

# Macedonian Call

## March 2022



### A Note From Pastor Randy

For weeks the world watched and waited to see what Vladimir Putin's next move would be toward Ukraine. Was he bluffing to draw attention to himself and Russia? Was he blackmailing the NATO countries in order to get what he wanted? Or, was he simply being the ruthless, two-bit dictator the world has come to know? By all appearances, on Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, the latter proved to be true. Early on that morning images of rubble from Ukrainian buildings began to appear more frequently on the news. Pictures of bloodied and bandaged innocent citizens flashed across the screen. Rumbles of artillery fire echoed behind on-the-ground reporters. We may ask ourselves, "How could someone order the overwhelming force of his nation's military to destroy the homes, places of business and employment, markets and lives of innocent, mostly defenseless people?" The answer is, of course, evil exists in this world. Vladimir Putin is the epitome of evil. While politicians, including our own president, clamor for "global peace," it will never come until Jesus Christ returns to rule and reign on this earth. Until then, according to Jesus Himself, "*You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. . . .*" (Matt. 24:6-7a, NKJV). Theologian, John Walvoord observed: "The centuries since Jesus have recorded many wars. The 20<sup>th</sup> Century itself has had two world wars and almost continual warfare in one part of the world or another.

Though WWI and WWII were fought to end wars, the end is not yet. Even worldwide wars are not specifically a sign of the end; they are a sign of progress, because the end age will fulfill still another prediction of a world war that will be underway just before Christ's second coming (Rev. 16:13-16). We (the world) are steadily marching toward the end. What can we do while we wait? *Stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong* (1 Cor. 16:13); *devote ourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful* (Col. 4:2); *pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace* (2 Tim. 2:22); *go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything [that Jesus has] commanded [us]* (Matt. 28:19-20a). And, by the way, we aren't alone. He has promised to always be with us (Matt. 28:20b).

Blessings ~ Pastor Randy

John F. Walvoord, *Major Bible Prophecies: 37 Crucial Prophecies That Affect You Today* (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 1991), 255.



Sunday, March 20th

Sam Nadler

"The Lamb Through Scripture"

11 am worship service

### Essential Truth: Knowing Christ Personally

In this study we will talk about ... Who God is really... how to respond to Him...relating to Jesus and the Holy Spirit...life and death... freedom...faith...temptations...staying real... and what makes life worth living!

Each Wednesday at 6:30 pm



### A Note From Susan

Soli Deo Gloria

Soli Deo Gloria is one of the important doctrines emphasized during the Protestant Reformation. The Latin word soli means “alone” or “only” and the phrase Deo Gloria means “the glory of God.” So, Soli Deo Gloria means “to the glory of God alone.” There is no room for the glory of man in God’s plan for salvation. The glory is God’s alone. Jesus said, “Apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). If it were possible for someone to attain salvation through the works of the Law, then he would have something to boast of (Romans 4:2); but it is impossible. We cannot save ourselves. We who were dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1) could do nothing to help ourselves toward life. But, praise the Lord, “the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23). The glory is God’s, not ours. This month, Laura will be singing a musical selection entitled Soli Deo Gloria. As you listen and worship, I pray that you will make Soli Deo Gloria your motto for your daily walk with the Lord. Praising Him ~ Susan

desiringGod.org, To the Glory of God Alone, Soli Deo Gloria

Ligonier.org, Soli Deo Gloria: God Alone Be the Glory, Soli Deo Gloria



### A Note From Ashley

I hope the new year has treated you all well, I cannot believe we are already entering the third month of 2022. This month I would love to continue the discussion of how we as believers can better serve the kingdom of God. So far we have gone through methods of worship and discipleship; this month I would love to explore evangelism. We have reached my favorite method to build the Church in order to be the salt and light of the world. Evangelism is necessary because students need to learn how to engage with others and present the gospel in a clear, conversational way. Evangelism is probably the most difficult spiritual discipline because it requires believers to step out of their comfort zone. Discipleship allows you to stay in your social circle while evangelism asks you to be brave and approach people of a contrary faith background.

