

CHA American Christian Government Tour 2015

“...and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever”



Purposes

- Help students understand the development of our American Christian form of government
- Teach students the most effective form of government is local--beginning with self-government
- Reveal evidence to the Christian influence upon the formation and sustaining of our Republic through documents and Christian symbolism in our nation's monuments and public buildings
- Foster unity and fellowship among the sixth graders
- Provide students with the opportunity to independently practice good manners and habits

Foundational thoughts...

From “Overview of America”

John McManus

What made America?

People? Natural resources? Governmental planning? Wisdom of men?

LIBERTY made America!

America is unique not because of what government did, but what government was prevented from doing.

Civil government was established to protect man’s God-given rights.

The Constitution was written to govern the government, not the people or states.

Foundational thoughts, continued...

America is a Republic NOT a Democracy!

The word 'democracy' is not written in the US Constitution or in the constitutions of any of the 50 states.

“We are a Republican Government. Real liberty is never found in despotism or in the extremes of democracy.”--Alexander Hamilton

“Democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself.”--Samuel Adams

The Roman Republic fell because the government officials (the Caesars) began to exceed the power given by the Roman Constitution; the system went from a Republic (rule by law) to an Oligarchy (rule by a few)...sound familiar?

Remembering God's Providence

I will remember the works of the Lord:
surely I will remember Thy wonders of old.

I will meditate also of all Thy work,
and talk of Thy doings.

Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary:
who is so great a God as our God?

Thou art the God that doest wonders:
Thou hast declared Thy strength among the people.

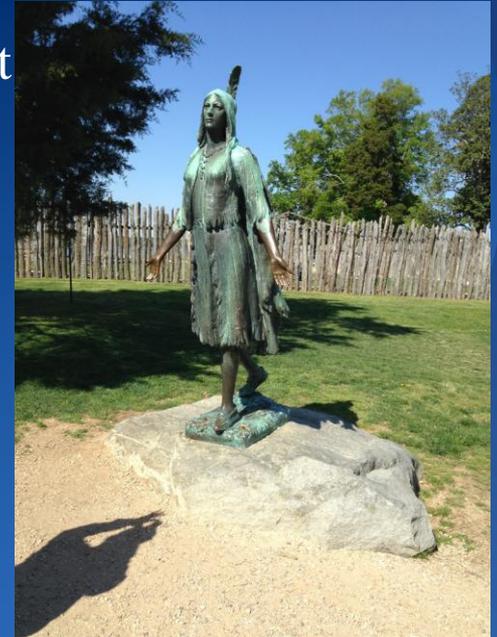
Psalm 77:11-14

America's Colonial Triangle: Jamestown



Remember...

- 1607, Virginia Company, first permanent English colony in America, failure
- Pocahontas, Powhatan Indian chief's daughter, Christian conversion, marriage to John Rolfe, visit to England



Williamsburg and Yorktown



Remember...

- 1699-1780, largest, most influential American colony, self-government and individual liberty, American leaders, ideas of independence/separation from England
- Last battle of Revolutionary War, Gen. George Washington, Gen. Lord Cornwallis, fog and floods, October 19, 1781, Victory Monument



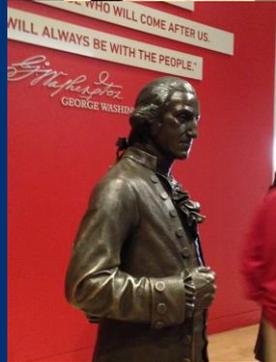
The Crucible of Liberty—Philadelphia or Valley Forge?

Remember...

- Character formed at Valley Forge, Baron von Steuben and the value of the drill
- British troops in Philadelphia, life of ease



Liberty and the Miracle at Philadelphia



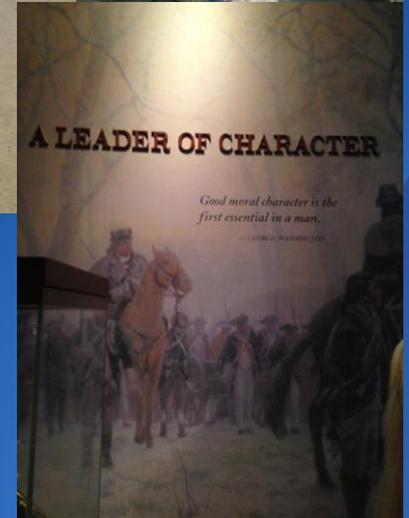
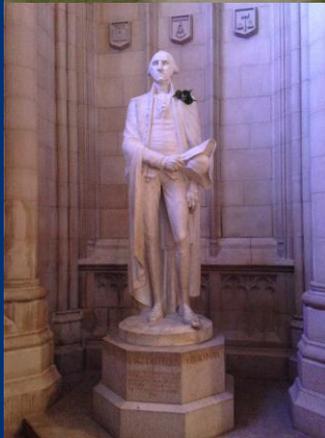
Remember...

- George Washington
- James Madison, “Resolved, that the Articles of Confederation ought to be corrected and enlarged as to accomplish common defense, security of liberty, and general welfare.”

George Washington

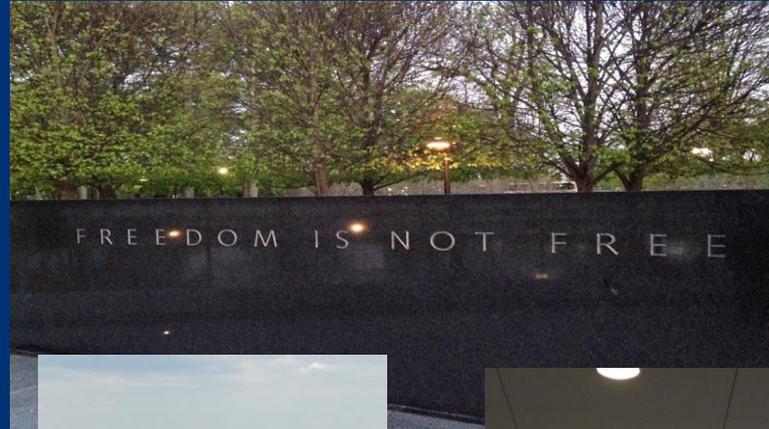
Remember...

- Visionary farmer
- Humble, father figure, leader who earned the respect of all who knew him, Navy ships on the Potomac



“A Republic... if you can keep it.”

Remember...



Admiring the Beauty of God's Creation

**Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The everlasting God, the Lord,
The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Neither faints nor is weary.
Isaiah 40:28**



In Conclusion...

We in America have come to a fork in the road...

Americans must choose:
liberty or security?

Historically, when people are faced with the choice of security or liberty, they choose security.



“What our fathers with so
much difficulty secured, do
not basely relinquish.”

William Bradford