



Fireworks, Baseball games, and Picnics; this is what the 4th of July means to most Americans today. But on July 4th in 1776 was a very solemn day for the 55 men who affixed their signatures to the Declaration of Independence. For in so doing, they were risking their lives and fortunes to defend the proposition 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.”

Reminiscing seems to go hand in hand with getting older. When I slow down enough to look at life through the eyes of my children, I see a world vastly different from the one in which I grew up. As a product of the baby boomer generation, my age group may be the last to remember a childhood without electronic games and very little television. Our parents didn't worry as much back then about watching our every move and we were free to play with our friends all day and only come home for supper. There was a trustful innocence in what I perceive back then to have been a much safer and kinder world.

We are blessed in this country to have so many opportunities and freedoms. As we celebrate Independence Day, let us remember the price our Founding Fathers paid to establish this great nation and the obligation and duty we have as Christian Americans to live up to the heroic ideals they set forth. With God in charge and a determined spirit on our part, we can help our community to be a kinder and safer world. We owe this to our children, grandchildren and generations to come.

God bless and Happy Independence Day!

Deacon Mike