



### Politics #1 of 7:

As we celebrated the 249th birthday of our country this week, the legislature finished one of the largest, and maybe most impactful bills in our country's history. No one truly knows what impact (both positive and negative that this bill is going to have), but most Americans have an opinion on the matter. Having an opinion on political matters is not against the Bible's teachings, but how Christians respond should be guided by the Bible's teachings and the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

For the next several weeks, we will dive into the topic of Christianity and politics in our bulletin articles. Politics get us all worked up, but we should be focused on Godly things and not earthly things when we try to make an impact in our communities.

I believe this topic is a timely, critical discipleship issue in the church for several reasons: politics is on your mind and constantly in your face (billboards, social media, news, celebrities, corporations, and retail establishments are all overly politicized), Christians are being driven to fear and divisiveness (both against biblical principles), relationships are being broken over political opinions, the Church's witness is at risk due to unhealthy Christian responses, this process requires wisdom and discernment which can only come from God, and God desires unity from his followers.

Christians usually (but not always) take two approaches to politics. #1 – Put your head in the sand and hope it will go away. #2 – Assume God is on your side and be partisan – this leads us to think that everything our party does is blessed by God. Both of these approaches are faulty. Politics and issues in our community are not going away, and God does not support one party over another. We must develop a kingdom-first approach to earthly politics and we will look at how to do that in the coming weeks.

## In Our Prayers

Thomas Pruitt  
Zeb Carter  
Juanita (Abby's Mother)  
Tim Taylor  
Linda Fry  
Pam Aldrich

Terry Nash  
Vance Wendelburg  
Dennis Rosenbaum  
Brenda Reno  
Nolan Adams  
Orvalee Aldrich

Terry Sallee  
Bryce Richardson  
Helen Coffey  
Margarita Kent (Lupe's Sister)  
SMC First Session (Starts  
Today)

# Upcoming Events

## Youth Group [Tonight]

The Youth Group will meet tonight at 7 PM at Carl and Janet's house.

## Potluck [Today]

Please join us today immediately following services for our monthly potluck meal.

## Young Family Ministry

### VBS Signup

Our VBS this year will be held on two Wednesday nights (August 6 and 13). We will serve dinner each night and start at 5:30. We plan to be done by 8 each night. Our theme is Epic Australian Adventure. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer to sign up for tasks. We will have work nights/days on Wednesday, July 30 (starting at 6 PM), Saturday, August 2 (starting at 9 AM), and Tuesday, August 5 (starting at 6 PM - if needed).

### Save the Date:

July 13 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)  
July 13-19 - SMC Second Session  
July 20-26 - SMC Third Session  
August 10 - Young Family Ministry (Stafford)  
September 14 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)

# Birthdays

Lisa Cornwell - July 6  
Teegan Holmes - July 6

# Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Zeb & Jessica Carter

Song Leader: Shawn Batten

Sound System: Jayce Feril

Gathering: #718 - We Shall Assemble

Welcome: Orrin Feril

Scripture Reading: Landon Marks (Ephesians 1:18-23)

Shepherd's Prayer: Carl Feril

Song: #574 - Oh, How I Love Jesus

Song: #344 - Low in the Grave He Lay

Communion: Jerry Kinnamon (Gary Hornbaker, JW Like, Hunter Marks)

Song: #353 - One Day (vs. 1-4)

Lesson: Zeb Carter

Song: #608 - He Gave Me a Song (vs. 1)

Closing Prayer: Zach Marks



Giving Link

**Sundays:** Bible classes for all ages @ 10:00 am  
Worship service for everyone @ 11:00 am  
**Elders:** Tom Turner, Richard Brensing, Terry Sallee, Carl Feril  
**Deacons:** Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril, Zachary Marks  
**Minister:** Zeborah Carter