NEWSLETTER

First Presbyterian Church of Croswell Web Page: https://Croswellpresbyterian.org

July 2025

LET FREEDOM RING

Our freedom as Americans dates back to July 4, 1776 when the Second Continental Congress representing the Thirteen Colonies met, and 12 colonies approved the Declaration of Independence.

Freedom carries with it certain responsibilities. By responsibility, I mean first of all that, Americans should register to vote. To not vote is a neglect of a freedom that brave soldiers and sailors gave their lives to secure for us. Did you know that your one vote could make or break this nation? In the 15th century, just one vote gave the cruel, sadistic Oliver Cromwell control of Great Britain. And one person's vote caused King Charles of England to be executed. In 1776, one vote made English rather than German the official language of our nation. In 1845, one vote made Texas a part of the United States. One vote changed France from a monarchy to a republic. And in 1933, one vote gave Adolph Hitler control of the Nazi Party.

Freedom also carries with it, certain restraints. The freedom to drive a car or truck carries with it the restraint that a person will not drive while drunk, or allow an infant to ride in anything other than an approved child safety restraint system. The freedom to eat and drink whatever we want assumes we will have in place sufficient restraint to eat only healthy food and beverages, and not overindulge.

The Apostle Paul wrote about freedom in his *Letter to the Galatians:* "Be not deceived. God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows, this they will reap. For those who sow to their own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life." (Galatians 6:7)

Some Americans mistake *license* as being freedom. *License* is when a person declares, "I can do whatever I want, and no one is going to stop me!" A skydiver, for instance might foolishly say, "I can jump from an airplane without a parachute; no one can make me wear and use a parachute!" But that will be the last choice the skydiver will ever make. That kind of choice is not true freedom. It is merely what is called *license*.

Our bodies, our families, our nation, all belong to God. Those are on loan to us. We must handle them responsibly. If we want a healthy body, we must sow the seeds for a healthy body. If we want a happy family, then we must sow the seeds for a happy family. If we want a peaceful nation, we must sow the seeds that make for peace.

Bill Wright Pastor HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY STPOFTIEN

Prayer Requests

Jerry Cook (Jane McLane's brother) cancer

Lisa Haddix's father recent surgery for kidney cancer

Karen and Dave Van Dyke's grandson Grant

Family of Jennifer Roberts (age 41) upon her passing. Jennifer attended Sunday School here many years ago.

Tornado victims of North Dakota

Those who have been recently hospitalized and are recovering from surgeries and other serious illnesses.

Those in our church family and our community going through difficult times.

PASTOR ON CALL

Pastor Bill Wright is available to visit church members anytime, anywhere, either for emergency situations or casual conversations. Feel free to call Bill at (810) 858-7033

Unique July Quotes to Celebrate Summer's Peak

July Quotes About Summer Vibes

"July is the month when the world feels alive and the days seem endless."

Nothing beats the long days of July when time feels infinite, and there's always another sunset to chase.

"In July, the sun reminds us that warmth and brightness can heal the soul."

There's something healing about the way July's sun bathes everything in light.

"July is like a deep breath of fresh air – it's freedom, fun, and the sweet scent of possibility." This quote captures July's easygoing charm, where anything seems possible.

"July is the perfect time to do everything you've been too busy to enjoy the rest of the year."

Take advantage of this mid-summer month to unwind and indulge in your favorite activities. This is the perfect month to recognize and celebrate the inner strength you've been building all year long

"July is the soundtrack of the year, with crickets, waves, and laughter playing the melody."

Nature's chorus and summer joy blend together to make July's unique symphony.

Inspirational July Quotes

"July teaches us that even in the heat, there's always room to grow."

A reminder that, like flowers, we too can bloom in the most challenging conditions.

"Every July morning is a fresh start with the promise of adventure."

Mornings in July hold endless potential, filled with adventure and excitement.

"In July, we find the strength to face the heat and the courage to shine through it."

Much like July's unrelenting sun, we can find our inner strength to keep shining.

