and Doug say, she became “part of the family.”

“Do to others what you would have them do to you,” says Jesus (Matthew 7:12, NIV). Doug echoes Jesus closely when he explains one reason behind their actions: “We have daughters, and we hope if they were ever in a situation like this that there would be someone who would open their house and help them.”

Perhaps Doug and Nina also experienced the delight of another Bible verse: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares” (Hebrews 13:2, ESV).

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Saved from sinking

For Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time, fame and gold medals weren't enough to shore up a drowning self-esteem. The U.S. swimmer, who faced legal trouble and ended up in rehab, contemplated suicide during the prime of his sports career. “I thought the world would just be better off without me,” Phelps told ESPN.

Then a friend, NFL star Ray Lewis, sent Phelps a copy of Rick Warren's bestseller *The Purpose Driven Life*. The book made such an impact on Phelps that he read excerpts aloud to fellow rehab-clinic patients, who dubbed him Preacher Mike. “It's turned me into believing there is a power greater than myself, and there is a purpose for me on this planet,” Phelps says. “It helped me when I was in a place where I needed the most help.” The swimmer's message to Lewis? By extending a hand and sharing the gospel's message of hope, “You saved my life.”

House and Property

It is time to celebrate July 4th in our Fellowship Hall with lunch and fellowship. It is true, the Fellowship Hall and the adjoining bathrooms will be ready for that day of celebration. It has been two months since we began the restoration project and the rest of the project will be completed in 30 days. Flooring installation has begun and the remaining cabinets and shelving are going into place. Cousins Remodeling has done a wonderful job and has kept the project on schedule.

All of the clocks in the clock tower are now working. It took a while to correct all of the problems, but we finally did it. It's amazing what rodents can do to wiring.

Volunteers have begun painting the wrought iron rails and lamp posts and sconces in and around the sanctuary. Thank you, Jim Lee and Gary Holloman for painting and wood trim repairs that you are working on. Thank you, Bruce Turner for your paint work and always keeping the A/C Thermostats set on the appropriate settings.

We have many more small projects to do in and around our church. If you can help let us know. We are looking forward to all of us meeting on July 4th to celebrate what the Lord has done.

Blessings,
House and Property Committee,
Blair Garrett, Chairman



The Fellowship Hall has carpet!



The cabinets are being repaired and are going in.



New & Returning cChoir Members

We are pleased to announce Suzette Hicks, alto, has joined the Sanctuary Choir! We welcome Judy Moreland, alto, back to the choir.

If you know of someone, member or not, who likes to sing, please send me their name and contact info to fred.eastminster@yahoo.com

Fred



Hope defined

Hoping does not mean doing nothing. It means going about our assigned tasks, confident that God will provide the meaning and the conclusions. It is not compelled to work away at keeping up appearances with a bogus spirituality. It is the opposite of desperate and panicky manipulations, of scurrying and worrying.

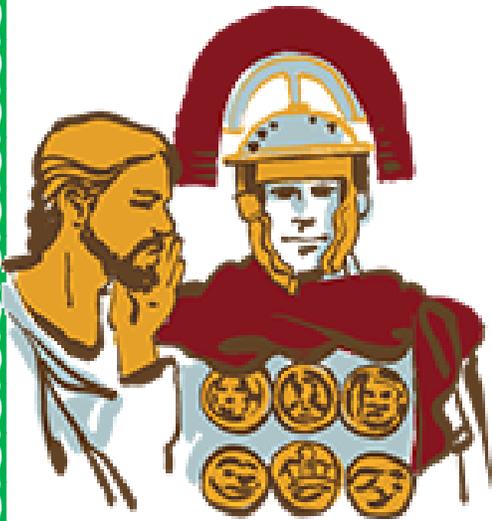
And hoping is not dreaming. It is not spinning an illusion or fantasy to protect us from our boredom or our pain. It means a confident, alert expectation that God will do what he said he will do. It is imagination put in the harness of faith. It is a willingness to let God do it his way and in his time. It is the opposite of making plans that we demand that God put into effect, telling him both how and when to do it.

