

CHURCH CONNECTION

JULY 2024



JULY 4TH & IN GOD WE TRUST

Untold millions of US coins and every piece of paper money bears the motto, “In God We Trust.” Did the founders of this great country really trust in God? We don’t have to look much beyond the words of the Declaration of Independence for an answer.

Fifty-six different men signed this document – men from all walks of life, representing the diversity of the various colonies. They knew what they were doing. The Declaration of Independence represented the beliefs of all of those who affixed their signatures, pledging to one another, their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

The Declaration of Independence was not hastily or casually drafted. Records show that some 86 changes were made, including the insertion of three complete paragraphs, before the final vote on the document on July 4th.¹ The deliberations and changes show that these men were extremely careful about the wording.

In the opening paragraph of this incredible document, the signers make a bold statement regarding the “Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God.” “God” is capitalized. These men were referencing God Almighty, the Creator God, the God of the Bible.

The second paragraph has that phenomenal declaration: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.” There was universal agreement among the signers that the Creator was the same as “Nature’s God.”

¹ <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/declara/declara3.html>

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Prayer & Praise

We praise the Lord for the faithful prayer and financial support of God’s people. Thank you!

We praise the Lord for the privilege of impacting the lives of 130 campers through the ministry of LEAD Wisconsin.

Please pray:

For our country. We desperately need a moving of God’s Spirit in our land.

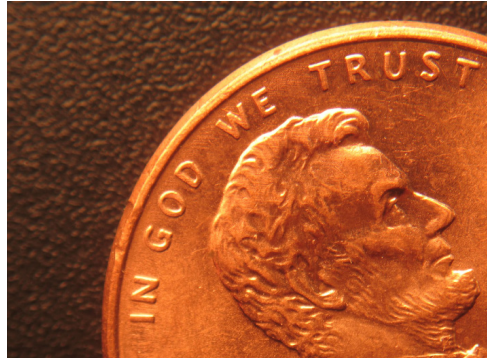
For LEAD Wisconsin, July 13-19. Pray that God will be pleased to do a special work in the heart and life of each camper during this week. Please pray also for their health and safety during this week.

STRENGTHENING,
PRESERVING & PROMOTING
MARRIAGE, FAMILY, LIFE &
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

“The Lord liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.”

Psalm 18:46.

In the concluding paragraph, these elected representatives to Congress boldly declared their decision: “We, therefore...appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do...declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown....” They made this declaration with a “firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence....”



Powerful words, to be sure. Clearly, their trust was not in themselves, individually or collectively. Rather their trust and their appeal were to the “Supreme Judge of the world” to God Almighty. In those days, everyone knew they were talking about God Almighty, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of the Bible.

For those 56 men who risked everything signing this document, “In God We Trust” was not a nice-sounding national motto. It was a rock-solid belief. It was their source of confidence amid oppressive circumstances and the darkness of tyranny.

One of the most profound, world-changing documents ever penned referred four specific times to God. This was intentional. Today, some desire to see references to God removed from our money and our pledge, not to mention our culture and government.

This would have been absolutely unthinkable to those who risked everything so that we, their posterity, could live today in the “land of the free and the home of the brave.” So, what does “In God We Trust” mean to you as you reflect this month on America’s birthday? Is it just a nice motto or is it a bedrock belief lived out every day?

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The Declaration of Independence is a remarkable document. It is the founding document of our nation, and we would do well to periodically read it and contemplate the profound truths expressed therein. There are many today who maintain that our rights are granted to us by our government. That decidedly was not the belief of the Founding Fathers. Their view was that our unalienable rights are gifted to us by our Creator God. They pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to birth this country because of that belief. May God help us to be as bold to proclaim our trust and belief in our Creator God as they were!

Wisconsin Family Council (WFC) 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 they can be involved in strengthening, preserving, and promoting God’s plan for marriage and family, the sanctity of human life, and religious freedom in our state.

“Church Connection” is published monthly by WFC and is available to churches in Wisconsin.

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