"July is proof that after every storm, the sun will come out brighter than before."

This quote reminds us that challenges are followed by brighter, better days.

"July whispers, 'Let go of your worries; it's time to embrace the joy in the present.""

July invites us to leave behind our stress and enjoy the moment for what it is.



Motivational July Quotes

"July is a reminder that even the hottest days cool off, just as our hardest moments eventually pass." This quote brings a sense of comfort, showing that no

matter how intense the heat (or life) gets, things will cool down in time.

"The energy of July fuels our passions, pushing us to go after what truly matters."

July's vibrant, energetic spirit encourages us to focus on what really sets our souls on fire.

"In July, the world slows down just enough for us to remember what we're grateful for."

Amidst the mid-summer pause, July gives us the space to appreciate life's simple joys.

"Let July be the month you start believing in your own strength."

This is the perfect month to recognize and celebrate the inner strength you've been building all year long. "July's warmth encourages us to open up, to grow, and to let go of what no longer serves us." Just like plants thrive in the sun, July invites us to grow and shed what we've outgrown.

Quotes Celebrating Independence Day

"In July, we light the night sky not just with fireworks, but with the glow of freedom."

Fireworks represent the spirit of freedom, lighting up the skies every <u>July 4th</u>.

"The Fourth of July is a reminder that liberty is as fragile as a spark, but just as brilliant."

A powerful image of freedom, with fireworks symbolizing both its brilliance and fragility.

"July 4th is more than just a day – it's a feeling of unity, pride, and celebration."

It's a time to come together and celebrate what makes us proud.

"In July, we celebrate independence, not just as a country, but in our hearts."

This quote is a reminder that independence is a personal journey, as much as a national one.

"Fireworks may be fleeting, but the spirit of July 4th burns forever."

Fireworks may last for seconds, but their symbolism endures year-round.

July is a time for embracing life's warmth, both literally and figuratively, and these quotes remind us to savor each and every day. Whether you're enjoying fireworks, soaking up the sun, or just taking a moment to relax, let these quotes be your guide to making the most of the month.

What is the Fourth of July

Wondering why we celebrate the 4th of July? Well, the day is very significant in American history. It marks the day the <u>Declaration of Independence</u> was adopted (July 4, 1776) and the United States officially became its own nation. American citizens celebrate America's birthday with festivals, parades, fireworks, barbecues and other festive activities.

Which country did we declare our independence from?

America declared its independence from Great Britain. In order to fully understand the significance of Independence Day and what happened in 1776, we need to go back in <u>history</u> a bit. Before America was its own country, it was comprised of 13 Colonies established by the Brits: New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. The first Colony was settled in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. European countries, especially Great Britain, continued to colonize America throughout the 17th century and a good portion of the 18th century. By 1775, an estimated 2.5 million settlers lived in the 13 Colonies.

What led the colonists to seek independence?

Tensions started brewing when Great Britain passed legislation that gave it more control within the Colonies, especially when it came to taxing the colonists. The Crown was in debt after the French and Indian War, so it started taxing the American Colonies to boost revenue. The passage of legislation like the Stamp Act in March 1765, the Townshend Acts in June and July of 1767 and the Tea Act of 1773 forced colonists to pay more money to Great Britain—even though the Colonies didn't have a say in the Crown's policies. This became known as taxation without representation, a concept that was a heated pillar in the American Revolution. Events like the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party further escalated tensions between British occupiers and American colonists. Those tensions exploded in April 1775, when the Battles of Lexington and Concord broke out in Massachusetts as British forces attempted to confiscate weapons from the colonists. It was the first time Colonial militias battled British troops, and thus, the American Revolutionary War began.

What really happened on July 4, 1776?

Fast-forward to a June 1776 Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia. Here, Virginia statesman Richard Henry Lee proposed a motion for the Colonies to declare independence from Britain. A committee was formed to draft an official independence document, which became known as the Declaration of Independence. On July 2, 1776, Lee's motion for independence was approved. Two days later, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was officially adopted—and America became a free nation. After declaring independence, America continued to fight in the Revolutionary War and officially defeated Great Britain in September 1783.

