

Music Box

JULY 6, 2014

Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano and organ

Variations on “God Save The King” Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
(a.k.a.”My Country, ‘Tis of Thee”)

God Bless AmericaIrving Berlin (1888-1989)

Selections from Robert Bremmer’s Harpsichord or Spinet Miscellany,
1765, Williamsburg, Virginia

Variations on “Yankee Doodle”anonymous (ca. 1790)

Following reprinted by request:

This column doesn’t often spend itself on nostalgia, but Fourth of July always triggers overriding childhood memories of barefoot summertime: sticky watermelon juice running down sunburned arms and legs, seeds spit out like machine gun fire, decimating brothers, sisters, cousins, and friends. I remember the frantic scramble for a nickel or dime to answer the siren song of the ice-cream truck in the late afternoon, the frozen delight on a stick that, only half eaten, melts and falls off onto the ground. I know what it is to run through the sprinkler, to pull the wagon filled with water or friends or both, to hop from shadow to shadow, feet bottoms hissing in the hot sun, because I was there. I know how to catch fireflies in a jar at dusk and how, blowing on them, to make them flare up in green-white heat as if in answer to the promise of romance. I remember the lure of fireworks with dangerous-sounding names, failing to deliver their impossible promises, but giving 45 minutes of semi-climax and “the punk’s out again” and deriving most of their noise from grownups yelling at the kids to be careful. I remember, unable to wait until dark, lighting those sulphurous snakes that left their signature on the sidewalk for months afterwards. I know how to write my name in the dark with a sparkler and where to throw it later to maximize adult anxiety. I know the summer-evening sound of locusts, the intoxication of honeysuckle, and the sweet hope of a later bedtime. I know the boring drone of adults inexplicably talking their summer away, wasting the heat, wasting the chance to run and yell, wasting happiness itself. I know the feeling of wet grass, of air palpable with sulfur and smoke and brass bands and patriotic songs, and of Dad’s warm hand holding mine.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



**Painless and
Economical**

If you use the internet, why don't you have the weekly newsletter sent to you via email? It is fast, easy and saves the church money — here's what to do, Send an email to the office at: ciff@mbay.net and ask Sherry to put you on the list. You will receive it early every week!

Church in the Forest
at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach
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Monday morning, June 30, 2014

Dear Members and Friends,

A Prayer for America Sunday July 6, 2014

Many of you might recall the Scotsman, Peter Marshall who, while serving as Pastor of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church from 1937, was appointed to be chaplain of the Senate from 1946 until his sudden death in 1947. He was forty six years of age. Here is a prayer that he shared. I pass it on as it was spoken. It is a prayer, which we can all pray for this country that we love so much, and for those elected to lead us. You may applaud his sentiments or you may challenge them, but you cannot ignore them.

For the Leaders of the Nation

Our Father, bless, we pray Thee, the leaders of this nation. Strengthen the courage of the representatives in Congress assembled—sincere men who want to do the right, if only they can be sure what is right. Make it plain to them, O Lord. And then wilt Thou start them out on the right way, for Thou knowest that we are hard to turn.

Forgive them for the blunders they have committed, the compromises they have made. Give to them the courage to admit mistakes. Take away from us as a nation and as individuals that stubborn pride which, followed by conceit, imagines itself to be above and beyond criticism.

Save our leaders, O God, from themselves and from their friends—even as Thou hast saved them from their enemies.

Let no personal ambition blind them to their opportunities.

Help them to give battle to hypocrisy wherever they find it.

Give them divine common sense and a selflessness that shall make them think of service and not of gain.

May they have the courage to lead the people of this Republic, considering unworthy the expediency of following the people.

Save them from the folly of man-made schemes and plans. Give to them the faith and the courage together to seek God's inspired plan and, finding it, to propose it, knowing that when it is God-inspired, Thou wilt open the way for it through all obstacles.

As Thou hast made and preserved us a nation, so now mold us into a people more worthy of a great heritage. In Thy strong name we make these prayers. **Amen.**

See you in church



William B. Rolland

ANNOUNCEMENT: New members, Mitzi and Don Daly, have made a thoughtful contribution to CitF—an entertainment package for our littlest churchgoers. It contains five “kits” with a clipboard, colored pencils, sharpener, dry erase board and dry erase crayons, a pencil and an eraser. Plus, several activity books that Sherry can copy pages from and add to the kits as needed. Remember: they are for the children!

Calendar

Sunday, July 6, 2014—Celebrating Independence Day

8:30 AM Bible Study with the Rev. Charles Anker. The Gospel of Matthew. The Sermon on the Mount. Chapter 5.

9:15 AM Music Prelude

9:30 AM Holy Communion

Passages Romans 7:15-25; Psalm 145: 8-15; Matthew 11: 16-19; 25-30

Lector Dick Crowell

Crucifer Judy Fletcher

Flowers Lloyd Nattkemper

Cookies Joe Stine

Altar Care Martha Jordan

Ushers Jack Davis and Howard Colehower

Prayers of the People Howard Colehower

Sermon The Rev. Ken Feske

Title “The Great Invitation: REST”

Sunday, July 13, 2014, the Rev. Charles Anker preaching