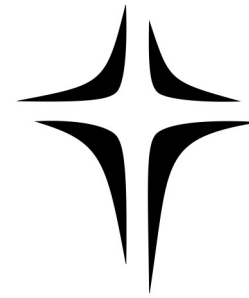


Westview Church of Christ
4151 W. 20th Street
Greeley, CO 80634
Phone: 970-330-3716
office@westviewcoc.org

Westview's wireless
network password:
9703303716



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Westview Church of Christ Greeley, Colorado

July 5, 2026

The Purpose

From here to heaven... Following God wherever He leads us.

Commentary from a common Terry **Happy Birthday, America!**

I'm gonna take a step back from the thread of thoughts I've been following the last few weeks in this space. Sometimes it's good to notice what is going on and see it through God's eyes, if we can.

The United States of America observed its 250th birthday yesterday. From that first pivotal historic July 4th in 1776 to now, it has been two-hundred fifty years plus a day. That's a long time. Not nearly as long as a lot of countries, but still, pretty long.

Positive stuff going on right now. Celebrations. Fireworks (where there aren't fire bans). Parades. Patriotic symbols. Picnics. Family Gatherings.

Couple that with the very popular and, to this point, very successful FIFA World Cup soccer tournament hosted by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, and things are thumbs up! It's been impossible to ignore the news stories about so many visitors to the U.S. for the World Cup who have been surprised by the positives they've experienced. (It helps that *all three* of the host countries' national teams are still playing, having survived, getting to the round of sixteen while 32 teams are done.)

But, there are protests as well. There are voices of disapproval and criticism. Some are excessive. Some, however, make solid points. There are trends and current social behaviors in our country that are very concerning. The political fighting and mudslinging escalates, especially as we head to midterm elections. It has become a *primary* trait for some public officials to criticize and condemn. Certainly it's not every politician...but it sure feels like it sometimes as the caustic language seems to attract the most news.

It's a mixed bag, this country we're in. It can insure we are able to sleep safely at night while, at the same time, keep us awake with worry and stress. We are grateful to live here. We are worried about where we live. We are blessed in our freedoms. And we see those freedoms often abused for the advancement of ungodly agendas.

What's the solid ground, then, you and I, as believers in and followers of The Way, can stand on with firm footing and feel at peace in a world that is determined to create unrest and steal away as much personal peace as possible? Our belief

can be *supported* by the country we live in as well as *threatened* by that same nation. We are still able to practice our faith, gather for our fellowship and worship, and proclaim our convictions while at the same time, society in general is more dismissive of Christianity than at any time in our 250 years (plus a day).

This I know—God never intended the protection of our faith and the stability of our trust in Him to rely on what society, culture, or government does around us, to us, for us, or against us. We stand on the Rock.

The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. Psalm 18:2

Jesus was active in God's plan in the Old Testament. Paul wrote in I Corinthians 10:4 that Moses and the Hebrews, while wandering in the wilderness, "...drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ."

Jesus ended his great sermon, *The Sermon On the Mount*, with the same notion. The wise person who hears his words *and puts them into practice* is like a wise man, "...who built his house on the rock." No matter what came next, that house, "...did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock." Matthew 7:24-25

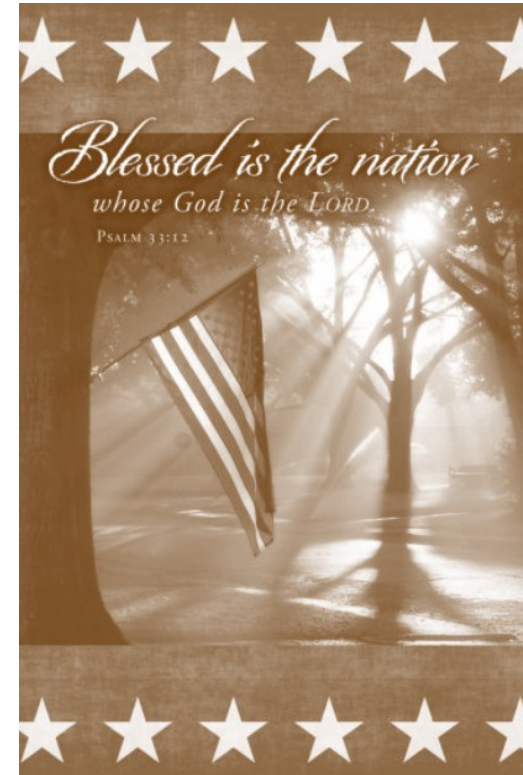
Christianity will not rise or fall because of the success or failure of worldly kingdoms and powers. We may be blessed by our country...or we may be in complete opposition to our country. God is above that, controlling all things. Paul was absolutely convinced that there was not a power on this planet that could separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:37-39

We celebrate the good our country. We are blessed to be here in this country at this very moment. But even more expansive is the celebration we have because of the eternal kingdom we belong to and truly depend on. Our *trust* is not in any earthly power. Our trust is Him.

