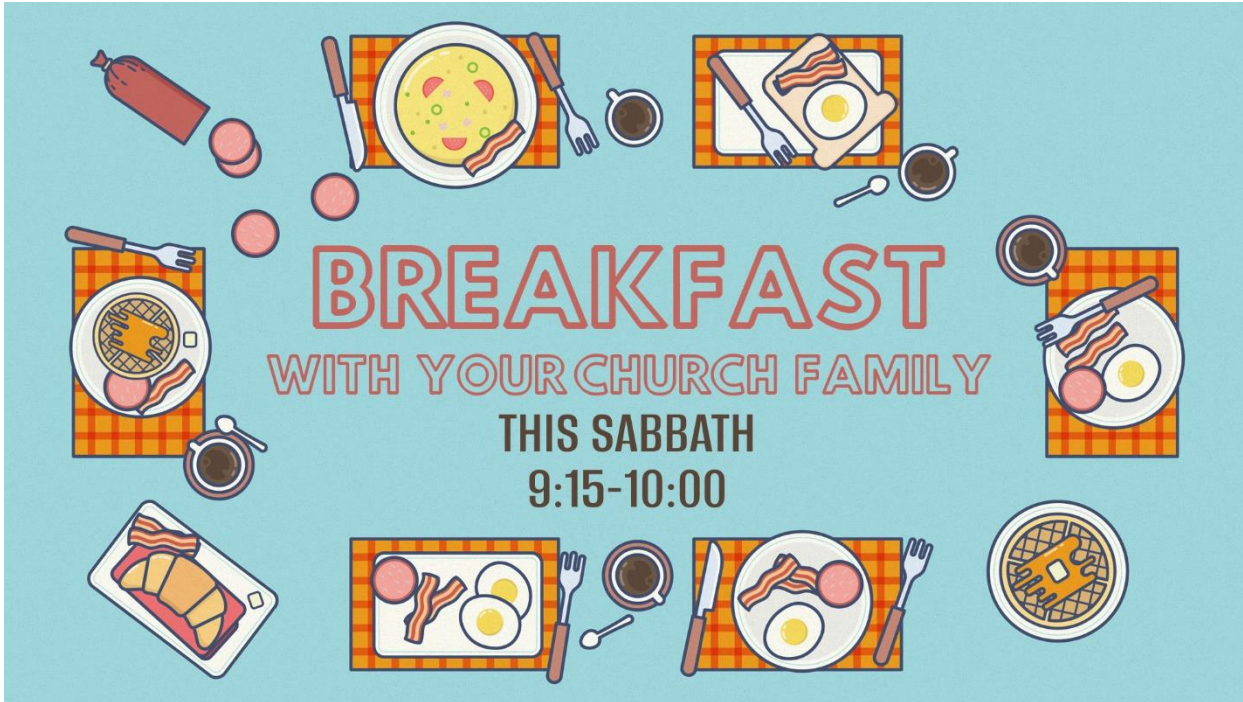


Pastor Kevin and Pastor Danny are back in town, and we are grateful for their safe travels. **THIS SABBATH** Pastor Kevin will be bringing us the Message of Hope as he continues the series on Joseph and the freedom he found in forgiveness.

Hey, don't forget we have our monthly **BREAKFAST WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY** this week from 9:15-10:00. Make your morning a little less hectic and enjoy breakfast (and clean up!) on us!



NEED FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID SUPPORT:

Church family, we have been blessed through the years with ongoing donations and support for our Worthy Students, via our STUDENT FINANCIAL AID fund. We have been able to bless many families and students by helping to offset some of the costs of Adventist education at Burleson Adventist School and CTA and Burton for academy. Unfortunately, we have come to a place where our funds are almost completely depleted, and we do not believe we will have enough funds available to approve the financial aid applications that we anticipate receiving for this upcoming school year. We are asking for our church family to be willing to dig a little deeper into their wallets and hearts and help us replenish this very worthwhile fund for our church families. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to our STUDENT FINANCIAL AID fund, by marking your Tithe envelope as such, or choosing that option on our online giving portal. Thank you again for all the support you have provided for our students in the past, and we look forward to continuing to so do as we seek to help provide Christian Education for our students.

