

Macedonian Call

February 2018

Several have asked and I'm certain many others in our congregation have wondered, "Are we going to have a Super Bowl Party this year?" Well, the answer to that question is a resounding, "No, we're not!" We've had Super Bowl Parties each year for the ten I've served as your pastor and I don't know how many years MBC hosted them before my arrival. The parties have provided great times of fellowship, opportunities for us to invite unchurched friends and share the Gospel with them during half-time and since we've added a chili cook-off to the mix, great food. However, due to the reluctance of many NFL players to stand during the national anthem in pre-game ceremonies this past season and the league's refusal to appropriately address the issue, our church council unanimously agreed not to host a Super Bowl Party this year. I believe it would be wrong for us to show support for those who have shown such disrespect toward our nation and, in essence, dishonor toward those who have fought and died under the "Star-Spangled Banner." Our nation's flag is more than pieces of dyed cloth stitched together. It stands for freedom and liberty. Those who have died defending those principles guaranteed those who kneel during the anthem the freedom to do so. They also gave me the freedom to express my views regarding such unpatriotic and ungrateful behavior.

Much to Denise's delight, I, like some of you, made a commitment not to watch a NFL game all season. I've stuck to that commitment, so I'm not going to make an exception for the "big game."

We will have our regularly scheduled Sunday evening activities on February 4th and I encourage you to be here for AWANA and Student Worship (6:00 pm) and Bible study (6:30 pm). ~ Pastor Randy



Journey Through the Story-line of Scripture

You are invited to join us for Sunday School each week at 9:45 am as we journey through the story-line of Scripture! We have classes available for everyone from nursery through senior adults. Make Sunday School a part of your Bible study life. Come each Sunday and bring a friend. Please contact our Sunday School Director, Brad Beam if you would like more information.



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 February 14th. Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.



Winter Bible Study

Wednesday's, Jan. 17th—Feb. 28th

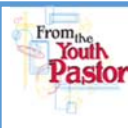
Our Winter Bible Study will be a source of encouragement as you face the increasing pressures of life, reminding you that you are foreigners in a distant land and that one day you will gain the privileges of your heavenly citizenship.

Region 8 Mission Rally, Monday, Feb. 12th at South River Baptist Church in Statesville. The rally will highlight the variety of opportunities NC Baptists have to be involved in missions across our state, in our nation and around the world. Featured will be worship, testimony, mission video, and a prayer time for missions. These rallies are for men, women and youth. Everyone interested in missions is encouraged to attend. A main focus of these rallies will be state, national, international partnerships and projects (including Disaster Relief). The meal will begin at 5:45 pm, followed by the program from 6:50 pm – 8:30 pm. Please **register by Feb. 5th**. Register by phone by calling Kailyn Eskridge at **919-459-5596** or online at <http://baptistmission.org/events/region-rallies>.



Women's Conference at the Lincolnton Civic Center—Saturday, Feb. 17th
9 am—3 pm - Tickets \$15
Boxed Lunches available for \$7

MEN'S MINISTRY
Men's Ministry Meeting
Saturday, Feb. 24th
@ 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall
We will have a light breakfast, mission & ministry updates, prayer and a brief Bible study.



Valentine's Day is usually the first thing that comes to mind when I think of February.

Valentine's Day is a fun holiday, but unfortunately, the world doesn't understand the true meaning of love. Love has been reduced to a feeling or force that sweeps you off your feet. This feeling is fun and exciting but also temporary and, in many ways selfish. Real love is a selfless commitment to another, no matter the cost or circumstance. Loving someone in this way is difficult because we make love about conditions and performance. Thank God that is not the case in how He loves us. Romans 5:8 says that "...God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us". It is only by experiencing this radical love of God that we become able to truly love others selflessly. Let this be the love you celebrate this Valentine's Day.
~
Pastor Jeremy

"God Loves You" Party

Friday, February 9th

6:00—8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Children's Church is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade.

They will meet this month on February 4th, 11th & 25th during our morning worship



AWANA – Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed - 2 Timothy 2:15

Awana Clubs reach kids through energetic game activities, Bible-based teaching, Bible memorization and small group time with friends.

AWANA Clubs meet Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center

3 years through 6th grade



Bible Drill
Each Sunday @ 4:30 pm
Children 4th—6th grade
Youth 7th—9th grades



Sunday Evenings
@ 6:00 pm

This is a service for our students to worship in song and hear preaching that directly addresses issues they face daily. It is a great time of fellowship and an opportunity for real spiritual growth. We hope to see all of our youth there!

Weekly Youth Bible Study

Wednesday @ 6:30

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



We as senior adults could have a great impact in 2018 on our church, community and most importantly, on our families. The trips, fellowships, activities, studies, etc. will give us encouragement and fun times, but they will not impact our church, community and families. They will primarily impact us seniors. In meeting with several of you on the 21st it was very evident that fun, food and fellowship are important, but something of greater importance is vital and desired. I was so encouraged that one of our JOY group motivated us to really get busy ministering, reaching out, and impacting the lives of others. We are working on some things in order to do this! But those of you reading this article who are not blessed yet to be part of this JOY group; you should also want to be involved in ministering to others. It starts not with a calendar of events and activities. It starts with the truth of each of our relationships with the Lord. So, look at Psalm 1:1-3. The answer is found there. In verse 1 we find we can have Joy, because of the fact that we, verse 2, Delight in Him, which brings Fruit in verse 3 which honors our great God! Having these three important things in our lives enables us to be involved in ministering. The end result is what the "JOY Ministry" is all about. ~ Pastor Joe

JOY Ministry Bible Study
Each Thursday at 11:00 am



Thursday,
February 1st
at Noon in the
Fellowship Hall