

Macedonian Call

July 2015

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A Note from Pastor Randy

The shootings which took place in Emanuel AME Zion church in Charleston, SC was a horrific & heartbreaking display of the presence and power of evil. As days have passed since that evening when nine Bible study members were gunned down by one who had been welcomed into their group, there has been an abundance of explanations about why and how such a tragedy could happen. Gun control proponents cry out for stricter laws. Anti-Confederate flag activists push legislation to remove it from public view. Perhaps you heard the suggestion that pastors should pack pistols when they're in the pulpit. Really???

Our enthusiasm to find blame & hold someone or something accountable rather than the perpetrator of these kinds of tragedies is often misguided & ridiculous. Bottom line, Dylann Roof is the epitome of evil. I did hear one well-known news commentator identify Roof's actions as evil. He then concluded that there is no cure for evil. There is. One family member of Roof's victims made that clear as he challenged Roof during a weapon possession hearing. He urged Roof to give his life to Christ. He told Roof that then he'd be okay. Evil is real. It exists. God will eliminate it one day. But until then the only "cure" for evil is the more powerful, life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ. ~ Pastor Randy

Ronald Reagan said "America is too great for us to have small dreams. " I believe if you had asked President Reagan what he meant, he would have been quick to respond by explaining that with the freedom we have as Americans, we are free to achieve whatever we need if we work hard, study hard, and stay committed to what we want to accomplish. We are able to enjoy privileges that most people don't have in order to make our dreams come true. Being an American is great! But there is something greater than being an American and having opportunities in our lives. It is being a born again Christian and having not a dream, but a hope. This is a hope that is sure and steadfast (Heb. 6:19), an anchor of our soul that gives us the opportunity to be even greater Americans. We have the best of both worlds, America and Heaven! The dreams in America can't come close to what our hope now and then in heaven will offer us. Let's make a commitment to keep loving our country but looking for and loving our Lord more. ~ Pastor Joe



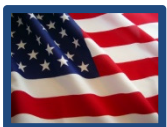
Beginning Wednesday

July 15th

"Rebuilding Your Broken World"

DVD driven small group study

led by Chip Ingram Based on James 1, this study will help you learn God's plan to help rebuild your broken world by redefining how you view and respond to trials, temptations and discouragements.



July 4th 2015

(No Regularly Scheduled Activities at the church during the week of June 30th – July 4th)

July 5 - 10

Youth Summer Camp
"Mission Week"



Wednesday, July 8th

CARE Night

Meal at 6:00 pm - Ministry at 6:30 pm

Please join us for an evening of
Ministry, Outreach & Fellowship



Youth will go to Cook Out in
Lincolnton following worship & Bible
study at 6:00 pm Sunday, July 19th



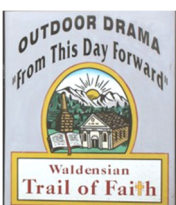
Saturday, July 25th

Help our young people earn
Money to purchase items for the
Appalachian Backpack Ministry

Men's Quarterly Breakfast

Sunday, July 26th at 8:00 am

All men are invited to this time of fellowship and
to become informed on mission and ministry
opportunities.



Senior Adult Trip
Friday, July 10th
Waldensian Trail of Faith
1:30 pm - 11:00 pm
"Experience the Journey"

Children's Church
July 5th, 12th, & 26th

