

Grace Notes

From: Rev. Jim Gorski

August 2024

The Star-Spangled Banner

On the morning of September 14, 1814, after the previous night's British naval bombardment failed to elicit the surrender of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, during the war of 1812, Francis Scott Key wrote the "The Star-Spangled Banner." Set to the melody of a well-known British drinking song, it became a favorite tune of the American people. In 1931 it was officially adopted by Congress as the national anthem. Most Americans are familiar with the background story of this song. Less known is the story of its author.

Francis Scott Key was born in Frederick, Maryland on August 1, 1779. He grew up on the family plantation and graduated with a degree in law from John's College, Annapolis, Maryland in 1796. He opened his first practice in 1801 and married Mary Tayloe Lloyd in 1802. In that year, they moved to Georgetown, Washington D.C., where he and Mary raised their eleven children. Key was well respected by his colleagues and served as the United States district attorney for three terms until his death in 1843.

Francis Scott Key was also a devout Christian. A life-long member of the Episcopal church and strong proponent of religious education, he was one of the founders of the American Sunday School Union and served on its board. In 1830, he and the other board members launched the Mississippi Valley Campaign with a goal to establish a Sunday school in every town within a 1.3 million-square-mile area. Fifty years later, when the goal was accomplished, 61,297 Sunday schools had been started, reaching 2,650,784 pupils.

Francis Scott Key was a gifted man. He was a lawyer, a United States district attorney, the author of America's national anthem, a loving husband and father of eleven children. But most importantly, Francis Scott Key was a devoted Christian who remained forever grateful for the grace God gave him in Jesus Christ. And we see his grateful heart revealed in the first two stanzas of the hymn he wrote in 1817, titled, "Lord, with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee."

Lord with glowing heart I'd praise Thee,
For the bliss Thy love bestows,
For the pardoning grace that saves me,
And the peace that from it flows:
Help, O God, my weak endeavor;
This dull soul to rapture raise:
Thou must light the flame, or never
Can my love be warmed to praise.

Praise, my soul, the God that sought me,
Wretched wanderer, far astray;
Found me lost, and kindly brought me
From the paths of death away;
Praise, with love's devoutest feeling,
Him who saw my guilt-born fear,
And the light of hope revealing,
Bade the blood-stained cross appear.

(continued on page 2)

Francis Scott Key was a man of many talents who wrote the song that became our national anthem. And if he were alive today, he would be grateful for that honor. But I believe his greatest honor came from knowing he was child of God. A sinner saved by grace, through faith, in his Savior Jesus Christ. It was his highest honor. May this be said of us as well.



July 14, 2024

Baptism for Mrs. Kristi Croxton

New Members

Mrs. Sharon Blouin

Mrs. Sandra Cobb

Mrs. Kristi Croxton

Mr. Wesley Croxton

Mss. Emma Kay Sander

Miss. Olivia Grace Sander

Miss. Claire Elyse Sievers

Mrs. Jenny Sievers

Mr. Mark Sievers



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



*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you.”*



Please Join us every Wednesday

Time: 10:30

**Where: Fellowship Hall
Rev. Jim Gorski will be teaching from the book
“Survey of the New Testament”**

**By
Jack B. Scott, Ph.D.**



What do you know about Jonah?
 This book of the Bible is more than just about a man and a fish!!
 What do you know about Habakkuk?
 It is a book of the Bible also!
 These questions are being answered the second Tuesday of the month at our Circle Meeting.
 God is teaching us how we can use these examples and events in our every day life.
 Please join us at 10am the second Tuesday of every month at Grace as we look at "God's Cranky Prophets".
 We have a great time of study, prayer, and fellowship.
 If you have any questions please contact Marsha Allison

Calendar of Activities for the Month

Session Meeting: Sunday, August 11, 12:00 pm
WIC Circle Meeting: Tuesday, August 13, 10:00 am
Prayer for our Nation: Wednesdays at 10:00 am
Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:30 am

REMINDER

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



Time to Update the Directory!

So that we can stay in touch with one another, and help out when a need arises, we are updating the Church Directory.

If you have any new information, contact the church office with any updates (add or remove cell numbers, email addresses, etc.). We appreciate your help in keeping us up to date.



Pennies for Missions

Every month we remind everyone about the penny jar in the vestibule and the sunday school rooms. Just to let you know what that money is used for, and how important it is.

One of the ministries of we are supporting is going to Ellen Barnett in Acapulco for the New Horizon School. Every little bit of change adds up quickly and the ministries are so thankful.

Please keep praying for this ministry, and continue to add your change from your pockets to our "Penny Jar" (dollars are accepted too!)



Gratitude Cabinet

If there is something that you are thankful for this summer, please remember to take a couple of photos so that we can included them in the Gratitude Cabinet.

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 107: 1

The next **Session Meeting** will be Sunday, August 11, at 12:00 p.m. If you have something you would like the Session to discuss, please let Pastor Jim, Jesse Arnold, Randy Borill, Kit Bonvillian, or Cleve Chandler

August 2024



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4 Communion	5	6	7 10:00 Prayer for Nation 10:30 Bible Study	8	9	10
11 Session Meeting	12	13 10:00 am WIC Circle Meeting	14 10:00 Prayer for Nation 10:30 Bible Study	15 	16	17
18	19	20	21 10:00 Prayer for Nation 10:30 Bible Study	22	23 	24
25	26	27	28 10:00 Prayer for Nation 10:30 Bible Study	29	30 	31

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

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

Lamentations 3:22-24



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

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August 2024

NAMES AND PLACES

Draw lines to connect the biblical figures with the locations that are often associated with them.

Abraham	Moab
Amos	Canaan
Ananias	Babylon
Cornelius	Caesarea
Daniel	Nineveh
Dorcas	Jericho
Esther	Ur
Jesus	Tarsus
Jonah	Joppa
Joshua	Aram
Lydia	Tekoa
Martha	Bethany
Moses	Egypt
Naaman	Philippi
Ruth	Nazareth
Saul	Persia
Zacchaeus	Damascus

Verse to Remember

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord.

Psalm 84:1-2



Answers:
Abraham-Ur;
Amos-Tekoa;
Ananias-Damascus;
Cornelius-Caesarea;
Daniel-Babylon;
Dorcas-Joppa;
Esther-Persia;
Jesus-Nazareth;
Jonah-Nineveh;
Joshua-Canaan;
Lydia-Philippi;
Martha-Bethany;
Moses-Egypt;
Naaman-Aram;
Ruth-Moab;
Saul-Tarsus;
Zacchaeus-Jericho.