



WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

Church Connection

July 2021

Strengthening, Preserving & Promoting Marriage, Family, Life & Religious Freedom

*Oh that men would praise
the LORD for his goodness,
and for his wonderful
works to the children of
men!*

*For he satisfieth the
longing soul, and filleth
the hungry soul with
goodness.*

Psalm 107:8-9

Mark Your Calendar

Aug. 1-6

LEAD Wisconsin
Go to LEADWI.org
to learn more about this
outstanding opportunity
for young people ages
13-19.

Ponder this...

**“Only a virtuous people
are capable of freedom. As
nations become corrupt
and vicious, they have more
need of masters.”**

~Benjamin Frnaklin

A Blessed People

“*When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.***”**



Hopefully
you recognize
this quote, but
do you know

what document it’s from? If you said the Declaration of Independence signed by members of the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, you’re right! This unique document declares our freedom and our right to self-government. It is so fundamental to what our country represents that you would think every citizen of America would know it well. But recent polls and surveys tell us otherwise. Too many Americans have no general concept of what happened in 1776 and little recognition of why we celebrate July 4th. Too few even know the specifics of what the Declaration of Independence actually says.

Here are some other significant portions of this grand document. *“We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”* And, from the conclusion of this timeless Declaration, *“We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies,*

(continued on back)

Where Is Your Hope?

Psalm 33:12 tells us that the nation whose God is Jehovah is a blessed nation. We might debate whether or not the United States was founded as a Christian nation, but there can be no doubt that our country was founded on Christian principles. As John Adams said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." When the Founding Fathers made reference to God and the Creator, they were clearly referencing the God revealed in the Bible.

As a nation, we are experiencing profound strife and division because we have turned our backs on the God who ordained our existence (Romans 13).

Our prayer is that God will help all of us, as His people, to recognize and remember that He is still God. He is still on the throne. He is the One who rules and over-rules in the affairs of men. So let us serve Him faithfully and pray to Him fervently for the salvation of our family, friends and neighbors and yes, even our country. Our hope is in the Lord!.

solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States . . . And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

Those words are rich in meaning and significance. References to the "Supreme Judge of the Universe" and "divine Providence," remind us there was a time when leaders readily and willingly acknowledged God in the most public of documents.

And then there are these convicting words, "*We mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.*" Those words mean something different to us, 245 years after they were written, than they meant to the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence. For those men it meant they became enemy number one with the British. These men were not soldiers or wild-eyed troublemakers. They were men of means, successful, well educated. In reality, they put everything on the line by signing the Declaration, and each one had much to lose.

And lose most of them did. Five signers were tortured by the British before they executed them. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost sons during the Revolutionary War. Another had two sons captured. Nine fought and died from wounds or hardships of that War. Carter Braxton, a wealthy trader, died in rags. The properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge and Middleton were looted and vandalized.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. After a year as a fugitive, he returned to find his property destroyed, his wife dead, and his 13 children missing. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Truly, freedom is never free. Each generation must pay in some way to keep us free. One payment we must make is to educate one another—especially our children about America's founding. If we would remain a free nation, we ourselves must practice selfless sacrifice. Let us thank God this month for our freedom and for these 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence. Let us remember and make sure the next generation is aware that freedom is never free. Truly we have been and are a blessed people.

About Wisconsin Family Council

Wisconsin Family Council is a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin since 1986. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so that they can be involved in strengthening, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life and religious freedom in our state.

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