What interesting 4th of July facts should Americans know?

The history of the 4th of July is fascinating, but there are other interesting 4th of July facts every American should know. Here are six of the most notable:

- Some colonists celebrated Independence Day during the summer of 1776 by putting on mock funerals for King George III of England—symbolizing the death of the Crown's rule on America.
- The first annual commemoration of Independence Day happened on July 4, 1777, in Philadelphia.
- John Adams, a Founding Father and the second president of the United States, strongly believed Independence Day should be celebrated on July 2. He even refused to attend 4th of <u>July events</u> because he felt so strongly about July 2 being the correct date.
- Adams and Thomas Jefferson, a fellow Founding Father, both died on July 4, 1826. James Monroe, another U.S. president, also died on July 4, but he passed in 1831.
- Thomas Jefferson was the first president to celebrate Independence Day at the <u>White House</u>, in 1801. The celebration featured horse races, parades, food and drinks—similar to the 4th of July celebrations we see today.
- Although the 4th of July has been celebrated each year since 1776, it didn't become a federal holiday until 1870. And it didn't become a paid holiday for federal employees until 1941.

SPECIAL DAYS IN JULY

July 1

National Postal Workers Day U.S. Postage Stamp Day July 2 I Forgot Day Made In The USA Day July 3 National Deep Fried Clams Day Stay Out Of The Sun Day Superman Day July 4 Independence Day International Hot Dog Eating Day National BBQ Ribs Day July. 5 International Cherry Pit Spitting Day National Play Outside Day Hop A Park Day July 6 Fried Chicken Day Hand Roll Day July 7 Father-Daughter Take A Walk Together National Day of Rock n' Roll Tell the Truth Day July 8 Coca Cola Day National Freezer Pop Day National Video Game Day July 9 Bald Is In Day Dead Head Day National Dimples Day July 10 Don't Step On A Bee Day Kitten Day Teddy Bears' Picnic Day July 11 Cheer Up The Lonely Day National French Fry Day Make Your Own Sundae Day National Rainier Cherries Day National Swimming Day July 12 Different Colored Eyes Day International Skinny Dip Day National JELL-O Day Paper Bag Day July 13 Embrace Your Geekiness Day Gruntled Workers Day

July 14

International Nude Day Shark Awareness Day World Chimpanzee Day July 15 Be A Dork Day Gummi Worm Day National Give Something Away Day July 16 National Hot Dog Day National Guinea Pig Day World Snake Day July 17 Dole Whip Day International Sister Cities Day Get to Know Your Customers Day July 18 Insurance Nerd Day National Sour Candy Day National Pajama Day Robin Hood Day World Listening Day July 19 Woodie Wagon Day Words With Friends Day Toss Away the "Could Haves" and "Should Haves" Day July 20 Fortune Cookie Day Moon Day July 21 Global Hug Your Kid Day International Balloon Day National Be Someone Day National Get Out of the Doghouse Day July 22 Be A Good Teammate Day Rat-catchers Day Spooners Day July 23 Gorgeous Grandma Day Hot Enough For Ya Day National Sprinkle Day July 24 Cousins Day International Self Care Day Tell An Old Joke Day July 25 Get Gnarly Day Red Shoe Day Thread The Needle Day

July 26

Aunts and Uncles Day Bagelfest Day National Day of the Cowboy National Water Gun Fight Day July 27 Take Your Houseplant For A Walk Day Walk on Stilts Day World Day for Grandparents and The Elderly July 28 National Milk Chocolate Day National Waterpark Day July 29 International Chicken Wing Day Lasagna Day National Lipstick Day Rain Day July 30 Cheesecake Day Friendship Day National Chicken and Waffles Day Father-In-Law Day July 31 National Mutt Day World Ranger Day

WEEK EVENTS

Wk.1	Freedom Wk
	National Independent Living
Wk 2	Nude Recreation Wk

- Rabbit Wk Wk 3 Family Golf Wk
- National Ventriloquism Wk
- Wk. 4 National Moth Wk Everybody Deserves A Massage Wk
- Wk. 5 Annie Oakley Days Lollapalooza

MONTHLY EVENTS

Bikini Month National Anti-Boredom Month National Baked Beans Month National Grilling Month Women's Motorcycle Month National Rodeo Month National Horseradish Month

From your little Library on the corner....

