



*And Jesus said to them,
"Follow me and I will make
you fish for people."*

Mark 1: 17

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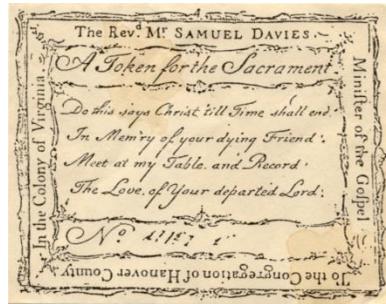
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Communion Tokens

Communion tokens were a familiar feature of Presbyterian worship in past centuries. John Calvin suggested that tokens be used "to prevent the profanation of the Lord's Table."



"A Communion Gathering in the Olden Time"



Davies Token (courtesy of Union Presbyterian Seminary)

Huguenots in France and Presbyterians in Scotland began following Calvin's advice by 1560. Only those instructed in the Reformed faith were given tokens for admission to the Lord's Supper, and no one without a token was then allowed to take communion.

The use of tokens took deep root in Scotland and Northern Ireland, and was brought to colonial America along with other communion practices from the "old country." Most colonial congregations celebrated the Lord's Supper once or twice a year as part of a three to five day series of services called the "communion season," a forerunner of later camp meetings and revivals. Often several congregations joined together and, because of the large crowds, held services outdoors.

A day or more before the communion service, the minister and elders questioned the members of their congregation about their beliefs and behavior. Only those who showed adequate knowledge of the faith and were deemed to be living upright lives received tokens. During the communion service, communicants came forward and sat at long tables where they turned in their tokens and received the elements.

Most tokens were cast or stamped out of lead or pewter, but other materials were used including brass,

copper, silver, nickel, zinc, ceramic, wood, printed paper, and later even celluloid.

In the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the use of tokens began to decline after 1825. By 1860 most congregations no longer used them. Churches that were more conservative in worship--such as the United Presbyterian Church of North America and the Reformed Presbyterians--often used tokens into the late 1800s and early 1900s. In recent decades many churches have minted tokens for special services such as bicentennial observances.

Tokens of the 1700s tended to be plain--even crude--and were marked with initials of the church's or the minister's name and sometimes with a date. An exception is the card token used by the Reverend Samuel Davies in his Virginia congregations, one of the few known paper tokens of that era.

In the 1800s some churches still used simple designs characteristic of the previous century, while others adopted a wider variety of materials and more elaborate designs, sometimes including Biblical references and symbols.

By 1900 churches that still used tokens had largely replaced metal tokens with cards. In the 1970s and '80s many churches revived the token as a souvenir of an important anniversary or for other special celebrations. Designs range from simple colonial styles to elaborate medallions.





Pastor's Ponderings

Is anyone tired? More tired than usual? Four months of quarantine is taking a toll, yet with numbers rising quickly, it isn't over yet. I think how can I be so tired when I am staying home and not running the roads? "It is a pandemic!" I remind myself. It is difficult to keep that in perspective these days. We tend to minimize the emotional and spiritual toll this pandemic is taking on each of us. We tend to forget that grief is cumulative and we have one crisis following another- pandemic, home schooling, economic loss, steep technology learning curves, isolation, social justice issues, politics- it doesn't seem to end. Of course we are tired. As tired and overwhelmed as we feel, this isn't a time to ignore your spiritual wellbeing. Our worship and study together is even more important as the need to strengthen our spirits is acute. Our spirits can still be nurtured albeit on Zoom!

One word I keep hearing these days is "lament." It isn't a word we use frequently these days, but it is an important word. I began to wonder, what is lament? Several Bible dictionaries didn't offer any definition at all. One just said it was synonymous with "mourning." Finally, in The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology (Colin Brown, ed., Zondervan Publishing, © 1986, Vol 2, p.416), I found much to enlighten me. Lament is sorrow, weeping, groaning. Sorrow may manifest in weeping or other outward demonstrations of grief or it may remain "concealed as inner anguish." Several Greek words are used for lament meaning to cry out, to express one's immediate and outward reaction to suffering. Lament may be expressed privately or publicly, outwardly or inwardly. It is a powerful and complex word. As I begin to study lament, it is easier to understand why this word is being used in this tumultuous time.

In James 4:9 says "Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy into dejection. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you." James is telling us that it is okay to grieve, to mourn. Our lives and our society have changed much in these past few months. But, as we come to terms with our sadness and our fatigue, we are to humble ourselves before the Lord who is faithful and who will lift us up once again.

So, as we process these changes, let's allow ourselves to grieve, yet at the same time, we will seek the Lord and allow the Lord to strengthen us for the days ahead. Stay steady. Trust the Lord and He will lift you up!

Nanette



Prayers and Concerns

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for those who visited this past month.

Also, remember in your prayers the many members and friends in need of support during the trying times of their lives. Susan Benge's father; Sandy Brister, the pastor at St. Andrew Leesville, her husband, and her mother; Nanette Cagney; Edward Chavanne; Carolyn Chingo; Margy Clawson; Keith Conrad; Virginia Conrad; Nancy Crncic; Jody Flanagan; Sue Kantorczyk; Creighton Leblanc (Eva's brother); Barbara Lobue; William Ludwick; Laura Ludwick; Cullen Nolan; Judy Robertson; Thomas Schwab; Carla Stewart; Helen Taylor; and baby Liam.

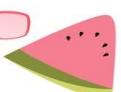
Contact the church office to add or remove a name from the Prayers and Concerns.

