

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

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.

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.

That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly we have suffered much from the partial progress of these measures, and such a one as that which has been the subject of the present Declaration.

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a design to reduce us to absolute Tyranny, it is our duty, to throw off such Government, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

We have therefore declared our independence, and we must, in plain words, declare the causes which impel us to the separation.

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I will make them



ONE NATION



Ezekiel 37:22

First Evangelical and Reformed Church

320 W. Wayne St . Lima, OH 45801

“Open Hearts, Open Doors”

Church Office: 419-222-6700

Elder: Ted Coon: 419-233-3589

Doors Open – 8:45 am

Sunday School – 9:00 am

Worship Service – 10:15 am



Church E-Mail:

firstchurchlima@live.com

Church Website:

www.firstchurchoflima.com

July 5, 2026

Happy 250th Birthday, America!

PRELUDE: “America, The Beautiful”

Robert W. Thygerson

WELCOME

HYMN: “God of Our Fathers”

Hymnal #547

HYMN: “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee”

Hymnal #550

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Ross Anderson

DOXOLOGY

BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:14-16

SERMON: “Beacon of Hope”

Rev. John Hyter

HYMN: “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

Hymnal #338

BENEDICTION: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Hymnal #209
(Verses 1 & 4)

POSTLUDE: "Service Songs Medley"

Arranged

Serving You This Week:

Guest Speaker:

Rev. John Hyter

Organist

Charles Cheuvront

Secretary

Pat Grossi



Prayer Concerns: Missionary James Reynolds, Paul & Melissa Busick's Prison Ministry, Scarlet Rettig, Tom & Sarah Moneer, Betty Carr, Mike Lautzenheiser, Connie Ryan, Rob Hyter, Tiffany Smith, Sheila Coon, Christian, Mike Butler, Tessa Money, Remy Hefner, Marisha Collier, Kameyan Campos, Charles (Jill's Dad), Karen, Anna, Don, Ruth Ann Russell, Randall Allen, Jr., Jill Thomas, Sue Jamison, Dennis Gladfelter and Danielle McNamara King.

Life Situations: Pray for the needs of the above-mentioned individuals. We pray for the Holy Spirit to renew hearts, grant wisdom, foster unity and empower believers for missions. We pray for the safety of our military and wisdom and guidance for our government leaders so we may live peaceful, godly lives.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

Shut-In of the Week: Betty Carr is our shut-in of the week. Please take time to send her a card and pray for her. Her address is 100 Red Oak Drive, Willow Room, 422, Cridersville, OH 45806.

Bible Trivia: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased," was spoken at what important event? (*Matthew 3:17*)

a) Paul's conversion b) Jesus's baptism c) Jesus's ascension.

Pondering: "If being hurt by the church causes you to lose faith in God, then your faith was in people, not God." *A. W. Tozer*

Announcements

The July issue of *The Informer Newsletter* has been released by email. If you do not have email, you can pick up a copy on the table near the Sanctuary.



For **July**, **CUP** (Churches United Pantry) has requested donations of shampoo. If you can help with a donation, it would be much appreciated. You can place your donations of the shelf near the elevator marked **CUP**. Thank you. 😊

Attention Gardners! Do you have any fresh flowers from your garden that you would like to share? You can bring them in, and we will display them on the altar.



Check out our website at www.firstchurchoflima.com and our Facebook page *FirstEvangelical ReformedChurch*. Send us a friend request.

Bible Study will be starting up again on September 15, 2026, at Alicia's house. It will be every Tuesday at 7 PM. We will be using the book, *Through the Bible in a Year*. Please bring your Bible, a note pad and a pen. All are welcome.



Music in the Park, 2026

Free! Family Friendly Entertainment!

Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026, from 11 AM to 4 PM

Place: 6825 Faulkner Road, Westminister, OH 45850

Invite Family & Friends - Bring a lawn chair
Free Food and Drink - Bouncy House for kids