—Eugene Peterson, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*



Darlene West received the Pleasant Grove Food Pantry Volunteer of the Year award at the PGFP's volunteer appreciation dinner on June 26, 2021.

Darlene works very hard, never misses a day and makes a big difference in the life of the pantry. Pleasant Grove Food Pantry appreciates all of her time and talents!



An unnamed relative of Paul obstructed a conspiracy to kill the apostle. What was this rescuer's relation to Paul?

- A. nephew
- B. niece
- C. brother
- D. sister

Answer: A (See Acts 23:12-22, esp. v. 16.)

Dear God, Instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't You just keep the ones You have? - Amy

Dear God, Are you really invisible or is it just a trick? - Lucy

Dear God, Did you really mean "do onto others as they do unto You"? Because if you did, then I'm going to fix my brother.—Darla

Dear God, I think about you sometimes even when I'm not praying.—Elliot

Dear God, I would love to live 900 years like the guy in the Bible.—Love, Chris



Scripture Readings for July

1 Pss. 143; 147:12–20	11 Pss. 103; 150	22 Pss. 36; 147:12–20
2 Pss. 88; 148	12 Pss. 5; 145	23 Pss. 130; 148
3 Pss. 122; 149	13 Pss. 42; 146	24 Pss. 56; 149
4 Pss. 108; 150	14 Pss. 89:1–18; 147:1–11	25 Pss. 67; 150
5 Pss. 62; 145	15 Pss. 97; 147:12–20	26 Pss. 57; 145
6 Pss. 12; 146	16 Pss. 51; 148	27 Pss. 54; 146
7 Pss. 96; 147:1–11	17 Pss. 104; 149	28 Pss. 65; 147:1–11
8 Pss. 116; 147:12–20	18 Pss. 19; 150	29 Pss. 143; 147:12–20
9 Pss. 84; 148	19 Pss. 135; 145	30 Pss. 88; 148
10 Pss. 63; 149	20 Pss. 123; 146	31 Pss. 122; 149
	21 Pss. 15; 147:1–11	

A gentle answer



As it does this year, July 4 fell on Sunday in 1937. While Pastor Eldred Johnston led worship that morning in Paulding, Ohio, local kids set off firecrackers nearby (restrictions were rare back then). Realizing he needed to act, the pastor slipped outside during a hymn and found the revelers.

But instead of scolding or shouting, Johnston stayed calm. “I used to enjoy shooting fireworks too,” he said, adding that he knew it was a fun way to celebrate. “But many in this town are gathered in worship, and the noise is very distracting. All I’m asking is that you wait until church services are over — about noon — and then shoot firecrackers all you want.” The pastor smiled at each youth and returned to church.

Recounting that experience in Liberty magazine, Johnston said he half-expected to hear defiant explosions. Instead, the kids waited respectfully until worship was over. When conflicts loom, may we heed that example — and this advice from Proverbs: “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger” (15:1, NIV).

In God’s hands

In *Keep a Quiet Heart*, Christian missionary Elisabeth Elliot ponders the faith implications of fretting about days to come. “Today is mine; tomorrow is none of my business,” she writes. “If I peer anxiously into the fog of the future, I will strain my

spiritual eyes so that I will not see clearly what is required of me now.”

And what’s the alternative? Instead of dwelling on times to come, which we can’t change anyway, Elliot recommends: “Leave it all in the hands that were wounded for you.”

Giving our best

Have you noticed that family tension tends to ratchet up as summer progresses? As you may have found during quarantine, bickering often escalates as siblings and parents spend more unstructured time together.

To be honest, I add to the problem sometimes. After I expend energy at work, navigate all our schedules and try to serve my friends and community, little of my “best” is left by day’s end. My family often gets the leftovers — literally and figuratively.