I can't believe that July is a few days away (Where has this year gone?!), and next week we will be celebrating our country's Independence Day with all the fun and activities we've come to love. I sincerely hope you'll add our **CELEBRATE FREEDOM** program to your holiday agenda and join us in the sanctuary at 5:00 on the 4th to sing some patriotic songs, recognize and honor our veterans, and hear the fascinating story of Buck Sloan. Mr. Sloan is a 99 year old

WWII Veteran and French Medal of Honor recipient who plans to also play his guitar and sing us some songs he wrote about the war. After the program you can check out the mobile military museum on the grounds of the of the **FAMILY FIREWORKS FEST**.

The poster has a background of a stylized American flag with stars and stripes. At the top, the text "Independence Day" is written in a large, white, cursive font, followed by "CELEBRATE FREEDOM!" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Below this, a paragraph of text reads: "Be inspired by a patriotic program honoring our veterans and featuring Buck Sloan - 99year old WWII Veteran, Purple Heart and French Medal of Honor recipient." In the lower-left corner, there is a photograph of an elderly man, Buck Sloan, wearing a green jacket, a gold medal, and a black cap that says "WORLD WAR II VETERAN". He is saluting with his right hand. To his right is a graphic of the Declaration of Independence, showing the date "JULY 4, 1776" and the words "We the People". At the bottom of the poster, on a dark blue background, is the text: "Participate in patriotic music, be reminded of the freedoms of our country, and view WWII memorabilia. Then stay for our FREE Family Fireworks Fest". Below this, in a smaller font, is the date and time: "July 4th, 5:00-6:00pm", and the location: "Burleson Adventist Church Sanctuary 601 S. Burleson Blvd".

Independence Day
CELEBRATE FREEDOM!

Be inspired by a patriotic program honoring our veterans and featuring Buck Sloan - 99year old WWII Veteran, Purple Heart and French Medal of Honor recipient.

Participate in patriotic music,
be reminded of the freedoms of our country,
and view WWII memorabilia.
Then stay for our FREE Family Fireworks Fest

July 4th, 5:00-6:00pm
Burleson Adventist Church Sanctuary
601 S. Burleson Blvd

If you are a veteran of any military branch, please attend and let us recognize and honor you!

Then stay for the **FAMILY FIREWORKS FEST** and let the kids enjoy all the free activities, have a picnic (beef or veggie burgers and hot dogs and more sold as a Pathfinder fundraiser), and hang out for a great view of the Burleson City fireworks display. This event is open and free to the community, so invite your neighbors!