Dear Friends,

My family and I would like to offer heartfelt thanks to each of you for your many kindnesses to my mother, Eileen Hacker, (and me!) while she lived in Lake Charles. From Marilyn Dunn's delicious banana bread to outings with Phyllis Cagney, wonderful visits from Eva LeBlanc to warm greetings from you all when she attended church, I sincerely thank you. I especially want to thank Pastor Nanette Cagney for her final visit with prayers and words of comfort at a difficult time. You are a wonderfully kind and welcoming congregation of which I am most proud to be a member. Thank you. Debbie Serra

Eileen Smith Hacker
March 1920 – May 2020

Birthdays

						
	7/06	Edna Breaux				
	7/07	Amy Dunn				
	7/11	Anita Duhon				
	7/15	Jody Flanagan				
	7/16	Charlene Aguiard				
	7/19	Danté Breaux				
	7/29	Mary Davis				
		Madison Marcantel				
		Kathy Jaramillo				
						

Anniversaries

	7/05	Linda & Jim Latour	
	7/17	Ginger & Charles Keenan	

Just Passing Through

An American tourist visited the nineteenth-century Polish rabbi, Hofetz Chaim. Astonished to see that the rabbi's home was only a simple room filled with books, plus a table and a bench, the tourist asked, "Rabbi, where is your furniture?"

"Where is yours?" replied the rabbi.

"Mine?" asked the puzzled American. "But I'm a visitor here. I'm only passing through."

"So am I." said Hofetz Chaim.

Morgan, Robert J. ed. Nelson's Complete book of Stories, Illustrations, & Quotes, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2000, page 420.



Ron Sutto (General Presbyter/Stated Clerk of PSL)
and
Connor Couvillion

We are very proud of **Connor Couvillion**! Conner was chosen to represent the Presbytery of South Louisiana as the Youth Adult Advisory Delegate ("YAAD") to the 224th General Assembly ("GA") of the PCUSA. YAAD's are young adults between the ages of 17 and 23. All 173 presbyteries elect youth delegates to represent them at GA. For the first time in our denomination's history, the General Assembly was totally online. GA was held June 19, 20, 26 and 27.

The Standing Rules of the assembly establish that “advisory delegates are ... selected to attend the meeting of the General Assembly in an advisory role so that the assembly may be assured of hearing and taking cognizance of their special viewpoints” (Manual of the General Assembly, Standing Rule B.2.a). Advisory delegates advise commissioners in a variety of ways throughout the assembly. The General Assembly recognizes that few young people are likely to be elected as commissioners. Therefore, the category of young adult advisory delegate was created in 1970 so that those voices could be heard. The General Assembly is open to having young people in its midst and encourages the voice of young adult advisory delegates in its deliberations. The basic role and function of young adult advisory delegates (YAAD) is to make the assembly aware of issues and ideas they might not otherwise come to know.

From: https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/ga221/221st_general_assembly_yaad_information.pdf



July Fourth, Independence Day, celebrates the Declaration of Independence of the United States on July 4, 1776. The Continental congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject to the monarch of Britain. This independence of those original American colonies and the now, 50 states, has come at a very high cost in human life. Freedom is not free!

Patriotism

Patriotism or national pride is the feeling of love, devotion and sense of attachment to a homeland and alliance with other citizens who share the same sentiment. This attachment can be a combination of many different feelings relating to one's own homeland, including ethnic, cultural, political or historical aspects.

Wikipedia

Patriotic Quotes

“My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”

John F. Kennedy, Inaugural Address, 20 Jan. 1961

“Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.”

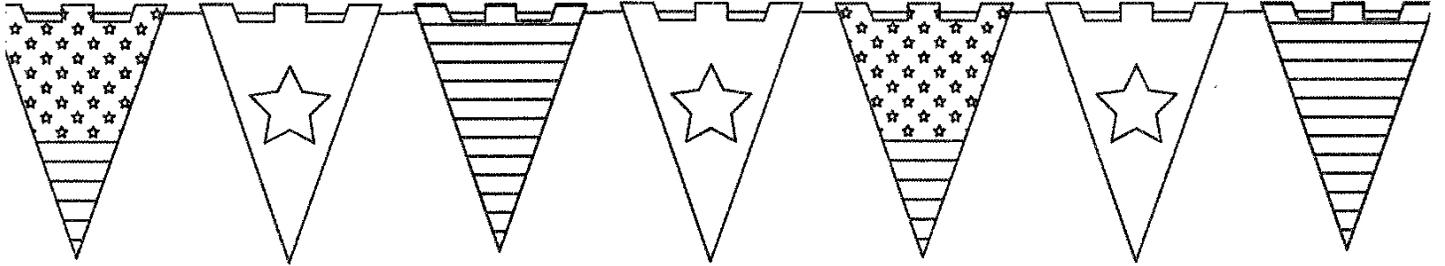
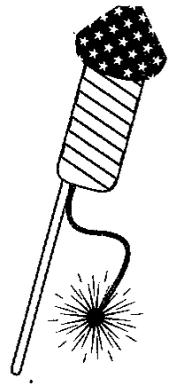
Dwight D. Eisenhower

“America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.”

Harry S. Truman



PATRIOTIC word search



I N D E P E N D E N C E C R W A F C O H
 B A F P L E G U N B S C E S T R I P E S
 S T A R S I N M Z B S X L I K B R B F A
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AMERICA
 ANTHEM
 BASEBALL
 BLUE
 BRAVE
 CELEBRATE
 FIREWORKS
 FLAG
 FOURTH
 FREEDOM
 HOTDOGS
 INDEPENDENCE
 JULY
 LIBERTY
 NATION
 PARADE
 PATRIOTIC
 PIE
 PLEDGE
 RED
 SACRIFICE
 STARS
 STARSPANGLED
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I used to think God wouldn't talk to me, but now I know I am just selective with what I chose to hear.

Quote by Bob Goff

