

Info from CBC September 2015 Newsletter

PRIORITIES

I cannot stand the sidelines, the “nosebleed” seats or the back row. I really do not like being at the back of the line on amusement park rides or at the dreaded DMV. However, I realize that at church the natural drift is “I’ll let someone else do it” or “I’ll just stay in the background.” It is almost like church ministry is not the priority. For other things, we will sacrifice because they are at a higher priority. For example, we will pay a scalper’s price to sit near the action (at a sporting event) and can’t get anyone to sit near the front at church. We will grumble if we go past noon on Sunday and then pray for overtime or extra innings at our favorite sporting event. We will long for that new movie to come out and never want it to end, and we will talk about it for hours on end. Then we cannot wait to get out of church to get to our favorite restaurant, and we barely say a word about what God was trying to teach us in the worship service. We will pay top dollar to hear our favorite coach or politician give some mind-numbing speech that has no or very little eternal value but will sacrifice our Sunday School teacher for an extra hour of sleep. I wonder if I am overstating it, or is there a real priority problem in our churches? Please understand I am not specifically speaking of CBC nor am I discouraged because I love our church, and we have a special place to worship. Maybe that is the reason I am contemplating these things, because I am protective and want to make you aware of the subtleties of the enemy, but these are temptations we all face as Christians.

I really believe that we are living in a time where we have to choose which side we are on. Our priorities have become “out of whack”, and we can no longer stay on the sidelines. Why? Because our values are under attack; Biblical authority is eroding not just in our culture but in our churches. We are fighting the fight, and Christ MUST be our priority, or we will not have an evangelical church in 50 years in the USA. We can no longer treat the ministries of our church as electives, as if we are ordering from the dollar menu from a local restaurant. Our lack of priority has real-life consequences. I look at these videos from the evil

that is Planned Parenthood, and I am not surprised. However, it is a result of the church abdicating its proper role of standing for life no matter what. The scripture is clear, “choose life that you might live.” The flip side of it is “do not choose life and you will live in a culture of death.” Babies die, and baby parts are shipped all over the country to labs, and most Americans don’t even know or couldn’t care less. Our cities burn, and we are appalled (for that news cycle), and nothing changes; it is almost like it entertains us. Isis chops off heads, and we are no longer enraged. We are on to something else of higher priority, like our landscaping or our interior decorating or what is our menu for the week.

Do not get me wrong, menus for the week are fine, landscaping is necessary, and we should all want our homes to look nice. However, we must prioritize. It would be like saying “I need to get my hair done” while our artery has been severed. I believe that is how the church is in culture today. We quibble about our hair as we bleed to death. Maybe I am overstating it, but I do not think so. Just look around, be informed, become aware, and you will see we are in big trouble, and our generation has been given the baton. Let’s not drop it.

Finally, what can we do? Pray, speak and act. Why? Because not to speak is to speak, and not to act is to act. We have been silent and inactive for too long. I challenge you to not sit on the sidelines, sit on the back row (of life), or stand in the back any more. Ask the Lord what you can do in your church or community. Speak a word to those who need it and act out your faith. We can no longer live a comfortable Christian life inside the margin because our culture has pushed us outside the margin. So let the “cream rise to the top”, take your place as a warrior for Christ, and let’s win our culture, let’s impact the marketplace, and let the glory of our God shine once again in our house and church house.

Just a Servant,
Pastor Mike

Calendar of Events

- 1st** Ladies' Night ~ 6:00 p.m.
8th Deacons Meeting ~ 7:00 p.m.
10th – 19th Moldova Mission Trip
13th Children's Comm. Meeting
after p.m. worship
FLC Youth Room
20th Youth Comm. Meeting ~ after p.m. worship
FLC Youth Room
26th Carowinds' Christian Music Day
Fundraiser for Joey Godwin
27th Moldova Testimonies ~ Evening Service
28th Elderberry Trip to SC Tea Plantation,
Wadmalaw Island

Looking Forward

- (6) Ladies' Night (11) World Hunger Day
(13) Deacons Meeting (18-21) Fall Revival
(24) OCC Packing Party (28) Trunk-R-Treat
(29) Men's Supper

Workers for September

- Audiovisual: 9/6 Patrick Lester
9/13 Tommy Geddings
9/20 Terry Gaff
9/27 Rob Hussey
- Nursery: 9/6 Early: Betsy Jordan
Linda Pierce
Late: Tami Blascak
Beth Lyles
9/13 Early: Dawn Harrelson
Effie Russell
Late: Kathy Lee
Lauren Lee
9/20 Early: Crystal &
Abigail Thompson
Late: Mary Kathryn Jordan
Daphne Powell
9/27 Early: Erica Eaddy
Casey Pelfrey
Late: LaRena &
Sabrina Powers
- Toddler Church: 9/6 Nancy Mitchum
9/13 Crystal Thompson
9/20 Casey Pelfrey
9/27 Linda Eaddy

