



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

July 4, 2021

Number 25

Schedule of Services

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:50 am and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders

- Mike Ernstberger
270-753-2108 Home
270-293-7027 Cell
- James Pigg
270-759-2145 Home
270-293-2319 Cell

Deacons

- Larry Enoch
- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
Cell: 270-978-7569

Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David Nance, and Ronnie Gootam
McKenzie, TN—Paul Jones

Location

- Green Plain Church of Christ
3980 Murray Paris Road
Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone: (270) 492-8206
- Email: greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE *By John Helbig*

Freedom! What a comforting word, what a cherished privilege. Our nation celebrates its freedom on July 4th. But we know that freedom is not free! Many lives have been sacrificed in order to secure and maintain the freedom that we hold dear. Not only that, we must recognize a powerful Hand that has guided and blessed our pursuit of freedom.

As our nation seems to try every more determinedly to remove all mention of God from daily life, I am reminded of the consideration and celebration of God that existed at the founding of our nation and has continued throughout the strengthening of our nation. I am convinced that the abandonment of God is driving the weakening and decline of our nation.

Are you familiar with the last verse of the Star Spangled Banner, penned by Francis Scott Key?

*“O thus be it ever
when freemen shall stand,
Between their loved home
and the war’s desolation!
Blest the victory and
peace, may the heav’n —
rescued land Praise the Power
that hath made and preserved
us as a nation!”*

Then conquer we must, when our cause, it is just,
And this be our motto: “In God is our trust”
And the star – spangled banner in triumph shall wave O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!”

When we remove the “Power that hath made and preserved us a nation,” and remove “In God is our trust,” then we remove the solid foundation upon which we could continue to stand!

—GEWatkins.net

FREEDOM OF SPEECH *By Kevin Cauley*

As far as the Christian is concerned, everything that he is, does, and says, belongs to God. So, the Christian’s speech is to serve the Christian’s Lord. This

means that the Christian is free to speak, but only in a way that would honor God (Colossians 3:17).

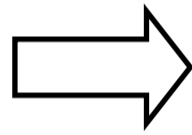
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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Carolyn Byars, Mary and Jim Lowrie, and Mary Vincent Family and Friends: Helen Tidwell, Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, Janice Canter, Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Sandra Cook Downs, Kevin Smith, Dale Pentecost, Jaime Aguavo, Jr., Brett Wyatt, Lucetria Hutchison and Kerry Thompson. Please let us know of those who have improved or any one who needs to be added to this list..

- **PANTRY ITEMS July 2021:** 4—Apple Sauce; 11—Canned Fruit Juice; 18—Vienna Sausages; 25—Jell-O. Please bring any additional items you wish for the “blessing box” which is located next to the breezeway on the north side of the building.
- **July 2021 Anniversaries:** None . **Birthdays:** 7-Chad Canter; 18-Hayes Grady 30-Jim Lowrie; If we have left anyone out please let us know.
- **Study the Bible in Your Own Home.** Enroll in a Completely **Free Bible Correspondence Course.** Send your name, complete mailing address and phone number to: Green Plain church of Christ—3980 Murray Paris Road—Hazel, KY 42049 or enroll online at <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org> or email greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org.

Bible Study
Wednesday 7 pm

**The Book
of Titus**



**GOSPEL
BROADCASTING
NETWORK**

The Gospel 24/7

Online at gbntv.org

God's Plan for Your Salvation

1. Hear the word of God—Romans 10:17.
2. Believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God—Jn 8:24
3. Repent of your sins—Acts 2:38.
4. Confess your faith in Christ—Rom. 10:9-10
5. Be immersed in water for the remission of your sins—Ac. 2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4

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There are those, however, who suggest that freedom of speech gives us the right to say just about anything that we please, including vulgar language, obscenities regarding other people, backbiting, gossip, and just about any other kind of foul speech imaginable. One of my favorite verses in that regard is Psalm 12:3, 4 "The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?"

While the one type of speech is approved by God, the other type is sinful, and we all recognize that. However, speaking from a legal/constitutional perspective, the courts have determined that both kinds of speech are legally protected. That is, one may stand up and utter vitriolic and vicious words that cut and destroy OR one may stand up and speak the sober truths of righteousness that are contained within the gospel of Christ, right? Well, that's what we think, at least.