Evangelism is the first step to building the Church and the kingdom of God. ‘Making disciples’ is the main task from the Great Commission or in Mark 16:15 when he commands, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation”. The gospel is to be spread and if you are truly successful in your delivery it will plant a seed in the hearts of non-believers. A lot of times it can be easy to make a host of excuses to avoid evangelism. You could say to yourself “ I do not have time for that” or “I am too shy to talk to strangers”. I have said that to myself before. But we all know that fear is a tool used by the Devil. Self-doubt is a huge barrier to evangelism. If we allow fear to set our path we will never get anywhere. This life is temporary, we only have so much time. If we are truly seeking and following Christ we have to spread his message.

The first step to evangelism is fairly simple. Glorify God with your actions and share the love of Christ with others. We have to represent Christ in everything we do, not just on Sundays and Wednesdays. Showing kindness to a passer-by in a grocery store, handing a bag of goodies to a member of the homeless community and sharing a conversation with them, or volunteering at a local food bank are some easy ways to be able to practice evangelism. We simply must take a leap of faith and be courageous. Philippians 4:6-7 states, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”. Prayer and petition are crucial in evangelism; the Spirit will guide you in what to say we just have to be willing to listen. Step out of your comfort zone this month and watch what doors God will open for the Gospel of Christ. Blessings to you and your family ~ Ashley



#### Monthly “Ladies Night”

Thursday, March 10th @ 7:00 pm

Kelcey Robinson’s house

Devotion, craft, desserts & coffee

All ladies are invited to join us!!!



#### Monthly Meeting

Saturday, March 19th @ 7am in the Fellowship Hall

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



#### 2022 Missions Conference

March 25-26

Calvary Baptist Church, Winston Salem, NC

speakers



SHELIA WALSH



LEE STROBEL



LAURA STORY



TOM RICHTER



BRYAN LORITTS

You are invited to join us for Sunday School each week at 9:45 am. Classes are available nursery through senior

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE.



**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 Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the large Youth Room.  
3 years through 6th grade

**Bible Drill - 4th—6th grade**  
**Sundays @ 5pm in the Fellowship Hall**



**4.2.4**

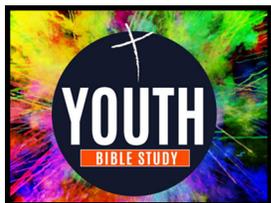
4.2.4 is worship designed for children 4 yrs.—4th grades. The goal of 4.2.4 is to help children know Jesus and grow in loving fellowship with Him. 4.2.4 meets during worship service at 11 am



**Unite Conference**  
**7-12 Grades**  
**March 4-5**  
**Shelby, NC**



**“Poor Man’s Lunch”**  
**Sunday, March 20th**  
following morning worship service. All donations will help with cost of our students summer camp trip to Caswell



**Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm**  
**7th—12th Grades**



**Youth Bowling**  
**March 18th 6:00 pm**  
**(Dinner will be provided)**



**A Note From Pastor Joe**

Dr. J Vernon McGee teaching from Genesis 2 on marriage, “They shall be one flesh,” says you can readily see this in a baby a couple produces. That baby imitates its mother and father. When that little baby is lying there all peaceful with a sweet little smile you see her mother, but when she is screaming and pitching a fit because of hunger you see her father. Two parents, one baby, one flesh and the baby grows up imitating the parents. That is who she lives with, she can’t help it. What about us? Do we imitate our heavenly Father? According to Ephesians 5:1 we are to do exactly that! Paul says, “Be imitators of God.” The English word is mimic, always used suggesting a constant habit or practice. I truly believe that one of the reasons that our Joy Ministry has such a great fellowship and a lot of fun is that most of our people know Christ and have been practicing mimicking Him for a long time. We love being together because we learn through our talking, laughing, watching, waiting for our food, and just plain old fellowship with each other. We learn more and more about who our Father is and what our time in eternity is going to be like. So let’s all keep on staying close to Him and each other so we can show our world what being one with our heavenly Father is all about.

Until April ~ Pastor Joe

**Ministry Activities**



**JOY Ministry Bible Study**  
**Each Thursday at 11:00 am**

**Tuesday, March 8th Serving at East Lincolnton Christian Ministry. Meet at the church @ 8:30 am**  
**Lunch following at a local restaurant**

THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL IS FORGIVENESS

**SABINA**  
TORTURED FOR CHRIST  
THE NAZI YEARS



**Friday, March 4th @ 6:30 pm in the Worship Center**  
the JOY Ministry presents a Voice of the Martyrs movie, “Sabina.”  
*They killed her entire family. She risked everything to share the love and truth of Christ with them!*