So, happy birthday to the U.S.A.! May this country find its way back to the God who loves us.

Love one another,

Terry



Pray often for our country and our leaders. As we have just celebrated our country's 250th anniversary, we are again thankful for all that we have as a nation.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are thankful you are with us today as we worship our God and Savior. Our prayer is that you will encounter Him today.

A nursery for small children is available in the east hall off the lobby.

What will you experience at Westview?

- **Praise through song.** It is the tradition of our heritage to sing a cappella (without instruments) as we encourage everyone to be involved in uplifting praise.
- We value the **Bible**. You will hear God's Word read and all sermons will give the utmost respect and priority to Scripture.
- We share the **Lord's Supper** every week remembering Christ's sacrifice that provides us forgiveness as we celebrate our salvation through Him.
- **We do not expect our guests to give financially** to our work. We depend on the generous and godly giving of all Westview members to provide the funds needed to implement God's plans for this church.

We invite you to stay for Bible classes following our worship time. We hope you have been blessed today!

Today's Order of Worship

*I Will Call Upon the Lord
My God Most High*

Meet & Greet

Announcements & Reminders

Prayer

Faith Is the Victory

Lead Me To Calvary

We Remember Christ's Sacrifice

Contribution Collected
Create In Me a Clean Heart

Elder blessing/prayer

Shout To the North

Scripture Reading:

Romans 12:9-18

Sermon

The Invasion:

God's Church God's Way (12)

Ultimate purpose

God Is Love

Unison Reading:

Galatians 6:9-10

God's Family

Events, opportunities, and reminders:

We will not have our regular Sunday morning classes today. After our worship time, we will share an extended time together in the fellowship room. There will be some snacks and drinks! We hope you'll join us.

The **Young Families Discovery Group** will meet this afternoon at 5 p.m. in the fellowship room at the building. The menu is pizza and a salad bar. Check with Cory and Katie for more information about what you are to bring or if you have any questions. All families with children are invited to join us.

The **Women's Bible Study** group will meet this Tuesday, July 7th. The group will meet at 10 a.m. in the home of Barb Henderson. (You can get the address from the church office.) All the ladies are invited.

July Men's Breakfast next Saturday The July Westview Men's Breakfast is next Saturday, July 11th. We'll eat at around 8:30 a.m. We can use some help getting things ready and setting up tables and chairs. If you'd like to help, we'll need you at the building at about 8:15 a.m. Come on and join us, guys!

Tuesday night singing/worship every week All are invited to join the worship leaders each Tuesday evening at the building at 7 p.m. for an hour of singing and worship.

Carley Jo needs help moving Carley Jo Goggans is moving to a new apartment and will need help with some heavy furniture. We'll help her Tuesday morning, July 14th. We'll send more details this week.

Arwilda Harrington has moved Arwilda is now living at Grace Pointe. If you would like her address, check with the church office.

The Kitchen is OPEN this week, July 8th We'll meet at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8th, at the building to prepare burritos and take them to the homeless shelter. Your help is appreciated.

If you need information about the *Band of Brothers* retreat (September 10-13), see Doug Blount.

The July handout for Bible study plans and strategies is on the counter in the lobby.

The Wednesday night study group meets at 6:30 in the fellowship room (studying Colossians).



The Westview Men's Coffee is every Tuesday morning from 6 to 8 a.m. in the fellowship room.

The Westview Women's Coffee is every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. in the fellowship room.

Servers for Worship today (5th)

Scripture Reading Taylor Hegarty
Prayer Greg Hammer
Tom Lininger (communion prayers)
Brandon Adkins (contribution prayers)
Kim Hegarty
Abner Morales
Doug Seaman
Ian Sebold

Support for Javier Leon and the *Avanza Lider* ministry

Westview has had a long and rewarding history with Javier & Karla Leon. He was our first Hispanic minister, nearly 25 years ago. He now works through a ministry he established, *Avanza Lider*, which trains leaders and develops church growth in Hispanic congregations in the U.S., Mexico, and throughout Central America. For some time, Westview served as his sponsoring congregation in this ministry. That role has transitioned to his home congregation in the Dallas area.

We will continue to support Javier and his ministry through our financial contribution and prayers. We urge you to pray about your involvement in this ministry, partnering with Javier as he works with several churches. He recently lost a significant portion of his monthly support as a church that has supported him has fulfilled its commitment to him. We are hoping to replace a large part of that support (\$2,000 a month). We need you to let us know what your one-time or monthly donation for this can be over the next year. Let Barry, Vern, Rufino, or Terry know that information or check with them if you have questions. Also, we will be setting up a way you can contribute to this through our giving portal on our website. If you have questions about that, please check with Cory.

We will be receiving updated information from Javier about *Avanza Lider* soon. We will make that video available to you through our website. We are also planning to have Javier & Karla join us this fall. Pray about this ministry and how you can help. Thank you.



Prayer reminders

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

We do not include personal information, such as the prayer list in our online bulletin. If you would like that information, it is available in the hard copy bulletin at the building. Or, you can contact the church office to receive a copy.