

Macedonian Call

January 2016

Phone 704-735-3287

Website www.macedonianow.org



For curiosity's sake, I recently visited a psychic website to see what predictions the purveyors of nonsense see in store for us in

2016. Here are some of their predictions:

- Massive earthquake in Himalayas causes dam to burst.
- Japanese island sinks beneath the sea – this will be a year with many sudden environmental changes. There will also be a bigger than ever disruption to the ice sheets.
- Unprecedented rainfall disrupts some of the Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- A comet/asteroid is missed by most astronomical observatories & comes close to Earth.
- International ISIS cell operates from Germany
- Gas attack in underground station.
- Commonly used food additive is conclusively proven as a cause of cancer.
- Donald Trump's bid for the Whitehouse if thwarted by illness. The last battle is neck and neck between Jeb Bush & Hillary Clinton. The republicans win after a sudden last minute change of republican candidates.

If things go as predicted, 2016's not going to be a banner year for anyone. But, then again, we have to consider the source of these predictions. Some of them may come true—the majority probably won't. Some will read stuff like this & become consumed with worry. Christians, however, should be different. Jesus said in Matthew 6:27 (NLT), "Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not." I'm looking forward to 2016. I believe that God has an abundance of blessings in store for our Macedonia church family, even if the world falls apart around us. He is in control. He is always at work. Happy New Year! ~ Pastor Randy

Wednesday, January 13th
CARE Night
Meal @ 6 pm & Ministry @ 6:30 pm

Embrace
 Women's Ministry

Friday, Jan. 15th all ladies are invited to "Pizza & Movie Night @ 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will see "War Room" and have a fun night of fellowship.

Sunday, January 24th
Baptist Men's Day
8:00 am – Quarterly Men's Breakfast
All men are invited for breakfast, mission & ministry updates and a time of fellowship.



Men will lead the morning worship service 11:00 am.

Hello Macedonia,

Well another year has come and gone.

Christmas is here and gone so fast but I hope the joy of our Savior's birth continues all year for each of you. During Christmas time, we get caught up in all the activities and we forget the point of those activities. Whether buying a gift, attending a party, or doing a program we just do it, just going through the motions many times. Much of it can be meaningless if we are not careful to intentionally stop and appreciate why we are doing things. If we are not careful, our whole lives can become the same hustle and race we fall into at Christmas. I am so guilty of rushing to the destination and not savoring the journey. One of the greatest distractions in our lives is our own business. It hinders our relationship with God, with others, and just stresses us out. We fight a spiritual war and one of our enemy's greatest tactics is using busyness to take our focus off what truly matters. I want to take time this year to savor everything. I am learning more and more to love the journey and appreciate the process that takes us to our goal. God is always at work and we need to take the time to marvel at the way "God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose". (Romans 8:28) In this New Year, take every opportunity to enjoy the things He has given including the suffering sometimes and celebrate the joy of Christ's birth all year long.

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:15-16 ~ Pastor Jeremy



Friday, January 8th at 6:30 pm
"Let it Snow Party"
In the Fellowship Hall



Women/Girls Conference
Saturday, January 30th
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Special Speaker:
Terri Broome



2016 Winter Bible Study
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Beginning Wed., Jan. 6th
Sign up at the Welcome Center



Can you believe it? It is 2016! I can remember when the year 2000 was only talked about in movies like Back to the Future and Star Wars. It was so futuristic! And now it not 2000 but 2016! Who would have ever thought? Our Heavenly Father did, not just think but He knew that this time would come. Some of you may be concerned what 2016 may bring. As we get older it is most important to remember that as great as our problems are GOD IS GREATER! Psalm 31:14-15 says (paraphrased) *"I trust in You no matter what because my times are (present tense, always) in Your hands"*. 2016 is in God's hands and you are in God's hands. I can promise you that there is no better place to live, whether in joy or in pain. David goes on to say in verse 20, "I will hide in the secret place of Your presence". So believe that and start living! The word secret is the same word used by Moses in Psalm 91:1, *"He that dwells in the secret place of the Most High"*. It means the commander tent. So this year because you dwell in the secret place, start a routine of witnessing to at least one person per week, read through the Bible, memorize a scripture each week, give a call of encouragement, or get involved in ministry. Trust God and watch what He can and will do in and through you.

Sovereign ruler of the skies, ever gracious, ever wise.

All my times are in Your hand, all events at Your command.

(Ryland)

In the Joy of the Lord ~ Pastor Joe



Weekly Bible Study - Thursdays @ 10:30 am

New study beginning Jan. 7th

"The Beatitudes" Matthew 5:1-12

*JOY Monthly Luncheon
Thursday, January 7th
Noon in the Fellowship Hall*

February at a Glance

- ❖ Each Thursday morning @ 10:30 am – JOY Bible