

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jay Ahlemann

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FREEDOM MEMORIAL PARK

*A place for **remembrance**, a place for **tribute**, a place for **honor**.*

Press Statement

Pastor Jay Ahlemann and The Church of The Valley Invite You to Attend

***The Preview Opening & Ribbon-Cutting for Freedom Memorial Park
Saturday, September 29, 2007 ■ Ceremony to Commence at 2:00 PM***

- Event Held in Rain or Shine -



The focal point of Freedom Memorial Park at dusk – three crosses and two U.S. flags combine to symbolize freedom, liberty, sacrifice and love. Center cross – 150' feet high. Adjacent crosses – 125' feet high. Flags – 125' feet high.

Freedom Memorial Park – Prominently, visually situated in the Shenandoah Valley in the center of Interstate 81 at Exit 296, and just a short drive west of the nation's capital, Freedom Memorial Park is rapidly becoming known as a one-of-a-kind local landmark and is destined to become a national point of interest. The memorial was conceived and is designed to be a place where everyone, regardless of age, background, culture and faith, may come to reflect, to remember and to honor.

Freedom Memorial Park is currently under development and is slated to feature three monumentally-sized crosses, the image of supreme sacrifice and love, rising to 150 feet above the valley floor of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Two U.S. flags, the most cherished symbol of freedom and liberty for America, fly majestically alongside at 125 feet in height. Upon completion, the park will include gardens, reflection pools, fountains, and landscaped walkways complete with thousands of engraved brick pavers donated in honor and in memory of friends and loved ones. Each of these elements will combine to create a setting that will foster renewed hope, healing and reconciliation to the human spirit.

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On September 29, 2007 at 2:00 PM, Freedom Memorial Park, prior to its completion, will hold a special preview opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony. The men and women of our U.S. armed forces, our law enforcement, our firefighters, and our emergency first responders, who are the first line of defense for America's fight for liberty and freedom around the world, will be recognized and celebrated. (This event will be held rain or shine)

According to founding representative and spokesperson for the park, Pastor Jay Ahlemann, who is also the Senior Pastor of Church of the Valley congregations in Shenandoah Valley and in Loudoun County, "Freedom Memorial Park sets a new standard for innovative design and inspiration. Numerous paths and walkways, showcasing engraved commemorative bricks, will wind gently throughout the memorial. Fountains, flowering plants and pedestrian benches will create a memorial journey of personal discovery and contemplation."

Ahlemann continues, "The landscape and plantings that are planned for the park are designed to form intimate outdoor spaces, in contrast to the massive crosses and flag structures. Some of the spaces of the park will be designed to be more secluded allowing for private reflection and tranquility becoming an essential part of the memorial experience for anyone who visits."

Although the park is still not completed, the night-time atmosphere and character of the memorial is already quite dramatic. Ahlemann adds that, "At night, the park will be designed with low-lighting along the walkways sufficient for pedestrian traffic and safety. The crosses and flags, which act as the central, unifying element of the memorial, will be raised well above the pedestrian levels of the park and will be heightened further by brilliant illumination making for a striking and lasting impression which can be seen for miles from 3 different counties in the Shenandoah Valley. Words cannot describe the magnificence of the presence of the crosses and flags when lit at night. To fully appreciate the character of the memorial, one really must see it first-hand."

Freedom Memorial Park is currently under development and will continue to take shape throughout the coming months. To learn more about the future plans, design and advancement of this most important memorial, please contact 540.598.8601 or 540.465.2413 or visit the web site at www.FreedomMemorialPark.net.

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