In “Be King,” Christian musician Brian Morykon sings about the struggles of expressing love, even to relatives: “Be gentle to your brother/ Jesus will show you how./ Choose to bless your enemies/ even those that live in your house.”

Our Savior sets an example by always loving me and always giving his best. That knowledge can help me flip things around and find ways to give my best, not my leftovers, to the people in my house.

—Janna Firestone

Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



Th_r_for_

_s G_d's ch_s_n p__pl_

h_ly _nd d__rly l_v_d, cl_th_

y__rs lv_s w_th c_mp_ss__n,

k_ndn_ss, h_m_l_ty, g_ntl_n_ss

_nd p_t__nc_. B__r w_th

__ch__th_r__nd f_rg_v__n_

_n_th_r__f__ny__f_y__h_s__

gr__v_nc__g__nst s_m__n_.

F_rg_v__s th_ L_rd f_rg_v__y__.

C_l_ss__ns 3:12-13, N_V

“Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible.”

—Corrie ten Boom

“That the birds of worry and care fly over your head, this you cannot change, but that they build nests in your hair, this you can prevent.”

—Chinese proverb

“A Christian man is the most free lord of all, and subject to none; a Christian man is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.”

—Martin Luther

We need friends. Friends guide us, care for us, confront us in love, console us in times of pain. Although we speak of “making friends,” friends cannot be made. Friends are free gifts from God. But God gives us the friends we need when we need them if we fully trust in God’s love.

Friends cannot replace God. They have limitations and weaknesses like we have. Their love is never faultless, never complete. But in their limitations they can be signposts on our journey towards the unlimited and unconditional love of God. Let’s enjoy the friends whom God has sent on our way.

—Henri Nouwen,
Bread for the Journey

Answer: Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:12-13, NIV

JULY



Blair Garrett 7-5
 Emma Wallis 7-5
 Steve O'Neil 7-5
 Ginny Beatty 7-13
 Joseph Bacon 7-13

Tim Kreger 7-16
 Darlene West 7-20
 Bonnie Lucas 7-21
 Roy Ridley 7-24

JULY



Beverly & Roy Ridley
 4/22
 Vicki & David Gibbs
 4/29



**Eastminster
 Session**

Denise Bennett
 Betty Crabtree
 Kayla Dixon
 Ronnie Dixon
 Blair Garrett
 Kathy Kreger
 Jim Lee
 Michele Pappas
 Helen Randolph
 Vicki Thiebaud
 Charlotte Turner



Pastor	Sherry Holloman
Director of Music	Fred P. Watkins
Organist	Melody S. Davis
Administrative Assistant	Chandra Anderson
Hostess/Housekeeper	Minerva Hernandez
Child Care Provider	Betty Crabtree





Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Eastminster PCHAS School Supply Drive

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!

Created by:  Sara Craig 

Eastminster has committed to providing supplies for 10 backpacks to Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services this year. Total cost for each child's supplies is approximately \$60.00.

No backpacks will have to be purchased this year because they have already been donated. The children are divided up in two or three lists with each list expected to cost around \$20.00. We have 25 shopping lists, so if you can take more than one or an entire child's list, that would really help us meet our goal. However, ALL help is greatly appreciated. Also, if you can't get to the store, we'll shop for you – Just let us know and please don't wait until the last minute.

Your Sunday School class, Presbyterian Women, neighbors, work friends, and social groups can also participate and we welcome everyone's help to make going-back-to-school fun for the PCHAS children.

An online system has been set up where you can sign up for the supplies you would like to provide.

The link is simply a sign-up system and you will purchase the specific items from the store of your choice. Here is the link for the sign-up sheet:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FADA62AA3FEC61-eastminster

Please return all supplies to the church by August 1st with the child's name (first name and last name initial) on your bag

If you would prefer to donate funds instead of shopping for supplies, you may place your contribution in a pew envelope and designate as "School Supplies."

Again, thanking you in advance for your generosity in serving our world!



Special dates

- ◆ Canada Day, July 1, 2021
- ◆ U.S. Independence Day, July 4, 2021