Building Attendant: Welborn Brewer

- Flowers: 9/6 Open
9/13 Daphne Powell
9/20 Open
9/27 Mary Jo Jones

Ushers: Tom Chappell, Jay Eaddy, Russ Harrelson,
Chris Jordan, Patrick Lester, Dan McInnis, Aaron
Powell, Benji Thompson

Prayer Ministry

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Marie Davids | Tammie Richburg |
| Esau Dennis | John Smith |
| Lynn Evans | Brenda Taylor |
| Patricia Flowers | Esther Taylor |
| Joey Godwin | Abigail Thompson |
| Juanita Hunter | Benji Thompson |
| Mary Frances Lee | Lila Sue Thompson |
| Jessie McCabe | Francis Young |
| Mary-Esther McCabe | Melva Young |
| Rodney Richburg | |

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Mary Lynn Lee | 16 Aimee McWhite |
| Amery Sanders | Benji Thompson |
| 2 Terry Gaff | 17 Grayson Harrelson |
| Hugh Thompson, III | Grainger Powell |
| 4 John Taylor Duke | Barbara Walker |
| 5 Pat Baird | 20 Hampton Layton |
| 6 Joe Fleming | Trevor Morris |
| Mary-Esther McCabe | 21 Abigail Tanner |
| Janice Richburg | 22 Betsy Jordan |
| 7 Chris Layton | 26 Chandace Tanner |
| 9 Christi Morris | 27 Amber Perkins |
| 10 Rob Morris | 29 Luke DeCosta |
| 11 Tommy Geddings | Kim Langston |
| 12 Matthew Burgess | Natasha Rivera |
| Linda Eaddy | 30 Sara Thompson |
| 13 Mary Lee Beatson | |
| 15 Russell Harrelson | |

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

August Monthly Records

Avg. Sunday School Attendance: 157
Avg. 11:00 Worship Attendance: 208
Monthly Offering Total: \$27,272.47
Building Fund: \$26,211.78

Encouragement Opportunities

Faith Promise Missionary Family:

Mike & Kay Hawkins

Global Missionaries to Mexico/SC

306 N. Walnut Drive

Anderson, SC 29621

(864) 314-1034

mikeh@awana.org

Student of the Month:

Katenell Locklair

10860 Plowden Mill Road

Alcolu, SC 29001

(803) 473-2359

Shut-in of the Month:

Francis Young

The Crossings at Columbia

2300 Clemson Road

Apt. 225

Columbia, SC 29229

CBC Happenings/Missions

2015 Moldova Mission Trip

Thru Crossover Communications

September 10-19

Please begin praying for our team:

Tom Chappell, Mike DeCosta,

Jeremy Evans, Terry Gaff,

Glenna & Mack Mutchler, Wayne Ward

*If donating to trip, make check payable to CBC
and write Moldova in memo section.*

*If the donation is to support a particular team
member, please also include the team member's
name in the memo section.*

*Contact Persons: Tom Chappell
and Pastor Mike DeCosta.*

Christian Music Day at Carowinds

Sat., Sept. 26th

See Pastor Jon for more information.

Elderberry September Trip

Monday, Sept. 28, the Elderberries are headed to the Charleston Tea Plantation, Wadmalaw Island.

The 1 ½ hour tour includes a trolley ride through the tea fields, a tour of the factory where the tea leaves are processed, and all of the American Classic tea you can drink. *Cost for the tour is \$15.*

Browse the gift shop for unique items. Meeting at CBC 7:45 a.m. Leaving parking lot 8:00 a.m. Arrive at Tea Plantation 10:30 a.m. Afterwards, lunch will be at The Stono Market & Tomato Shed Café, Johns Island. Looking forward to a learning experience and a wonderful trip to the lowcountry! Please sign up. Point person: Doris Daniel

Ongoing Missions Opportunities

Operation Christmas Child

Item(s) for September

Collecting balls, hot wheels, trucks, cars, and tractors that will fit in a shoebox.

Harvest Seed

Collecting Sunday School literature and other Christian teaching materials to send to pastors and missionaries worldwide.

Contact Person: Karen DeCosta

Donations for Ukraine

Collecting gently used clothes and other items to send to Dr. & Mrs. Crane for use in their ministry in Ukraine.

Contact Person: Donald Morris

Deacon Update

The improvements that were needed to each bathroom in the church parsonage have been made. A lighting issue in the hallway will be addressed in the very near future. No other repairs are need to the parsonage at this time.

Surveying of the church grounds has been completed. Surveying was needed in order to update the plat and deed for the property. A local attorney is finalizing the deed work.

A meeting was scheduled for some members of the deacon board, building committee,

and the architect who drew the plans for the proposed building. The primary reason for the meeting is to discuss some questions that were raised about the current building plans.

The deacons have prepared and sent information to the Baptist Foundation in order for the foundation to make recommendations for a fundraising campaign to raise money for the building fund. The foundation will review the information and make their recommendations at no cost to the church.

The deacons agreed that our church would participate, along with other area churches, in an effort to raise funds for Joey Godwin. This fundraising will most likely come in the form of preparing and selling lunch/dinner plates.

**Tommy Geddings,
CBC Deacon Secretary**