

Info from CBC March 2018

Newsletter

“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it” (Matt. 16: 24-25). These words haunt me, propel me and influence all of my thoughts and actions as a believer in Jesus Christ. They are my starting point and finish line. I am convinced this is the Magna Carta of the Christian life. This teaching will keep us from drifting into an ego-driven Christianity that is dressed up with all the religious trappings that make us look and sound “spiritual”.

First, notice it is conditional. Jesus sets out there for anyone who will see. It is not a pretty picture of church, Sunday school and field trips. It is a gut wrenching tearing away of the self and carrying our coffin. The Lord Jesus says “if anyone would come after me”. To follow Him will cost us everything. If He calls us to mission that involves sacrificing time with our family, we must go. If one does not want that, then go follow someone else. If He calls us to a mission that puts our job secondary, then we must go. If He calls us to mission that calls us to miss our favorite team playing a HUGE game, we have a choice. That word “if” holds the key. If we want Him and His mission, it is all about sacrifice. This should cause us to reflect and look deep inside our heart to our motives. Are we willing to give our life to Him? Or are we holding on tightly to it, which prevents the stripping away of ourselves? The denying of self only takes place when we plunge into following Him. We cannot follow Him and build the self. Those two things are mutually exclusive. When I am confronted with Christ every day, every minute I see all my true colors and myself, and I have a choice. Do I continue to build my empire of self, or am I willing to sacrifice it to His cross and really find myself in Christ? What could we do if we took off the robe of self? What could we do if we humbled ourselves? What legacy would we leave if we really followed Christ?

The answer to that question was illustrated to all of us this week. On Wednesday, Billy Graham went to be with the Lord after 99 years of serving

and following our Lord. I heard him say in an interview that his biggest pain was that he could not be with his family like he wanted. If he had chosen that wonderful family over the call and mission God had for him, there would be no Billy Graham to talk about. He made the incredible sacrifice to bring Millions into the Kingdom.

At this past prayer meeting at church, I asked the folks to share their Billy Graham story. The amazing thing is everyone had one. My favorite is my wife’s story. In 1950’s, Billy Graham came to Columbia, SC for a crusade. In the crowd was a hurting and searching young man named Boyd Berry. When “Just As I Am” started playing, he went forward and gave his life to Christ. That man was my wife’s dad. That changed their family and our family forever.

The story does not end there. Some 30 years later, Boyd Berry was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease. Billy Graham was coming back to Columbia in 1987. The Make A Wish foundation wanted to give Mr. Boyd Berry something in his last days. His response was humbling and puts all of life in perspective. He said, “I want to meet the man who introduced me to Jesus.” So on the first night of the crusade with his family around him, he met Billy Graham with tears flowing down his face and his family gathered all around.

What a profound moment of denying yourself and the impact it will have on you and all who will come in contact with you. The driving force of our life cannot be family, job, money, social position, or talent. It must be a life surrendered fully to the Lordship of Christ. When that happens, we will decrease, and He will increase. What will your life look like when you do that? I can’t wait to see because I’m on that journey with you.

Just a servant,
Pastor Mike

Calendar of Events

- 1** SBA Executive Meeting/CBC FLC/6:00 pm
4-11 Week of Prayer for North American Missions/Annie Armstrong Offering
11 Daylight Saving Time begins
Youth Flashlight Egg Hunt
(see announcement)
12 Ladies' Night/CBC FH/6:00 pm
13 Deacons Meet/7:00 pm
17 Youth Day Trip to Frankie's Fun Park
18 15th Annual Chili Cook-off/CBC FH/6:15 pm
24 TWB Clothing Sale/CBC FLC (Details TBA)
25 Children's Easter Egg Hunt
(see announcement)
Camp deposits due
30 Good Friday/ Church Office Closed

Looking Forward to April

- (1) Easter (2-6) Spring Break
(10) Deacons Meet (21) Striped Bass Festival (22) Earth Day (29) 5th Sunday /Combined Worship/Dinner

Workers for March

Audiovisual:

- 3.4** E. Terry Gaff, Rob Hussey
L. Rob Hussey, Will Thomas
3.11 E. Colin Gaff, Bryson Woodard
L. Mark Evans, Grayson Harrelson
3.18 E. Cory McWhite, Mack Mutchler
L. Chuck Goff, Mack Mutchler
3.25 E. Terry Gaff, Rob Hussey
L. Rob Hussey, Will Thomas

Nursery:

- 3.4** E. Adrienne McCabe
L. Beth Lyles
3.11 E. Adriene Jones
L. Erica Hodge
3.18 E. Jordan Price
L. Linda Pierce
3.25 E. Adriene Jones
L. Dawn Harrelson

Toddlers' Church (ages 2 thru 4):

- 3.4** Adriene Jones
3.11 Effie Russell
3.18 Nancy Mitchum
3.25 Kim Gardner

Children's Church (K5 – 8-yrs. old):

- 3.4** Pastor Jon Jones
3.11 Lauren Lee
3.18 Lynn Beatson
3.25 Pastor Jon Jones

Building Attendant: Justin Woodard

Flowers: All Sundays are open.

