

Grace Notes

From: Rev. Jim Gorski

July 2026

A Civil War Awakening

*And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing
and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as
were appointed to eternal life believed – Acts 13:48*

I recently read an interesting story told by the Reverend J.W. Jones, who was a chaplain in the Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War. In his book, *Christ in the Camp*, he shared how God worked among the Confederate Army soldiers, converting thousands, after Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, called for a day of prayer and fasting on August 21, 1863.

According to Jones, after Robert E. Lee was given President Davis's request to fast and pray, he gave the following order:

The President of the Confederate States has, in the name of the people, appointed the 21st day of August as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. A strict observance of the day is enjoined upon the officers and soldiers of this army. All military duties, except such as are absolutely necessary, will be suspended...Soldiers! We have sinned against Almighty God. We have forgotten his signal mercies, and have cultivated a revengeful, haughty, and boastful spirit. We have not remembered that the defenders of a just cause should be pure in his eyes; that "our times are in his hands;" and we have relied too much on our own arms for the achievement of our independence. God is our only refuge and strength. Let us humble ourselves before him. Let us confess our many sins, and beseech him to give us a higher courage, a purer patriotism, and more determined will; that he will convert the hearts of our enemies; that he will hasten the time when war, with its sorrows and sufferings, shall cease, and that he will give us a name and a place among the nations of the earth.
R.E. Lee, General.

The appointed day of fasting was widely observed within the army and the troops were deeply moved by General Lee's Christian influence. As a consequence, during services held at the camps, a spiritual awakening occurred when God opened the hearts of many soldiers to receive the gospel message. The following excerpts are from letters written in the days surrounding August 21, 1863.

Reverend Haley wrote, "It has been my pleasure recently to spend a week with Smith's Brigade, Early's Division. I preached every day while I was with them. There are religious revivals all over the army. Many are turning to God."

Chaplain Tomkies of the Seventh Florida Regiment wrote, "On last evening fifteen were buried with Christ in baptism. Each evening scores of soldiers are inquiring, 'What shall we do to be saved?'"

The chaplain of the Tenth Alabama Regiment wrote, "I believe that 100 anxious souls presented themselves for prayer last night after the sermon."

The *Richmond Christian Advocate*, reporting on the spiritual awakening spreading through the army camps, wrote:

Not for years has such a revival prevailed in the Confederate States. The Pentecostal fire lights the camp, and the hosts of armed men sleep beneath the wings of angels rejoicing over the many sinners that have repented. It is inspiring to read the correspondence, now, between converts in the camp and friends at home, and to hear parents praise God for tidings from their absent sons who have lately given their hearts to the Lord. "Father is converted," says a bright-faced child of twelve years; "Mamma got a letter today, and father says that there is a great revival in his regiment." What glorious news from the army is this! It is the best evidence that prayer is heard, and that the Lord is with us. Let us show ourselves grateful for such grace and "walk worthy of God, who has called us to his kingdom and glory."

The American Civil War was a bloody four-year battle. It was the deadliest conflict in American history, costing the lives of an estimated 620,000 to 850,000 soldiers. Yet in the midst of this terrible war, and though the Confederate Army eventually surrendered, God was at work saving the souls of thousands of Confederate soldiers. Soldiers, who because of the war, were more receptive to the gospel message than before the war began. As William Cowper wrote, "God works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform."

To my dear church family-

Thank you for the kindnesses shown to me during Keith's illness. The prayers, the visits, the service and the reception were beautiful and appreciated.

**Love,
Marge & Family**



Thanks so much for your love, care, reaching out help assistance and especially your prayer for me and my family members.

Greatly appreciated prayers and greatly and abundantly answered as well as felt.

Arman Erwin



Praying for our Nation...

Every Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m.

Our group of prayer warriors meets in the sanctuary for the sole purpose of praying for our nation. If you cannot attend, please join us in prayer from your home or office during that time as we follow the command to pray for all those in authority.

"First of all then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quite life, godly and dignified in every way."

(1 Timothy 2: 1-2)



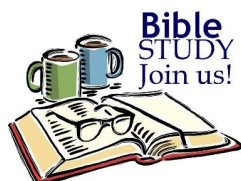
Blessed
is the NATION
whose
GOD
is the LORD.
Psalm 33:12

Please pray for the following physical concerns and spiritual needs of each, individual.

The Lord's Supper

will be
observed on July 5 at the
morning worship service.
Everyone is
encouraged to be in prayer and
repentance in preparation to partake
in this holy sacrament

*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you."*
Jeremiah 29: 12



**Please Join us every Wednesday
Time: 10:30**

**Where: Fellowship Hall
Rev. Jim Gorski will be teaching from the book
"Survey of the Old Testament"
By
Jack B. Scott, Ph.D.**



Ladies
ministry

Dear Sisters in Christ,
We have now celebrated our 100th anniversary of Grace Pres. many wonderful memories and many Prayer requests and a lot of answered prayers. The women of Grace meet on the second Tuesday Of the month for prayer, Bible study, and fellowship. We would love to have you join us. We are studying the book of Hebrews. We have learned a lot and have had many prayers lifted up to God In our time together. Please come join us on the second Tuesday, everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, please call Marsha Allison.

Pennies for Missions

Just a reminder that the WIC is still collecting pennies for our missionaries! If you have any spare change that you've been looking to get rid of, feel free to drop it in the container in the Foyer or in the Sunday School Rooms.

The money will be used to help the missionaries that Grace Presbyterian Church supports.

Calendar of Activities for the Month

Session Meeting:	Sunday, July 12 at 12pm
WIC Circle Meeting:	Tuesday, July 14 at 10:00am
Prayer for our Nation:	Wednesdays at 10:00 am
Bible Study:	Wednesdays at 10:30 am



Men of the Covenant

*"As iron sharpens iron,
so one person sharpens another."*
Proverbs 27: 17

Just a reminder!...

Men of the Covenant will be in recess for the summer months, but will resume meeting in the month of September.



The next **Session Meeting** will be Sunday July 12 ,at 12:00 p.m. If you have something you would like the Session to discuss, please let Pastor Jim, Jesse Arnold, Randy Borill, or Cleve Chandler know.



Blessed is the Nation



July 2026

Whose God is the Lord, And the people whom he has chosen as his own inheritance.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00 Prayer for The Nation 10:30 Bible Study	2	3	4 <i>happy Fourth of July!</i>
5 Communion July Celebration	6	7	8 10:00 Prayer for The Nation 10:30 Bible Study	9	10	11
12 Session Meeting	13	14 10:00 am WIC Circle Meeting	15 10:00 Prayer for The Nation 10:30 Bible Study	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 10:00 Prayer for The Nation 10:30 Bible Study	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 10:00 Prayer for The Nation 10:30 Bible Study	30	31	

Sundays : 9:15 a.m. Sunday School • 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service

Grace Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Church in America
9526 Joor Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70818

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JULY CELEBRATION

Hamburger & Hotdogs on the grill Sunday July 5th
following morning worship.
Invite family and friends