"After 12 years of wrestling with the conflicts of retirement, Father Tim Kavanagh realizes he doesn't need a steady job to prove himself." Check it out!! It will leave you feeling the deep happiness of living a life with God, surrounded by family and friends you love. *To Be Where You Are*, by Jan Karon. (Purple Dot – Adult Fiction)

<u>Peace Is</u>...helps children 6-10 identify activities and feelings that bring peace. It encourages children to keep peace and suggests ways in which they can do it. <u>Peace Is...</u>, by Maxine Roberson. (Yellow Dot - Children)

One of the most famous books ever written on a man's search for faith and peace....It is essentially the odyssey of a soul, with warmth, gusto and wit. A "must-read" for those of us who are searching for God. *The Seven Storey Mountain*, by Thomas Merton. (Gray Dot)

And here's a tip for a lovely summer afternoon: A tall glass of iced lemonade, a cushy rocker under the shade of a large tree and – a good book (or even THE Good Book!!

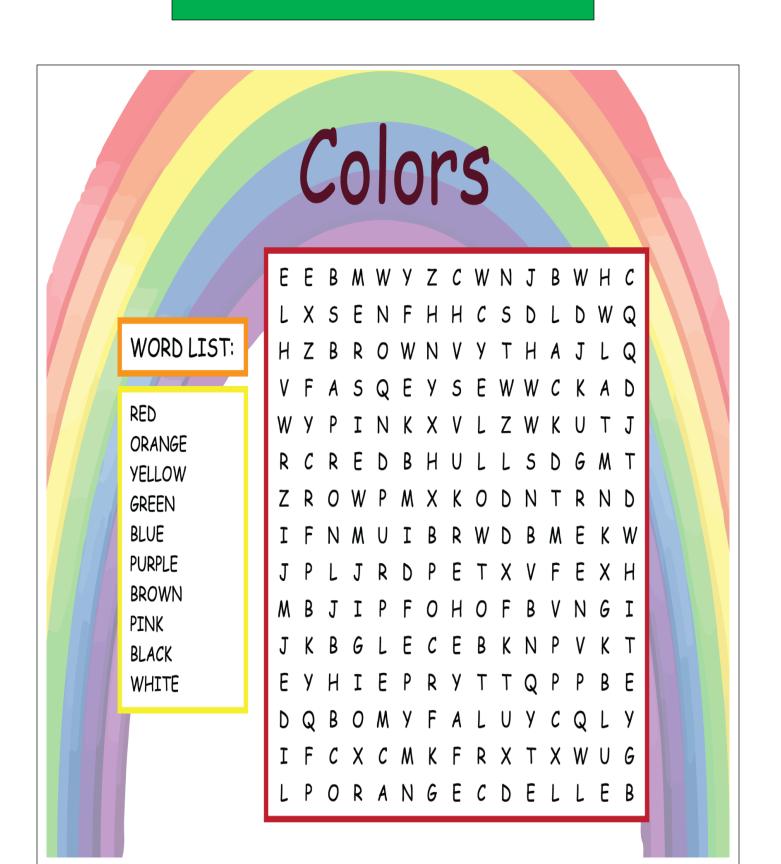


Dates to Remember



JULY 2025								
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S		
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5		
6. ^{10am Worship.} Communion	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.		
13. 10 am Worship	14.	15.	16.	17. Food Give-away, 12-2 pm Valiant Ministries	18.	19.		
20. 10 am Worship	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.		
27. 10 am Worship	28.	29.	30.	31.				

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