

Macedonian Call

August 2017



I have followed with great interest the story of 11-month-old Charlie Gard as his parents fought the judicial system in Great Britain, as well as the European court of human rights, to allow their son to be flown to the US for what they believed to be life-saving treatment. Charlie, who suffers from a rare genetic condition called mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome. Caused by a genetic mutation, it leads to weakened muscles and organ dysfunction, among other symptoms. Recent examination by a US doctor, who specializes in these kinds of illnesses, determined that Charlie has suffered significant loss of brain tissue. He has been on life-support in a London children's hospital since last October. Although Charlie's parents had raised enough money to bring Charlie to the US for treatment British courts and the European court of human rights have refused to allow them to do so. They have overridden Charlie's parents' rights to determine what's best for their own child. The state assumed the role of determining whether this child should live or die. That's appalling and should cause concern for every parent, not only in Great Britain, but also in the US. As I kept up with the plight of Charlie's parents against the strong arm of government, I was reminded of a project I did in a seminary ethic's class, and later presented at a national apologetics conference, on the topic of euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide. Charlie's case fits into the category of "active euthanasia," which is taking deliberate action to end life—the refusal of treatment. Just a few days ago Charlie's parents gave up their desperate attempts to bring Charlie to the US for treatment. They contend that the prolonged court battles added to Charlie's medical complications. Their hope for a cure has been diminished.

When the state is allowed to assign value to a human life, the unborn, the defenseless, the terminally ill, the handicapped and the elderly all citizens are at risk. This kind of thing harkens back to pre-WW2 Germany when the government of Adolf Hitler instituted the program called "Aktion T-4." Killing centers were opened throughout Germany to dispense of what they determined as unwanted and/or useless citizens including: the elderly, senile, mentally handicapped, disabled children, long-stay hospital patients, WW1 amputees, defective children, epileptics and bed-wetters. In this case judicial and government officials in Great Britain behaved much like the Nazi monster they struggled so valiantly to defeat. The Bible teaches that God is sovereign over life (Dt. 32:39; Ps. 24:1; Acts 17:28), no man has the moral right to kill the innocent (Gn. 9:6; Ex. 20:13) and God is sovereign over death (Job 14:5; Eccl. 3:1-2a; Heb. 9:27a). Pray for Charlie's parents. Pray that our nation, which has already sunk to the low of allowing government sanctioned abortions, will not follow Great Britain by usurping the rights of parents to seek medical treatment for their children.

~ Pastor Randy

Sunday, Aug. 6th we will receive nominations for deacons. These men will serve three-year terms. They must meet the qualifications of 1 Tim. 3:8-13 and have been members of MBC for at least one year. Deacons rotating off include Pee Wee Haynes, Bobby Rasar and Bradley Burgess. Currently serving deacons are Nelson Beam, Sammy Bean, Jack Bridges, Steve Jenkins, Mike Roark, Bob Rockman and Terry Stroud. None of these men are eligible for nomination. Please prayerfully consider your choices as you place names for nomination.



Every second Wednesday of each month is C.A.R.E. Night. C.A.R.E. is an acronym for "Christians

Actively Reaching Everyone." We have a meal each C.A.R.E. Night beginning at 6:00 pm and ministry opportunities follow at 6:30 pm. This month C.A.R.E. Night is August 9th. Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.



Children's Church is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade. They will meet this month on August 6th, 13th & 27th during our morning worship service.



Small Group Study
Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall



Sunday, August 20th @ 5:00 pm
Pumpkin Center Community Center
Games! Food! Fun! & Fellowship



Super Summer Sunday Nights!!!

Sundays @ 6:30 pm

Pre-K—6th Grade

Join us to learn from God's Word, worship and play fun games!!!



Men's Meeting
Saturday, Aug. 26th 7:00 am



TeamKID is designed for Kids in Discipleship! It features Bible memory games and application of Bible truths, engaging mission videos and activities, and fun activity-based learning all while helping your kids grow to be more like Jesus. Kids Pre-K through 6th grades are invited to TEAMKID each Wednesday at 6:30



SFBA Vermont Mission Trip
Aug. 25th—Sept. 2nd

Be in prayer for this team from our Association as they travel to do Mission work in Vermont with Steve & Nellene Carter

AWANA Clubs Begin Again Sunday, Sept. 10th @ 6:00 pm



3 years—6th grade

(must be 3 years old by Aug. 31st)

We are excited to announce a new Sunday School Class beginning Sunday, Sept. 3rd "Home Builders Class"

This class is for single, engaged or married young adults who are beginning to build their own lives, homes and families. The class will be led by Michael & Michelle Lippard.



AWANA Ministry Conference
Sept. 9th

8:45 am—4:30 pm

Concord First Baptist Church
No Cost to Volunteers—All Awana leaders and workers are encouraged to attend. Sign up by August 27th



Serving God By Serving Others

Our Youth did a great job serving faithfully during Mission Week

Youth Mission Week

Mark 10:45 *For the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve.....*



In days gone by, when I had a question I could not answer, I would make a trip to the library and usually spend several hours searching for the answer. But today there is Google! Type in your question and magically the answer appears in a matter of seconds. When considering writing this article I wanted it to be relevant. So I looked on my desk pad calendar to see if there were any holidays in August, but only one was listed. August 7th is Civic Holiday in Canada. No help. Then I remembered Google. Sure enough there were 19 different holidays. Everything from Aug. 1st, National Girlfriend Day to Aug. 4th, National Beer day, Aug. 13th, National Left Handers Day, Aug. 26th, National Hog Day. Also Aug. 5th is National Mustard Day just in case you want to ask off work! One meaning for holiday was, *a day set aside for celebration and specialness*. Someone once said "Every day is God's gift to you, what you do with it is your gift to God." Psalm 118:24 says *This is the day that the Lord has made, I will rejoice (celebrate) and be glad in it*. So let's let everyday in August be a day that we celebrate what our precious Lord has done for us. Think of someone each day that you can call or text and say "God bless you, I love and appreciate you." Maybe it will become a habit for Sept., Oct., Nov., etc. Love you all! ~ Pastor Joe



Sunday, Aug. 13th
6:00 pm @
Pastor Jeremy & Heidi's house

We want to invite as special guests all rising 7th graders!! Come be a part of our Youth Group!!!

JOY Ministry LOCK-IN

Friday, Aug. 11th
3:00—10:00 pm

Bowling, Dinner at the Blue Moon, then back to the fellowship hall for games, snacks, fellowship & fun!!!!



Sunday Evenings
@ 6:00 pm

Weekly Youth Bible Study
Wednesday @ 6:30 pm

Wednesday Night Study is geared to teach our youth how God's Word applies to our everyday lives.



Activity Schedule

- JOY Bible Study—Wednesdays at 10:30 am
- August Luncheon—Thursday, Aug. 3rd @ Noon in the Fellowship Hall
- Lock-In—Friday, Aug. 11th—3:00 –10:00 pm
- NC Zoo—Thursday, Sept. 21st—leave church @ 7:00 am