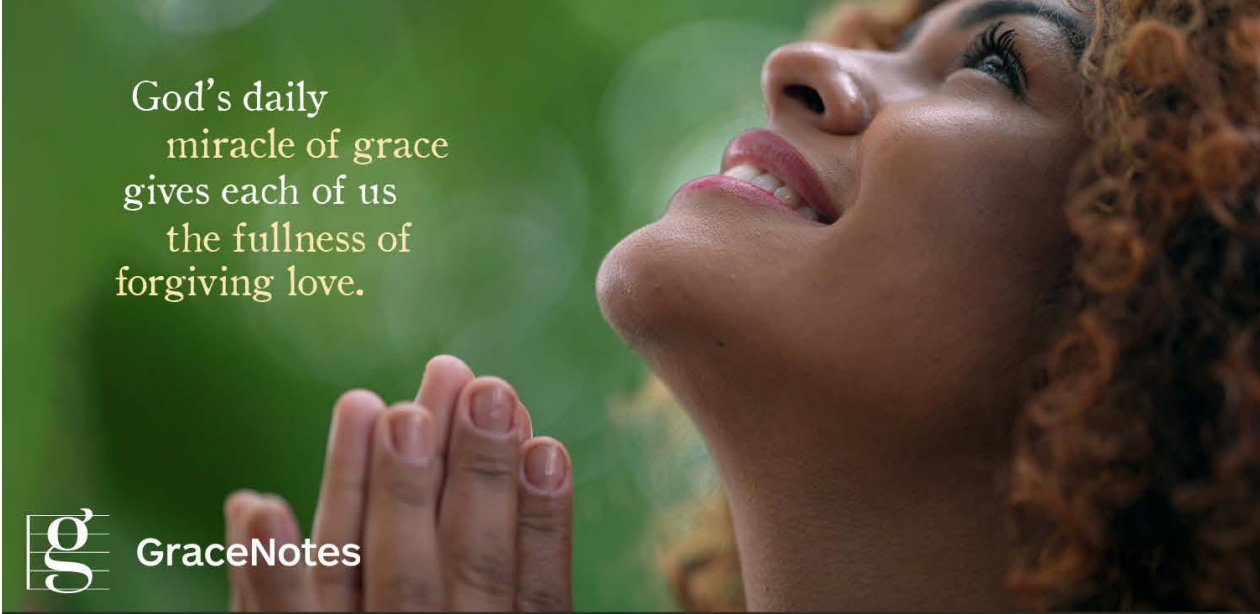
Have you signed the kiddos up for VBS yet?
DANIEL'S COURAGE IN CAPTIVITY will be held July 24-29 from 5:30-8:30pm except for the closing session which will be held during the worship hour on Sabbath. There is limited capacity, so don't delay to register. We'd also LOVE for you to volunteer in some capacity. It takes so many hands to make VBS successful and yours would be most welcomed! Go to this [LINK](#) to Volunteer and Register.



Be on the lookout for the **HYGEINE BLESSING BAGS** that our Youth put together for the unhoused. They will be available in the church lobby this Sabbath. Pick one up to keep in your car and share with someone in need that you pass on your commute or while running errands. Thanks to our young people for this act of service!

That's all I have for this week. I pray your air conditioning doesn't go out during this heat wave! Be careful if you have to work outside!

Blessings, ~ Liz Simons ~



God's daily
miracle of grace
gives each of us
the fullness of
forgiving love.



Our hearts are subtle and mysterious realms, swept over by the storms of grand emotions.

Why is it that the same offensive words from the lips of a friend can be more easily forgiven than when uttered by a person outside the orbit of our love?

Love holds within it the quality of grace, both when we receive it from the Father, and when we extend it to His children. God chose to love us “while we were yet sinners”—to extend His grace in spite of our offensiveness. But we routinely show that grace to only those who love us in return.

The difference lies in God's amazing decision to love the entire world as though we had always been His friends. He sovereignly declares that all His children can also be His friends because of Jesus' sacrifice: “For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). “God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself” (2 Cor 5:19).

Can loving God expand the orbit of our love? How do we learn God's graciousness for those who never earned our care—or even wounded us in spite?

We pray for God's own love to take from us our stony hearts, and give us His great, principled affection for those who still offend us. God's daily miracle of grace gives each of us—and everyone—the fullness of forgiving love.

So stay in grace.

—Bill Knott

In lieu of **FUNNIES**, I'd like to share some famous **PATRIOTIC QUOTES** about our country:

- "America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand." - President Harry S. Truman
- "This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave." - World War II Director of the United States Office of War Information Elmer Davis
- "America is another name for opportunity. Our whole history appears like a last effort of divine providence on behalf of the human race." - Poet Ralph Waldo Emerson
- "There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America." - President Bill Clinton
- "Loyalty to country ALWAYS. Loyalty to government, when it deserves it." - Author Mark Twain
- "If ever a time should come, when vain and aspiring men shall possess the highest seats in Government, our country will stand in need of its experienced patriots to prevent its ruin." - Founding Father Samuel Adams
- "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." - Founding Father Benjamin Franklin
- "What is the essence of America? Finding and maintaining that perfect, delicate balance between freedom 'to' and freedom 'from'." - Writer Marilyn vos Savant
- (I know I shared this one last week, but it's just too good to pass up...) "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free." - President Ronald Reagan

