

The Channel

Roxboro Baptist Church
202 S. Main Street
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Rev. Dr. DuPre Sanders, Senior Minister
Rev. Mike Moose, Assoc. Minister (Music)
Mrs. Christy Hawkins, Church/Financial Secretary

Vol. 66

August 7, 2017

No.16

As Christians, we possess dual citizenship. We are members of the body of Christ and citizens of the United States of America.

In America, the principle of separation of church and state has been used to ensure our religious liberty, not threaten it. Although this principle often has been misunderstood, it is important for the Christian community to realize that church-state separation has biblical support and actually is helpful to religion. The doctrine of church-state separation is firmly anchored in biblical teachings, rooted in the lessons of history, and fully supports religious people and their liberty.

Perhaps the most direct biblical recognition of the separation of church and state is found in the gospel of Matthew. When Pharisees and Herodians asked Jesus if it was lawful to pay a poll tax to Caesar, Jesus responded, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's" (Matthew 22:21).

Jesus' response indicates that Christians are properly subject to two kingdoms—the kingdom of God and an earthly kingdom—each having its own function, and each demanding its own due. While these two kingdoms could coexist, Jesus suggests that they should not be joined or confused.

Other biblical lessons further illuminate the relationship between God's kingdom and earthly ones. For example, Jesus repeatedly opposed the use of civil power to advance His kingdom. As Baptist professor Jim Spivey noted, "Jesus refused to sit as a judge in secular matters, resisted the temptation to seize worldly power, and fled from those who would crown him king." Jesus' mission was not to rule over secular government, and he had no desire for conversions caused by raw political power. Rather, Jesus was interested in voluntary conversion of the heart and mind.

The origin of the phrase "separation of church and state" lies with a seventeenth-century Baptist, Roger Williams. An ardent believer in soul freedom and religious liberty, Williams argued that such freedoms could not exist unless church and state were separate. Williams believed that, to secure religious liberty, there

should be a "hedge or wall of separation between the garden of the church and the wilderness of the world."

A century and a half later, Thomas Jefferson reiterated this concept in an 1802 letter to the Baptist Association of Danbury, Connecticut, defending the principle of religious freedom: "I contemplate with sovereign reverence the act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between church and state."

Some completely reject the doctrine of church-state separation, claiming it is not in the Constitution. Although it is true that the literal words "separation of church and state" or a "wall of separation" do not appear in the Constitution, the sentiment surely does. The notion of church-state separation is as much a part of the Constitution as the doctrine of "separation of powers" or the "right to a fair trial" – two bedrocks of our constitutional system that are not literally written into the Constitution.

Some reject the principle of separation of church and state by stating that it attempts to divorce religion from politics and God from government. However, it does not reduce Christians to second-class citizens. Church-state separation in no way bars religious people from running for public office, sharing their religious views with elected officials, and from speaking about their religious convictions.

It is unfortunate and ironic that a doctrine rooted in faith and demonstrably good for religion should be viewed in a negative light by some religious people. Careful consideration of the doctrine reveals that church-state separation is an instrument of religious liberty rather than a tool of religious oppression. While it guards against meddling between religion and government, church-state separation allows dialogue and interaction between sacred and secular. For this reason, Christians should be among the first to extol the virtues of separation of church and state.

DuPre

Mark Your Calendar



August Collections

For August we are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Suggested items are pens, pencils, crayons, pencil sharpeners, scissors, small notebooks, brushes, combs, hair bows and ties, socks, toothbrushes (**NO toothpaste**), soap, wash cloths, Band-Aids, clothespins, and small toys

August

- 16 Ice Cream Social
- Deacons' Meeting
- 20 Baptist Men's Breakfast
- 23 Church Conference
- 27 Deacon Ordination & Installation
- Deacon Appreciation Meal
- 28 LIGHT Prayer Group Meeting
- SALT Missions Group Meeting

September

- 4 Office Closed
- 6 Relay for Life Cake Auction
- 10 Church Picnic
- 15 Relay for Life Event at PHS
- 20 Deacons' Meeting
- 24 Guest Speaker – Dr. Michael Blackwell and children (special lunch)
- 30 Church Clean-Up Day

October

- 1 Lord's Supper
- OCC (pick up boxes)
- 10 Church Council
- 15 World Hunger Soup Lunch
- 18 Deacons' Meeting
- 21 Fall Into Service
- 29 Homecoming, Ray Howell

