

Macedonian Call

July 2019



On June 6, 1944 American, British and Canadian troops aligned to establish five beach heads on the coast of Normandy in northern France. This tremendous show of strength against Hitler's Nazis consisted of 5,333 Allied ships and landing craft putting 132,715 men ashore. About 3,400 were killed or went missing & approximately 8,500 others were wounded. Air assets included 3,958 heavy bombers, 1,234 medium and light bombers, and 4,709 fighters. Allowing for aircrews, 7,774 U.S. and British Commonwealth planes were available for operations on 6 June, but these figures do not include transports and gliders. The night before the invasion, known as D-Day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had been on the radio announcing that Allied troops had liberated Rome. The president took to the airwaves the next evening to announce the invasion. This past June marked the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. During the celebration, President Trump read aloud a prayer written by President Roosevelt. The prayer was originally titled "Let Our Hearts Be Stout." It was included in Roosevelt's remarks on June 6, 1944.

My Fellow Americans: Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our Allies were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far. And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join with me in prayer:

Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity. Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith. They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph. They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest -- until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violences of war. For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home. Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom. And for us at home -- fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of

brave men overseas, whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them -- help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice. Many people have urged that I call the nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts. Give us strength, too -- strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces. And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keeness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment -- let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose. With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace -- a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil. Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen."

Regardless of what you might think of FDR, this is one of the most eloquent and heart-felt prayers for our nation that's ever been uttered on our behalf. One can't help but think the reaction a president would receive if he or she were to offer up such a prayer publicly on media outlets today. I imagine the coverage would be sparse, if at all. And, the collective outrage from organizations like the ACLU, Freedom from Religion Foundation, etc. would be endless, sparking a multitude of lawsuits proclaiming the prayer as a violation between "church and state." We would no doubt see countless adherents of other belief systems demanding equal time and access. As this scenario plays out in my mind I am reminded of the repeated phrase of King David as he mourned over the deaths of Saul and Jonathan: "How the mighty have fallen" (2 Sam. 1:19, 25, 27). I don't mean this in reference to the mighty who gave their lives in defense of our nation on D-Day. I mean it in reference to our collective nation today. How far we have fallen from Almighty God! May we once again look to Him with such passion and sincerity. ~Pastor Randy



CARE

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 July 10th. Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.



Journey Through the Story-line of Scripture in Sunday School @ 9:45 am. We have classes for everyone nursery through senior adults.



Vermont Mission Trip

July 26th—August 3rd

Keep this group in prayer as they minister in Vermont.



Men's Meeting
Saturday, July 27th @ 7:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall.

Join us for a light breakfast, mission & ministry updates, prayer and a brief Bible study!



Churchwide Family Fun Night
Sunday, July 21st
5:00 pm
hamburgers, hot dogs, games
& lots of fun!!!



Sunday School

"Gold Panning Expedition"

Saturday, July 6th – Noon – 4:00 pm

1st grade – 6th grade, Youth & any adults interested are invited!



Thank you to everyone who made our children's camp to South Mountain and this year's VBS possible. Our trip to South Mountain was so much fun, your prayers and monetary support were greatly appreciated. Your investment in our children's ministry is an eternal investment in the life of a child. It's also because of you that we can minister to our community through VBS. Vacation Bible School can be a long, hard yet very rewarding week and sometimes we forget why we do it. We do this to advance the Kingdom and glorify God. You may never know how a message shared, a kind word spoken, or listening to the concerns of a child will impact them forever but God knows. Don't ever forget why we do what we do or grow tired of doing good. It's not for large crowds or man's approval but that the name of the Lord will be lifted high and that these young people know that we serve a God who truly is good. Thank you so much for your support of our youth and children's ministry here at Macedonia.

~ Pastor Jeremy

Children's Church is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade. They will meet this month on July 7th, 14th & 28th during our morning worship service.

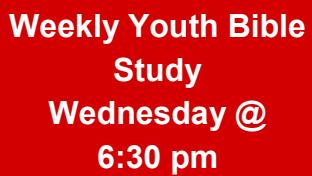


Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

All kids pre-k—6th grade



**Sunday Evenings
@ 6:30 pm in the
Youth Room**



Serving God By Serving Others

**Mission Mondays Ju-
ly 15, 22, 29 & August 6
Opportunities to serve
God and show His love in
our community!**



Think about it. In just a few days of writing this article America will be 243 years old. Isn't that great! This sounds so old, but guess what? Greece is over 4,000 years old. China is about the same. France is along with Japan, only 2500 now, compared to those countries infant! She is a young country and what some seem to think, which I she has seen her best days! Yes, even struggles of all kinds from racial fractions, class distinctions, religious and other divisions. But she has many want to move her forward and many die for in order to keep our freedom and our Christian values! I know that those who desire to take them away or our expression for our values. But I'll have this right! Our best days can come if we spend more time praying for than criticizing it. We need to exercise our Great God and commit ourselves to believing Him to send revival through me in "making America great" from

~ Pastor Joe



Super Summer Sundays

6:30 pm each week
Pre-K—6th Grade



JOY Ministry Weekly Bible Study

Thursdays at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

(We will not meet Thursday, July 4th)

Upcoming JOY Events

- July Movie Night
 - August Beauty & the Beast Play @ Lincoln Cultural Center
Movie “Overcomer”
 - September Catawba Queen Riverboat Tour
 - October Shatley Springs