



**OUR MISSION: Impacting The Kingdom Of  
God One Person At A Time**

**Pastor: Dr. Dennis Felder**

**USBC News**

## WHEN FREEDOM RINGS!

By Pastor Dennis Felder



In 1832, a Pastor by the name of Rev. Samuel F. Smith wrote an enduring patriotic song entitled, *America or My Country, 'Tis of Thee*. The first stanza reads,

*My country, 'tis of Thee,  
Sweet Land of Liberty  
Of thee I sing;  
Land where my fathers died,  
Land of the pilgrims' pride,  
From every mountain side  
Let Freedom ring.*

The statement that catches my attention every time I sing it, is ***Let Freedom Ring!*** Think about this for a moment. Freedom has a distinct ring to it. Audiologists (people who study sounds) have stated that all objects have their own unique soundwave identification when struck. For example, glass makes a different sound than metal or wood produces a different sound than water. Each object can be identified by its unique sound signature.

As I pondered this concept, I wonder what sound a Christian makes? Now on the surface, this is a weird question, but it is an important question that needs to be asked. There are many things that can strike the life of Christian. Some of these strikes can be pleasant or uncomfortable. When they do hit us, does our sound or behavior change or does it stay the same? In other words, are we consistent in how we reflect Christ?

As a follower of Christ, one needs to always remember that our response should always be the same. If not, others will be confused as to who we really are. If one day we sound off with hate and the next day we ring with love, we are sending a mixed signal. One's inconsistency can lead others to believe that we are not genuine in our commitment to Christ. It can appear that we are pretending to being something that we are not.

Each time a faithful follower is struck, there should be one distinct sound that should loudly ring out and that sound is freedom. **John 8:36** tells us, "*So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.*" You see, sin is our captor that strips away our freedom. Since we were held captive, we needed a Warrior who could set us free and that courageous Warrior is Jesus Christ. He alone has the power to set us free. Our freedom or salvation, should be the sound that all should hear. That should never change.

So, as America celebrates its 242 years of freedom on July 4<sup>th</sup>, let us not forget the freedom we have in Christ. **Let Freedom Ring!**

# ***TREASURE FROM HEAVEN***



*By Pastor Dennis Felder*

On August 5<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm, we will meet at Burger King in Damascus to start our official *Treasure from Heaven* kickoff that is entitled *Share 101*.

The *Treasure from Heaven* consists of a dollar bill, informational cards, and Scripture cards placed in a clear zip lock bag. Each of these *Share Packets* will be placed in various locations within the communities near the church.

When a person comes by and sees this dollar bill visibly shining through the clear zip lock bag, they will inevitably pick it up. Upon opening the zip lock bag to examine what else is in the *Share Packet*, they will realize that it is all for them. That is their *Treasure from Heaven*.

Below is the description of *Share 101*.

## **Share 101**

**Purpose:** **Share 101** offers the opportunity for a Christian to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in a very public setting and non-confrontational manner. The *Share Packet* is left in a public setting with the intension of someone picking it up.

**Structure:** **Share 101** is only designed to leave the *Share Packet* in a non-discreet manner without interacting with the potential recipient. Below are some suggestions of where these *Share Packets* can be placed.

- Beside a gas pump.
- On a bathroom counter in a public place.
- Leave on a table in a restaurant.
- Place between parking spaces in a parking lot.
- On the ground in a heavy traveled foot traffic area.
- Any setting to where it can be found by someone else.

**Training:** A thirty-minute training session that is designed to help fulfill the Great Commission. During the training time, direction is given, locations are assigned as to where to place the *Share Packets*, and prayer is offered up. It will be recorded and appropriately documented as to where the *Share Packets* were left, date, and time. Also, if you observe someone picking up the *Share Packet*, you will document the recipient's reaction from a distance.

## COOKOUT & GAME NIGHT

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Do you enjoy a good cookout and a good game? On Tuesday, **July 3** at 6:30 pm, you will have an opportunity to experience them both at our *Cookout and Game Night*.

Please join us for the fun and food on this festive evening. Bring your favorite board game or card game and the church will provide the hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the tasty trimmings. If you are planning on attending, please let the church know by signing up in the foyer.



## SUPER SENIORS

By Pastor Dennis Felder



On Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, the *USBC Super Seniors* met at the Wegman's food court in Germantown for their monthly luncheon. It was delicious food and it was great to spend time with each other.

Our next luncheon will take place on Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon at the Germantown IHOP.



USBC News

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

By Pastor Dennis Felder



On Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, we are inviting everyone in our church family to attend a very special planning session entitled, *Christmas in July*. The purpose of this festive Christmas theme meeting is to help our church prepare for our Christmas activities that will be taking place in December. As you know it takes a tremendous amount of preparation to have a successful Christmas celebration that will meet the needs of everyone.

During our planning session, we will discuss children's programs, musical programs, outreach programs that will be highlighted during the Christmas season. There is one particular ministry opportunity that I would like for the church to do and I have called it, *Joy with a Toy*.

The purpose of *Joy with a Toy* is to provide toys to children in our community. We will collect new toys and set a specific day in December when we invite families to our church to pick up these toys for their children. While the parents are selecting toys, we will have special activities for their children. As we are sharing the toys, we will also have a wonderful opportunity to share the joy of Christmas.

