

Macedonian Call

August 2014

Phone: 704-735-3287

Website: www.macedonianow.org

NOTE FROM PASTOR RANDY

On July 28th a 3-judge panel of the US Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit issued a 2-to-1 ruling finding Virginia's marriage statutes & Marriage Protection Amendment unconstitutional. Within two hours of the ruling, NC Attorney General Roy Cooper held a press conference stating that he would no longer oppose legal challenges seeking to overturn NC's marriage laws. Cooper stated, "After reviewing the 4th Circuit decision, consulting with attorneys here, I've concluded that the state of North Carolina will not oppose the cases moving forward. In addition, the State of North Carolina will acknowledge the 4th Circuit opinion that marriage is a fundamental right, & that our office believes that the judges in North Carolina are bound by this 4th Circuit decision." The AG said that continued efforts to defend NC's marriage laws would be "futile." AG Cooper has unilaterally relinquished the responsibility to fulfill the obligations of his office, namely, to uphold our state's constitution. Although some, like AG Cooper, are quick to surrender NC's marriage amendment protecting the sanctity of marriage, it hasn't yet been ruled unconstitutional. Sadly to say though, it probably will be only a matter of time. To date same-sex marriage proponents have won more than 20 legal decisions across the US since the Supreme Court struck down part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act in 2013. Nineteen states & DC now permit same-sex marriages. In response to the assault on God's design for marriage & family & the onslaught of law suits against organizations that oppose same-sex marriage, our church leadership believes it's necessary to take a definitive stand by incorporating a comprehensive statement on marriage & sexuality into our church's constitution & by-laws. We will present a "Statement on Marriage & Sexuality" in our August church conference. Copies of the statement will be made available 2 weeks prior. In addition, we'll be incorporating a stricter use policy for our church's facilities in an effort to protect us from future charges of discrimination from those who may want to use our facilities for same-sex weddings and/or receptions. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord & in the power of His might" (Eph. 6:10). ~ Pastor Randy

August 1st – 9th Pray for our team on mission in VT

SENIOR ADULT LUNCH

Thursday, Aug. 7th Noon in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, Aug. 16th – Faith & Family Night at the Crawdads Stadium in Hickory

Thanks to all who had a part in helping our Youth take a very beneficial mission trip in July. They returned with the assurance that God wants to and can use them in His service. David asks a question in Psalm 11:3, "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Seems kind of fatal, but is it? Think about it. David is answering a statement with a question that if answered correctly gives hope. Crumbling foundations cause despair and fatalism, which takes away the possibility of future buildings. So may I paraphrase? "When foundations for future development are crumbling and being worn thin is there anything God loving, spirit filled, Christ redeemed believers can do about it?" The answer is a resounding yes! Listen, hear the next verse. "The Lord is in His holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven." Remember God never throws up his hands in despair and says I don't know what to do. Remember, circumstances don't change God. He is unchanging and always able to carry out His plan if we (the righteous ones) will trust Him to work through us as we live out our faith. That is what I am encouraging our senior saints and our youth to do – Live out what you believe! No better time than the month of August to do it. Along with our seniors and youth grab a trowel and let's do what Nehemiah did, start rebuilding the foundations (Neh. 4:6). Let's get to work living it out loving Jesus. Picking up my trowel ~ Joe

I'm a Christian Now! August 7th, 10th & 17th

This course is designed to help children understand the decisions they have made to trust Jesus as Savior & what it means to live a Christian life. Join us Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm.

CARE NIGHT Wednesday, August 13th
Meal @ 6 pm & Ministry @ 6:30 pm

Saturday, August 23rd, Baptist Men's Breakfast 7:00 am
& Local Missions Day 8:30 am



Sunday, August 24th we will have the Lord's Supper in our morning worship service.

Sunday, August 31st - Baptismal Service in morning worship service. Those who have interest in being baptized see Pastor Randy.

Family Rec. Night at Pumpkin Center Community Center - Sunday, August 24th 5:00 – 8:00 pm