



St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church

See Y'all

Easter

Sunday!

Heil



June 25, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I write today to share my great admiration for the courage and conviction of your leadership during the past week in the wake of the Charleston mass shooting. As our state begins the long and painful process of recovery, you have helped lay foundational principles that will be crucial in our efforts to move toward healing; a process that necessarily addresses the terror and horror of what took place at Mother Emanuel AME church, yet moves beyond that tragedy to nurture the beginnings of healing throughout our state.

Particularly commendable are your efforts to have our legislature act to remove the Confederate battle flag from the State House grounds. As a proud South Carolinian, I appreciate the traditions and heritage that is ours to embrace and to pass to future generations. As a Christian, however, I oppose those stumbling blocks that impede our progress toward the beloved community that is the vision of people of all good will – especially those who follow Christ.

All this to say I am especially proud of you, and want you to know that your church home away from home prays for you and gives God the glory for the ways you exemplify that love in your vocation.

Respectfully and lovingly your servant,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rev. Neil M. Yongue Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Rev. Neil M. Yongue Jr.
Sr. Pastor