

# The Air Hill Breezes

July  2018

Air Hill BIC Church  
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Office Hours Mon., 8 am - 1 pm  
Wed. - Fri. 8am - 1 pm

July 4th marks the birthday of the United States. Many commemorate the occasion with fireworks, cookouts, or displaying an American flag. But are there any biblical reasons Christians can find to celebrate Independence Day? Scripture offers at least four clear reasons.

## 1. Gratitude for Religious Freedom

**First, America offers significant religious freedom for Christians (and others) to freely worship.** *The United States continues to operate as one of the nations offering the most religious freedom worldwide.*

Did you know that more than one-fourth of the nations in the world (53) include some form of legal restrictions or prohibition toward Christian activities? In many places across the globe, you can lose your job, be arrested, or even find yourself sentenced to death for following Christ. Yet in our nation, we can attend the church of our choice, openly read the Bible on our own or with others, and openly pray to God.

Despite ongoing legal challenges to certain Christian activities in America, the nation still enjoys great religious freedom. This is certainly something to celebrate.

## 2. Appreciation for Those Who Defend Our Freedom

**Second, Christians can thank God for those who serve and have given their lives to defend our freedom.** This includes past military veterans, current military personnel, as well as honoring their family members.

We often forget our freedom of religion and other freedoms can only continue if our armed forces protect our nation and national interests. While this does not mean we have to agree with every military decision or conflict, we can be thankful for all those who serve and their families.

## 3. Thanksgiving for the Opportunity to Participate in Government

**Third, we can thank God for the opportunity to participate in the democratic process of our nation.** While politics is often viewed negatively, governing leaders are ordained by God (Romans 13) and are to receive honor from those who follow Christ.

Further, our nation offers the ability to participate through voting, advocating for issues important to our values, and even options to run for political office. Contrast this situation with the tyrannical Emperor Nero who led the Roman Empire during the New Testament period and you'll quickly appreciate the opportunity to have a voice within the political process.

## 4. Thankfulness for Peace with Family, Neighbors, and Friends

**Fourth, we can express appreciation for a nation at peace.** If you lived in Syria today, your home and community would live under the threat of civil war. In many parts of Sudan, you would live in fear of your town being attacked by rebels. If you were a Christian living in Iraq, you may be forced to flee for your safety.

Despite significant violence within the United States, the nation remains free of war within its own borders. Most of us take this peace for granted, yet millions worldwide long for a single night of rest without fear of attack in their communities.

We can at least take a moment to thank God for the peace He has provided for our family, our community, and nation. As [Jeremiah 29:7](#) teaches, we can seek the good of the city where we live and work to impact those around us with the love of Christ.

# Church Board Highlights

- ◆ Looking for ways to increase attendance through new ministries.
- ◆ Praise was given to our congregation for being a generous and giving church family.
- ◆ Parsonage upgrades will continue with funds being made available from budget.
- ◆ Cemetery lawn care is not tax exempt and sales tax will be applied.
- ◆ Update from Security Seminar will lead to the next step of appointing a task force which will be discussed at the August meeting.



**Saturday, July 28th, 2018**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Air Hill Brethren In Christ**  
**(Admission by donation)**



## HYMN SING

### RINGGOLD HERITAGE SERVICE & HYMN SING

This is My Story, This is My Song: Ringgold Heritage Service & Hymn Sing  
Sunday, July 15, 2-3 p.m. | Ringgold Meetinghouse, 14426 Misty Meadow Rd., Smithsburg, MD 21783

Join us for the combined Brethren in Christ Historical Society Heritage Service and the Ringgold Meetinghouse Hymn Sing. Experience the historic 19th-century meetinghouse and its beautiful acoustics, filled with harmonies of time-honored hymns led by Dave Perry, worship arts pastor at Grantham (PA) BIC Church. Interspersed will be reflections on the question, "What does it mean for you to be Brethren in Christ?" These speakers include Daleen Charles, associate pastor at Elizabethtown (PA) BIC Church; Jay Johnson, pastor of Zion (KS) BIC Church; and Ray Kipe, a pastor at Five Forks (PA) BIC Church. There is no cost to attend, but a special offering will be collected. Get more information and let us know you're attending at [bic-history.org/ringgold](http://bic-history.org/ringgold).



# WORK DAY

On Wednesday, June 6th, the Hope Class got together to work on the outside of the parsonage.



Fun  
at  
Work

*Fellowship, food & fun*  
**CHURCH**  
*Picnic*



A little bit of rain didn't deter the fun on June 10th for our church picnic.



# BE SILENT...

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# THE BEAUTY OF SILENCE.

1. **Be silent in the heat of anger.** (Prov. 14:17)
2. **Be silent when you don't have all the facts.** (Prov 18:13)
3. **Be silent when you haven't verified the story.** (Deut 17:6)
4. **Be silent if your words will offend a weaker person.** (1 Cor 8:11)
5. **Be silent when it is time to listen.** (Prov 13:1)
6. **Be silent when you are tempted to make light of holy things.** (Eccl 5:2)
7. **Be silent when you are tempted to joke about sin.** (Prov 14:9)
8. **Be silent if you would be ashamed of your words later.** (Prov 8:8)
9. **Be silent if your words would convey the wrong impression.** (Prov 17:27)
10. **Be silent if the issue is none of your business.** (Prov 14:10)
11. **Be silent when you are tempted to tell an outright lie.** (Prov 4:24)
12. **Be silent if your words will damage someone else's reputation.** (Pro 16:27)
13. **Be silent if your words will damage a friendship.** (Prov 16:28)
14. **Be silent when you are feeling critical.** (James 3:9)
15. **Be silent if you can't say it without screaming it.** (Prov 25:28)
16. **Be silent if your words will be a poor reflection of the Lord  
or your friends and family.** (1 Pt 2:21-23)
17. **Be silent if you may have to eat your words later.** (Prov 18:21)
18. **Be silent if you have already said it more than one time.** (Prov 19:13)
19. **Be silent when you are tempted to flatter a wicked person.** (Prov 24:24)
20. **Be silent when you are supposed to be working instead.** (Prov 14:23)



**"WHOEVER GUARDS HIS MOUTH AND TONGUE  
KEEPS HIS SOUL FROM TROUBLES"  
(Prov 21:23)**



# 2018

## AIR HILL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"To grow a healthy, loving, Christ centered church family that has a passion for reaching the community and the world for Christ"

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><b>1</b> 9 am S.S. 10 am Worship Installation Service</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 6 Prop. Mgt. 6:30 Basketball</p>	<p><b>4</b> </p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> Congratulations Keith and Sadie</p>
<p><b>8</b> 9 am S.S. 10 am Worship</p>	<p><b>9</b> 7 Church Board</p>	<p><b>10</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 6:30 Basketball 7:30 Adult Min- istry</p>	<p><b>11</b> Mid Summer Picnic with Youth and Wed. Club Children</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b> General Assembly</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b> 9 am S.S. 10 am Worship General Assembly</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 6:30 Basketball</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> Gym in Use</p>
<p><b>22</b> 9 am S.S. 10 am Worship 6 pm Shep- herd/Flock Pic- nic</p>	<p><b>23</b> 7 Ministry Board</p>	<p><b>24</b> 6:30 Basketball</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 7 Allan Scott Band</p>
<p><b>29</b> 9 am S.S. 10 am Worship</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> 6:30 Basketball</p>				