



# Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 16 No. 7

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

July 2017

## Thank God for the Red, White, & Blue

### From the Editor's Desk

#### Independence Day, 241 Years Ago

On July 2, 1776, representatives for the thirteen colonies were meeting at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. On that day, they approved a resolution of independence from Great Britain.

The Declaration was a formal explanation of why Congress had voted on July 2nd to declare independence from Great Britain, more than a year after the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War in Massachusetts. Thomas Jefferson was selected to draft the formal document.

John Adams wrote about the resolution of independence to his wife Abigail on July 3rd:

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Congress debated and made revisions to the Declaration, finally approving it on July 4th by a vote of 9 out of 13.

Printed copies were sent to all the colonies. George Washington ordered it to be read to the soldiers of the Continental Army. One copy was mailed to Jolly Old England.

Thereafter, Americans celebrated their independence on July 4th, the date printed on the Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

The following excerpts should be familiar to students of American history. The entire document should be read every year to one's children and to students in school.

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That*

### Upcoming Events and Meetings

**July 2, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper**

**July 4 – Independence Day**

Fly the red, white, and blue!

**July 8, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast**

The men share a meal, then engage in a Bible discussion of the Letter to the Romans.

#### Weekly:

**Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School**

**Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Worship Service**

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*whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.*

...

*We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.*

*See Editor's Desk on p. 2*

**In This Issue:** Editor's Message | Upcoming Events | Men's Breakfast | Property & Space Patrol | New Member | Checking in | Cartoon Time | Birthdays & Anniversaries

On the web at <http://www.hillside-sbc.org>

## Editor's Desk (from p. 1)

At the bottom of this document, fifty-six signatures attest to the willingness of these representatives to pledge all they held dear. These signatures marked these men as traitors to the British government, but as national heroes to Americans.

For further reading, there is an unusual web site called "From Revolution to Reconstruction and beyond." It was created by a Dutch professor and his students at the University of Groningen, Netherlands to chronicle the pre-World War I history of the U.S.

Go to this web site: <http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/about.php>. Of special interest is the 1581 Dutch Act of Abjuration, in which the Dutch declared their independence from Spain. This document was probably known by the members of the Continental Congress and possibly may have been influential with its references to God, to the tyrannical rule of the King of Spain, and the right of the people to reject such a despot.

## Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is on July 8th at 8:00 a.m., postponed due to the long Independence Day weekend. The latest news is that we won't have to do our own cooking. Julie Jenkins has offered to prepare a special breakfast for that event, so we can't wait to see (and taste) what it is. Thank you, Julie!

Men's Breakfast is always a good time of food and fellowship. After the special breakfast, we will dive back into our discussion of Romans.

We are just starting chapter 2, so you missed the second half of chapter 1 in which Paul condemned those who refused to believe in God as revealed in the world around them or through the revelation of Jesus Christ in the gospels. God thus gave them over to all the sinful behaviors that they preferred.

So come for the spiritual enlightenment, which will be preceded by gastronomical enlightenment.

## Property and Space Patrol

The new garage doors and siding still look pretty new. They definitely add more "curb appeal" than the old ones.

The only other news is that lawn mowing continues to be done weekly. You might say it's better than having to plow snow every week.

✠ Pastor Al

## Welcome to a New Member

Hillside held a special business meeting in June to accept **John French** as a new member of our congregation. John lives in Contoocook, NH with his wife, Flossy. As it so happens, they are celebrating their wedding anniversary this month.

John can be easily recognized at Sunday School or Sunday Worship since he makes a point of wearing a suit jacket and tie. Please extend to him the right hand of fellowship when next you meet him.

## Just Checking in

The following inspirational poem was submitted by Cynthia Ward. The author is unspecified but one possible source is at <http://www.rogerknapp.com/inspire/justcheckingin.htm>.

A minister passing through his church

In the middle of the day,

Decided to pause by the altar

To see who had come to pray.

Just then the back door opened,

And a man came down the aisle,

The minister frowned as he saw the man

Hadn't shaved in a while.

His shirt was torn and shabby,

And his coat was worn and frayed,

The man knelt down and bowed his head,

Then rose and walked away.

