

# Independence Day 2021

Many members of our society have lost sight of the intention of our forefathers, respect for our nation, faith in our Creator and trust in each other. At a time of unrest within our nation, there are many individuals revolting against the Pledge of Allegiance. My high school daughter took a stand. Her action compelled me to write this newsletter.

*She came home one day to say the intercom speakers in her classroom were finally fixed and as a class they were able to hear the daily announcements. When they began the Pledge of Allegiance, she stood up placed her hand on her heart and began reciting the pledge. Upon completion, she realized she had been the only person in the room standing and saluting the flag. She admitted that she was somewhat nervous to find out she stood alone and worried about criticism from other students; however, she was still proud to show her commitment honoring our country and our God. Fortunately, she did not receive any backlash; and within a few days another student stood with her. The two of them continued to stand for the remainder of the school year every day they were able to hear the announcements. It only took one person to encourage another. Her faith in God to protect her unalienable rights is strong and she will continue to show her patriotism, regardless of the behavior of those around her.*

**July 4, 1776;** The historic day when Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. The excerpt below of the declaration hold some very basic and necessary truths that as Americans we must remember and keep close to our hearts.

***“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”***

The date of July 4<sup>th</sup> is an opportunity to show our allegiance to the United States of America. Reciting the pledge of allegiance is just one visual way to show our respect and loyalty.

***“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”***



Shepherds of Love Ministries will take every opportunity to pledge our loyalty to God first and to our Nation second. We encourage you to be the one person who shows your faith in God and loyalty to the U.S.A. by honoring our Forefathers who believed that we have been endowed by our Creator with Rights to Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. It is a blessing to be living in a country that began with a belief in God. It is important that we remain “one nation under God!”

We must continue to instill this belief into children, for they are the future! It is never too soon to teach our children to respect the flag, to be proud of their heritage and to show their love of our country and believe in God.



**Luke 18:16** *But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."*

We praise God for our country, His provision, His protection, and His mercy. As we celebrate Independence Day remember that God celebrates our dependence on Him!

We are Thankful for You and the support that you provide to the ministry by responding to God's calling on your life.

We feel truly blessed to live where we are free to worship our loving God!

*Schaun Adams & Teresa Rowntree*

### Quarter 1 – 2021

**143 Interviews Conducted**

**304 People were Served**

**\$ 31,811 Donations Received**

**\$ 25,203 Gifts Paid Out**

### **BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT**

**Crystal Martin** joined SOLM Board of Trustees in 2013. Teresa and Crystal were friends for many years before she was invited to become part of SOLM. We are very blessed to have her as a contributing member to the ministry. She is a very strong prayer warrior and is a continuous witness for God. Crystal is a Retired MSgt from the Air Force. She served our country for 20 years as an Aircraft Electrical/Environmental Specialist. She continues to serve as a civilian at TAFB. Crystal is a native Oklahoman and currently lives in Jones, OK with her husband, Tim.