Ushers: Bobby Pierce, Aaron Powell, Chris Price, John Smith, Scott Tanner, Bryson Woodard, Justin Woodard, Johnny Baker

Prayer Ministry

Ann Barwick, Lynn Evans, Mark & Sandy Evans, Carl Gamble, Joey Godwin, Ed Hinson, Jim & Juanita Hunter, Carter Jones, Steve Lowe, Gail Richardson, Shaun Richburg, David Young

February Monthly Records (4th – 18th)

Avg. Sunday School Attendance: 127
Avg. Worship Attendance:
8:45 – 67 11:00 - 109
Monthly Offering Total: \$17,835.92
Building Fund: \$192,833.14

Encouragement Opportunities

Faith Promise Missionary Family:

Peter & Melody Morris (*Lindsay*)

9151 Drake Drive

St. John, IN 46373

Peter: 219.779.1389

Melody: 219.779.1388

petermorris@fbmi.org

Student of the Month:

Lauren Gardner

8598 Sumter Hwy.

Alcolu, SC 29001

Shut-in of the Month:

Jessie McCabe
2031 Tearcoat Road
Alcolu, SC 29001
803.473.2426

Camp Longridge

July 23-27

(current 2nd gr. – 6th gr.)

Deposit of \$50 due March 25th

Balance due by May 27th

Members: \$93

Non-members: \$235

Happy Birthday

If we have missed your birthday, please call the church office so that we can add your name to our birthday list.

Please take questions to Pastor Jon.

Happenings

Youth Falshlight Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 11

Immediately following AWANA.

Home of Wayne & Deborah Ward.

Ladies' Night

Monday, March 12 ~ CBC FH ~ 6 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Yolanda C. Junious

Class 3 Officer & Victims Advocate w/the Clarendon County Sheriff's Dept.

Ladies, please bring a salad or finger food to share.

Plan to attend and invite a friend!

Point Person: Karen DeCosta

Youth Day Trip to Frankie's Fun Park

Saturday, March 17

Columbia, SC

Point Person: Pastor Jon Jones

15th Annual CBC Chili Cook-off

Sunday, March 18

Following AWANA in the CBC FH

If you can stand the heat, then come compete!

TWB Clothing Sale

Saturday, March 24 ~ CBC FLC

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Gently used clothing items – all sizes – and shoes.

Baked goods and other food items will be for sale.

All proceeds will go to the CBC Building Fund.

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 25

5:30 p.m. (modified AWANA schedule that evening)

Home of Wayne & Deborah Ward

5th grade & under

Point Person: Pastor Jon Jones

- 1** Erica Hodge
Steve Lowe
- 2** Lila Sue Thompson
- 6** Elizabeth Ann Geddings
- 7** Connie Burke
Brad Pelfrey
Effie Russell
- 8** Kathy Lee
- 10** Maybin Gardner
- 11** Aiden Thompson
- 13** Denise Jones
- 14** Stormy Coulette
Tory Coulette
- 15** Jason Woodbury
- 16** Lani-Grace Powell
- 17** LaCosta King
- 18** Paul Taylor
- 21** Lee Stevens
- 24** Mac Eaddy
Christian Hussey
- 26** Mary Jo Jones
Tommy Thompson
- 27** Karen DeCosta
- 29** Chuck Goff
Dale Thomas
- 30** J Eaddy

Camp is coming soon!

SummerSalt at White Oak

June 11-15

(current 6th gr. – 12th gr.)

Deposit of \$50 due March 25th

Balance due by May 27th

Members: \$80

Non-members: \$210

Operation Christmas Child

Thinking about buying Christmas is far from our minds right now! We are collecting anything you see that can go in our shoeboxes. There is a Christmas box in the back of the Church in the Mallie Alderman SS class as a drop off. We also collect unopened toys from kid's meals. Maybe you are not a shopper; please consider donating to the OCC Fund - just make sure you write OCC on the memo line of your check so it will go into right account.

Any questions, please call me! *Mary Jo Jones*

Daylight Saving Time

Spring forward an hour before you go to sleep on Saturday, March 10th.

Together We Build Campaign

Thank you for the continued support and enthusiasm!

"All things are possible to those who believe."

Mark 9:23

Ongoing Ministries

Harvest Seeds

Collecting Sunday school literature, devotionals, and other religious material to send to brothers and sisters who faithfully labor in the vineyard with limited resources. *Sunday School classes, don't forget to turn in last quarter's materials to the church office!* Point person: *Karen DeCosta*

Donations for Ukraine

Collecting warm, gently used children's clothes to send to Dr. & Mrs. Crane to be used in their ministry with Ukrainian orphans.

Point person: Harriet Locklair