## The Beacon

The Newsletter of Pine Street Baptist Church



As we celebrate the birth of our nation this month, let us pause to consider that our's is a nation formed on the ideals of unity, justice, peace, common welfare, and liberty. These, too, are ideals proclaimed by the biblical writers. But we are also a flawed nation, for where there should be unity we often see division, in the place of justice we witness injustice, discord instead of peace, welfare for a few but not for all, and restrictions on liberty. On the birthday of our nation, what gifts might we give? Let us answer the call that echoes from the pages of scripture and seek unity with our fellow human beings, seek justice and act justly, be at peace with our brothers and sisters, promote the welfare of all people, and be grateful for the freedom that allows us to gather for the worship of God. These are the gifts we can, and must, bring if it is to truly be a happy birthday for our country.

One nation under God, with liberty and justice for all. Happy Birthday U.S.A.

## July Birthdays



1: Meaghan Thacker

II: Grace Kirkpatrick

Mike Clark

13: Jack Vipperman

17: Christopher Smith

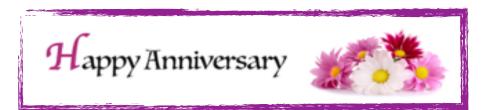
18: Lindsey Turner

22: Carla Vipperman

Blake Jones

23: Savanah Cooper

24: Beth Wang



I: Amy and Matt Jones

11: Jack and Carla Vipperman

16: Philip and Jennifer Turner

18: Russell and Peggy Holt