

New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community
www.newliferiders.com
Gideon1520@Gmail.com

July 2020

Dear Friends,

It has been three months since we have all been together as a group. We have decided not to meet on July third for two reasons; first, in an effort to continue to stay safe and virus-free and secondly, some may wish to spend the Fourth of July weekend with their immediate families. We miss each other and hope it won't be too long before we resume our "normal" routine. We have some events scheduled on the website, but still need to exercise patience and wisdom as we monitor the situation. In the meantime, I hope you are finding the newsletter and the email updates informative and encouraging. The summer ahead of us is uncertain but the days seem to be moving by so swiftly. Our prayers continue to be for peace, justice and health for everyone during these difficult times.

The Fourth of July Holiday is a special time to pause and reflect upon the sacrifices our forefathers, our Veterans and the men and women who are currently serving in the armed forces have made so that we can be a free people. This liberty did not come cheaply, thousands have given their lives for it. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are in the military and with the families who have lost loved ones.

The Stars and Stripes are a beautiful symbol of our freedom. As a child growing up in Philadelphia, my class would make an annual trip to Independence Hall to see the Liberty Bell and an occasional trek to New York to visit the Statue of Liberty, two wonderful symbols of a free nation.

As we ponder the freedom and blessings we have in this great nation of ours, the Statue of Liberty and the words inscribed on it from Emma Lazarus' poem, "The New Colossus", come to mind once again: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to

breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, send these, the homeless, tempest tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

The lady in New York harbor has certainly been a beacon to all those who have sought a better life. However, where the "good life' is concerned, we need to consider the Words of Jesus Christ, "I have come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)



Unlike the statue, Jesus is very much alive. He offers the perfect invitation to all who are tired, poor and seeking freedom from sin. "Come unto me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30 New International Version).

In place of all our exhaustion and spiritual fatigue, He promises peace and rest! Remember, the only true way to freedom and liberty is through Jesus Christ.

We update the New Life Riders website <u>www.newliferiders.com</u> frequently. Please keep checking it for canceled and rescheduled biking events and activities. It is always a good idea to contact the organizations that are hosting the events before venturing out to attend. We are endeavoring to keep you informed during all the changes that are taking place. Continue to let your light shine by keeping in touch with one another. Be a blessing! Don't underestimate your ability to make a difference in someone's life and don't miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world.

As you go out to be Jesus to a lost world, make sure what you give them is Jesus. Remember what Jesus said in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." This is where the rubber hits the road. I encourage you to make a fresh commitment today. There is no other way to God the Father. My brothers and sisters, heed His call and go forth in the love of Jesus! In closing, as we observe this patriotic Fourth of July holiday, please pray with me for our military:

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect and bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform. Bless those family members who await their safe return and those who mourn the ones who have given the ultimate sacrifice. They need your loving and comforting touch. Lord, bless our veterans who have given so much. In the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, Amen."

My wife, Kathy, and I pray that you and your families are abundantly blessed, staying safe, and are in good health as we await the time when we can all finally be together!

As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road.

God bless Riding with Jesus, Bob Dillon

As you observe this patriotic holiday, reflect upon Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."