

From: Jeff Kersey <Jeff@mthorebumc.com>
To: Mottel, HaleyHaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov
Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov
Date: 12/1/2015 6:37:13 PM
Subject: FW: Your State Tree Lighting Prayer of Invocation

I wanted to share this good word. Thank you for all your hard work in pulling together a very meaningful Tree Lighting Service. We are blessed to have a great Governor and her hardworking dedicated staff.

God bless!

Jeff

From: Bud Moss [mailto:budmoss@icloud.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 7:35 AM
To: Jeff Kersey <Jeff@mthorebumc.com>
Subject: Your State Tree Lighting Prayer of Invocation

Pastor,

My family and I attended the tree lighting at the state house last night. Though we are life-long South Carolinians, we had never had the opportunity to go, but we are certainly glad that we did for a number of reasons, not the least of which was the fact that Christ was exalted in nearly every aspect of the night. Though I anticipated a very ecumenical (even secular) night, I did not see that at all. In fact, I was able to worship the Lord through nearly every song sung and every word prayed.

And that leads me to the purpose of this email. Though I realize that you must sing the words of the Christmas hymns, it is often easy to "tone" down the event with a very generalized prayer. So I must admit that I anticipated what I often hear at public venues when you came to pray, which is often a prayer to an "unknown god" (Acts 17:23). However, your invocation was none of that sort. You offered a prayer that pointed to Jesus Christ as the Sovereign Lord of this universe. You offered a prayer that pointed to Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation in this evil world. And you offered a prayer that pointed to Jesus Christ as the whole point of the Christmas season and the whole point of redemptive history. And all of that prayer was offered in the shadow of our state capital building and in front of 1000s of men, women, and children in attendance. Thank you for your faithfulness to honor the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for your courage to pray the truth when so many prefer not to hear it. Thank you for proclaiming Christ publicly when it would be so easy not to do it.

I am sure we share theological differences, but last night I was grateful that we share the same view of the supremacy, authority, and preeminence of Christ in all things. My heart was greatly encouraged by your example, and more importantly, the Lord was honored by your prayer. May your reward in heaven be great.

Many blessings to you and your ministry,

Bud Moss

Pastor

Pine Grove Baptist Church

235 Pine Grove Road

Leesville, SC 29070

803.657.5737

"The true gospel is a call to self-denial. It is not a call to self-fulfillment."