Therefore, for this Christmas outreach to be successful, it will take everyone doing their part. So please put this date on your calendar and be in attendance as I share the details of this Christmas cheer.



July 2018

USBC NEWS  
Upper Seneca Baptist Church  
23401 Davis Mill Rd.  
Germantown, MD 20876



Next Newsletter Deadline  
July 15, 2018

### God's Plan Of Salvation

Trust Jesus Christ today! Here's what you must do:

1. Admit you are a sinner.

*"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23)*

2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent).

*Jesus said: "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5)*

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried, and rose from the dead.

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)*

4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your life to become your personal Savior.

*"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)*

#### What to pray:

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His **precious blood** and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Savior.

#### Editor's Note:

Included in this newsletter is the **USBC Church Birthday Calendar** showing the dates of birthdays of our church family, but we don't always have the information to include. So, if we miss YOUR date, we are sorry! Why not fill out a connect card and place it in the offering plate with your name and birthday noted so that it can be included in our calendar.

Also, if you have something to be included in the newsletter, an announcement, an article, a cartoon....we are always looking for information and new ideas!

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## VBS IS COMING

By Lana Felder



**Vacation Bible School** is now here. **VBS** will be taking place from July 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. Each night will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will conclude at 8:30 pm. The ages for **VBS** are ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This year's theme is **Game On!**

From [Lifeway.com](http://Lifeway.com) – “*LifeWay's 2018 VBS invites your kids to grab their megaphones, lace up their cleats, and tune up their instruments. As they fill up the offensive line, sideline, and drum line, your players, cheerleaders, and band members will realize God has given them His ultimate playbook. He wants them to join His team, train hard, celebrate salvation, and encourage one another. Get in the spirit today with Game On VBS.*

**Theme Verse** - His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 2 Peter 1:3

**Motto** - Gear up! Get Ready! Game on!”

In order to make this wonderful experience available for the children in our community, we need LOTS of help! Help is needed for teaching, assistants, crafts, snacks, recreation, music, registration, and more! If you are available to help, please see Donna Limparis or sign up in the church foyer.

Begin praying now for the teachers and every volunteer. Also, pray for the children that come to be open to the message of God's love and salvation.



## MUSIC NOTES

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Our church choir has taken its regular summer break and will resume again in September.

However, there are some important shout outs that need to be mentioned.

First, the church was truly blessed by the voices of all the choir members. Second, we were grateful for the commitment and dedication that Priscilla Knicley sacrificially gave to make our choir a great success.

Although the choir has taken a summer hiatus, our music program will still be in full swing. We are seeking people to sing or play special music during our Sunday morning worship service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board or speak directly with Priscilla Knicley.

The last music note that I want to share with you is about our special music Sunday that will be taking place on July 8<sup>th</sup> during our 11 am worship service. On this day, our entire service will be of music. So, if you have a special hymn that you would like for our church to sing, please bring it to the attention of any member of our Praise Team.

## SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

By Pastor Dennis Felder



From June 19-21<sup>st</sup>, **USBC** had its first **Summer Bible Study**. We studied about the reality of angels, we dealt with the intriguing question, “Do animals go to heaven?” and lastly, we talked about the most quoted Scripture in

the Bible, Deuteronomy 6:4-9. Also referred to as the **Shema**.

If you missed out on these fascinating Bible Studies, don't worry. In the near future we will be offering some new studies for you to participate in.

## DAMASCUS HELP

By Pastor Dennis Felder



During the entire month of July our church will take on two very important tasks. First, we will collect non-perishable food for families needing a helping hand. Second, we will be collecting school supplies for children who need that extra support.

Please make certain that the non-perishable food you donate has not expired. Also, the school supplies include basic essentials (backpacks, pencils, glue, etc.).

These items can be dropped off in the church's foyer and will be distributed at a later date.



## HIGH ATTENDANCE RECAP

By Pastor Dennis Felder



Have you ever heard someone say, "If I came to church the roof would cave in?" Well, that is exactly what happened on our **High Attendance Sunday** that took place

on June 10, 2018. We had a good crowd on hand as we heard the story of the paralyzed man who was lowered through the roof to be healed. The message was entitled, "*Roof Crasher*." We even witnessed the roof crashing down on Richard Doody. The challenge was for everyone to be a *Roof Crasher*. A *Roof Crasher* is a person who will go to the extremes, if necessary, to bring someone to Christ.

Following the challenging message, we all gathered in the Fellowship Hall for some great food, fun, and fellowship.

## SERMON SCHEDULE

By Pastor Dennis Felder

**July 1, 2018**

**Sermon Title:** "*Hearing Voices*"  
**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 3:4-10

**July 8, 2018**

**Sermon Title:** "*The Sound of Music*"  
**Scripture:** Psalm 150:1-6

**July 15, 2018**

**Sermon Title:** "*Game On!*"  
**Scripture:** 2 Peter 1:3

**July 22, 2018**

**Sermon Title:** "*The Battle Cry*"  
**Scripture:** Ephesians 6:10-12

**July 29, 2018**

**Sermon Title:** "*A Dress Rehearsal for Calvary*"  
**Scripture:** Genesis 22:1-4

In nothing be anxious, but in everything,  
by prayer and petition with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be made known to God.

And the **PEACE**  
OF GOD

which surpasses all understanding, will  
guard your hearts and your thoughts in

*Christ Jesus*

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