Three news stories have appeared in my email in-box recently regarding seemingly unrelated incidents. One of them had to do with the rantings of one Whoopi Goldberg at a fund raiser for Kerry and Edwards. I won't get into the sordid details (and I do mean sordid), but Goldberg's potty mouth spewed just about every form of obscenity in the book and added a couple of new entries. Concerning that event, the Kerry campaign stated that it was "the heart and soul of America." You can draw your own conclusions. Now, if someone had suggested that Goldberg go to prison over saying such things, no doubt, someone would have yelled, "Free Speech! Free Speech!" and the whole matter would have ended.

On the other hand, there is a man in Wisconsin who has made a couple of banners to be held over freeways on a pedestrian

overpass that state, "Homosexuality is sin" and "Christ can set you free." What has happened to this man? First, the city ordered him off the overpasses. Of course, he cited free speech, but as of late, a federal court judge has sided with the city. If he tries to do this again, guess what? He goes to jail.

In yet another incident, a conservative member of the National Education Association was kicked off of her position in the NEA because she objected to the NEA giving an award to a homosexual activist. Simply for standing up and saying that she didn't think that this homosexual (who is on the record as saying he wants kindergarteners exposed to homosexuality) deserves an award, she was given "da boot."

So, here is one incident where a woman can utter the filthiest kind of speech imaginable known to man and be praised for it but on the other hand, two people who stand up for what is right and good and holy, are shut down, no doubt as harboring that politically correct term, "hate."

How is it that one form of hate speech can be completely ignored (Goldberg's), but that another form of "hate" speech (which really isn't) must be legally dealt with and prohibited? There is really only one explanation. Satan has convinced people that wrong is right and that right is wrong. The prophet Isaiah wrote, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20).

Do we think that we have a constitutional right to free speech in our churches today? That may be changing before we know it. Today it is the overpass that is being censored, tomorrow, the pulpit. Awake to righteousness! It is time for good Christian people to take back control of our nation.

-GEWATKINS.NET



COME VISIT WITH US

The church building is located southeast of Murray one mile off highway 641 - Near the corner of the Green Plain and Murray Paris Roads. We look forward to seeing you!

A warm and friendly welcome awaits!

TRUTH.FM
Internet Radio
 Download App or
 listen online
<https://www.truth.fm/>

“FREE UDEED” By Jonnie Hutchison

God has granted the citizens of the United States of America many tremendous blessings since becoming an independent nation in 1776. One of those blessings is something sought after throughout the world, namely freedom. We enjoy many freedoms, about which those in other nations can only dream. Many have fought and died to preserve our freedoms. Faithful servants of God would do well to ask God to continue to preserve our freedoms and this nation. But in a nation that is obviously turning away from God and the guidance of His Word, we wonder how long our nation will continue to enjoy our freedoms. One freedom granted by our constitution is religious freedom. Religious freedom is protected by the first amendment to the U.S. constitution which prohibits laws establishing a national religion or impeding the free exercise of religion for its citizens. While we are thankful for this provision, we also recognize that there is a much higher authority regarding religious freedom than our country's constitution. The Word of God revealed in the Bible is that higher authority. Genuine religious freedom only comes to those who choose to accept God's spiritual law. God grants freedom from the bondage of sin through the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36). That spiritual freedom from the guilt and consequences of sin is the result of knowing and obeying divine truth. Again, Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). Inspiration declares that one is purified and “born again” by obeying the truth (1 Peter 1:22-23).

As we celebrate this nation's Independence Day, we should be reminded that there is a much more important freedom which should concern each of us, and that is, our spiritual freedom. Jesus has the power to free you from the slavery of sin. Believe He is the Son of God (John 8:24) and express your faith in Him by repenting of your sins (Acts 17:30-31), confessing your faith before others (Romans 10:9-10), and being immersed in water for the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21). Then live as His faithful servant all the days of your life. Then, and only then, will you be **“FREE INDEED.”**

THOSE TO SERVE JULY 2021

Announcements: Mike Ernstberger **Lord's Supper AM:** Bobby Hall and Larry Enoch

Lord's Supper PM 4-Bobby Hall | 1-Larry Enoch; 218-Bobby; 25-Larry

Opening Prayer AM: 4-Charles Enoch; 11-Chad Canter; 18-James Pigg 25-Jim Lowrie.

Closing Prayer AM: 4-Perry Jarvis; 11-Mike Ernstberger; 18-Junior Morris; 25-Roy Wyatt

Song Leaders: AM-Perry Jarvis; PM- Mike Ernstberger; Wednesday-Chad Canter

Usher: Chad Canter; **Count Contribution:** Bobby Hall and Larry Enoch