November

- 5 OCC (turn in all boxes)
- 11 OCC Packing Party
- 12 OCC Dedication
- 15 Deacons' meeting
- 18 Rise Against Hunger
- 19 Community Thanksgiving Service
- 22 No Evening Activities
- 23-24 Church office closed
- 26 First Sunday of Advent

December

- 3 Second Sunday of Advent
- 10 Third Sunday of Advent
- 17 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve Service
- 25-27 Church Office Closed

Remember in Prayer



Suzanne Carver, Rhonda Currier, Lori Featherston, Betty Fuller, Marty Glazier, Mitzi Glazier, Donna King, Linda Masten, Kenneth Montgomery, Karen Peterson, Esther Warren, Gladys White, Bill Wilde, Alta Winstead, Lib Woody, Ruffin Woody, Richard Wrenn, Darcus Woody

Cambridge Hills – Ruby Hall, Calvin & Olena McMillan, Edith Merritt, Esther Nichols

Roxboro Nursing Center – Evelyn Walker

Nursery and Extended Session

Sunday, August 13

Trish Long (Nursery)

Charles & Allison Dacus (Extended Session)

Sunday, August 20

Carla Garrett (Nursery)

Alisa M. & Katharine Long (Extended Session)

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal



August 9: Taco salad and seasonal fruit

August 16: Baked potato and salad bars, homemade ice cream

August 23: Spaghetti, garlic bread, and salad bar

Volunteers:

August 9: Nancy Garrett, Nancy Berryhill, Ken Childers, Jean Featherston, Jessie Walker

August 16: Janice Johnson, Betty Fuller, Ken & Judy Medlin, Richard & Alice Whitfield, Alta Winstead

August 23: Mary Harris, Jean Waldo, Kim Boswell, Reid Davis, Helen Hobgood, James Woody, Ann Wrenn

New Member

We are delighted to welcome to our fellowship Aidan Dacus, who joined the church on Sunday, July 30 by profession of faith and as a candidate for baptism.



LIGHT Prayer Group

The LIGHT Prayer Group will meet on Monday, August 28 at 11:00 am in the church conference room.

Homemade Ice Cream Social

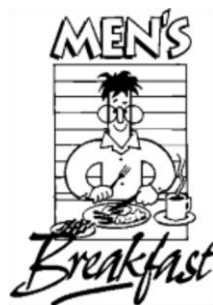


We will have homemade ice cream on Wednesday, August 16. If you can bring a churn of ice cream, please contact the church office and let us know.



Quarterly Church Conference

Our next quarterly conference will be Wednesday, August 23. The Nominating Committee report for 2017-2018 will be presented for approval at this meeting. Please mark your calendars.



Baptist Men's Breakfast

The men's breakfast will be on Sunday, August 20 at 8:30 am in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to come

Wednesday Night Bible Study

August 9

"Difficulties Associated with Change"
Joshua 1:1-9

August 16

"Deciding What Changes to Make"
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

August 23

Quarterly Church Conference

August 30

"Spiritual Disciplines Needed
in Making Changes"
Philippians 4:4-9

Sunday Attendance

July 30, 2017

Sunday School – 100 Worship – 140

Our Ministry of Giving

July 30, 2017

Weekly amount needed to meet budget	\$9,723.71
General budget receipts	\$6,519.00
Designated	
Building in Faith (BIF)	\$20.00



Homebound and Seniors Away

Please make contact with our homebound this week.

Jimmy & Tillie Currier

404 Longwood Terrace, Roxboro

Ken Durham

300 Meredith Dr Apt 133

Durham, NC 27713-2282

Ruby Hall – Cambridge Hills, Rm#121

5660 Durham Rd., Roxboro, 27574

Katie Lee Kimbrough

420 S. Main St., Roxboro

Margaret Kirby

520 Chub Lake St., Roxboro

Christian Help Center

Prepare & Serve a Meal

Thursday, September 7

Doug & Carolyn Whitt

Judy & Bill Hodgkin



August Sermons on the Apostle Peter

- 13 “Peter’s Question About Forgiveness”
Matthew 18:21-35
- 20 “Jesus Reinstates Peter”
John 21:15-17
- 27 “Peter’s Escape from Prison”
Acts 12:1-17