In the days that followed at precisely noon,

The preacher saw this chap,

Each time he knelt just for a moment,

A lunch pail in his lap.

Well, the minister's suspicions grew,

With robbery a main fear,

He decided to stop and ask the man,

"What are you doing here?"

The old man said he was a factory worker

And lunch was half an hour.

Lunchtime was his prayer time,

For finding strength and power.

"I stay only a moment

Because the factory's far away;

As I kneel here talking to the Lord,

This is kind of what I say:"

"I just came by to tell you, Lord, How happy I have been,

Since we found each other's friendship and you took

away my sin.

Don't know much of how to pray, but I think about you every day.

So, Jesus, this is Ben, just checking in today."

The minister feeling foolish,

Told Ben that it was fine.

He told the man that he was welcome

To pray there anytime.

"It's time to go, and thanks," Ben said

As he hurried to the door.

Then the minister knelt there at the altar,

Which he'd never done before.

His cold heart melted, warmed with love,

As he met with Jesus there.

As the tears flowed down his cheeks,

He repeated old Ben's prayer:

"I just came by to tell you, Lord, how happy I have been,

Since we found each other's friendship and You took

away my sin.

I don't know much of how to pray, but I think about you every day.

So, Jesus, this is me, just checking in today."

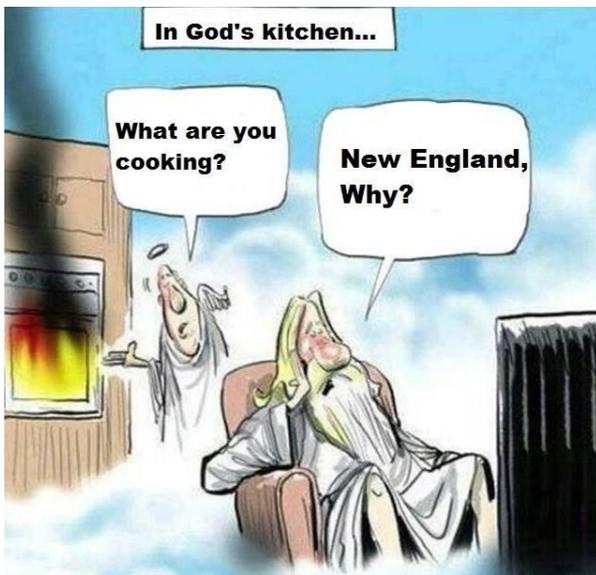
*See Checking in on p. 3*

**Checking in, from p. 2**

Past noon one day, the minister noticed  
 That old Ben hadn't come.  
 As more days passed and still no Ben,  
 He began to worry some.  
 At the factory, he asked about him,  
 Learning he was ill.  
 The hospital staff was worried,  
 But he'd given them a thrill.  
 The week that Ben was with them,  
 Brought changes in the ward.  
 His smiles and joy contagious;  
 Changed people were his reward.  
 The head nurse couldn't understand  
 Why Ben could be so glad,  
 When no flowers, calls, or cards came,  
 Not a visitor he had.  
 The minister stayed by his bed,  
 He voiced the nurse's concern:  
 No friends had come to show they cared.  
 He had nowhere to turn.  
 Looking surprised, old Ben spoke up  
 And with a winsome smile,  
 "The nurse is wrong, she couldn't know,  
 He's been here all the while."  
 Every day at noon He comes here,  
 A dear friend of mine, you see.  
 He sits right down and takes my hand,  
 Leans over and says to me:  
 "I just came by to tell you, Ben, how happy I have been,  
 Since we found this friendship, and I took away your sin.  
 I think about you always and I love to hear you pray,  
 And so Ben, this is Jesus, just checking in today."

**Cartoon Time**

Another submission from Cynthia Ward.



**Birthdays and Anniversaries**



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating another orbit around the Sun:

- 7/19 Frank Dawson
- 7/22 Charles Thomas



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on the following people who celebrate a wedding anniversary this month:

- 7/26 John & Flossy French

**Prayer Requests**

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It is our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Hillside on the Web**

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillside-sbc.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

**Submissions for Next Issue**

Deadline is July 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the New Hampshire Baptist Association, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.



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