

I'M TERRIFIED!

I am not terrified of eternity; that is settled for those of us who know Christ personally. I am not terrified about who will be our next president because my hope is not found in a city called D.C., but my hope is found in a city called Glory!! I am not terrified of losing my religious freedom because no man can take that from me; my freedom was purchased 2,000 years ago on an old rugged cross. No, these things do not move me (I am not saying they do not concern me); I am totally secure in Christ.

However, there is something that is terrifying me that I think most Christians believe is nonsense and that is Christianity is losing its influence on our culture in America. I know some of you will think this is an alarmist attitude, but I am seeing this all around me. Notice that I am not saying Christianity is dying. It will not die because Jesus told us, "The gates of Hell will not prevail against it." I also think that truly committed believers in Christ are becoming more entrenched and more deeply committed to Him. The surveys tell us this. Unfortunately, there are a large number of people that want anonymity in church; they want to come to a service and show up and count it as righteousness. I would say that kind of Christianity is rampant in our nation. It is lacking in substance and Christ-likeness. It is a mile wide and an inch deep. It is powerless and impotent.

I am terrified that we are sacrificing our biblical values for acceptance. When the pastor of a large Evangelical church in NYC was asked about their stance on same sex marriage, he responded with "fluff"; he said that his church was not "controversial", and he would not answer the question with biblical love and understanding. There is a famous pastor in Texas that sounds more like a self help guru than a man of God, and the people blindly follow clever sayings and platitudes. We cannot lay on the altar our biblical values for cultural acceptance or to gain a crowd.

Let me preach on, if we do not change course, we will lose the millennial generation (people born between the early 1980's and early

2000's), and we are seeing this bear out in hard data. Please read the following data (from ARG research) of millennials who grew up in church. 21% do not believe the Bible is true; over 20% believe that other holy books are inspired by God; 31% believe abortion is ok and should continue to be legal; 27% believe homosexuality is not a sin; 38% say premarital sex is acceptable; less than 50% said nobody taught them how to defend their faith. I could go on and on, but you can see the disturbing trends.

The most terrifying thing is the church is "sleeping in the light", and the attitude is that this will "blow over." Guess what? It is not blowing over! Our culture is changing and becoming amoral, and as our Lord said, "the salt has lost its savor." Observe history; in England, large impactful churches once littered the country. The pastors thundered the Word of God. Now, those same churches are gone and have become cafes, nightclubs and mosques. Europe, who gave us Luther, Calvin, and Spurgeon, now gives us hedonism, atheism, and socialism. Let me say what happened in Europe is happening here before our eyes. So, as your pastor I have to let you know these things. I have to call you to a radical and sold out form of Christianity. Do not be afraid to teach biblical values and live biblical values in your family, school, job and church. We must stand up! The last truth I want you to be aware of is that between 70% & 80% (depending on which study) of the millennial generation graduate high school and leave the church. This tells me there is a disconnect in what we are telling them and what we are living out in our lives. I challenge you to pursue Christ with an unmatched tenacity and consistency.

I commit to you that I will continue to preach the Word of God, but more importantly, I commit to live the Word of God at church and in our culture that needs to see Him so badly. I also am proud that Pastor Jon is teaching these same biblical values to our children and youth. We have something special at CBC; let's give it away.

Just a Servant,

Pastor Mike

Calendar of Events

- 3 Guest Speaker: Teen Challenge
Both morning services
Youth Missionary Trip Testimony
FLC ~ 6:30 p.m. ~ No TeamKids
- 5 Ladies Night ~ 6 p.m. CBC FH
- 9 Elderberry Trip to Millford Plantation
- 12 Deacons Meeting ~ 7 p.m.
- 23 Striped Bass Festival
*See Brileys if interested in helping with
CBC booth.*

Looking Forward to May

- (1-4) Clarendon County Revival
(8) Mother's day/Baby Dedication
(10) Deacons Meeting (15) Graduate Sunday
(22) Camp balances due (29) Memorial Day

Workers for April

- Audiovisual: 4/3 Chuck Goff
4/10 Ethan Thompson
4/17 Rob Hussey
4/24 Terry Gaff

Nursery:

- 4/3 Early: Tabitha Gardner, Jordan Price
Later: Stacy Acord, Crystal & Patrick Lester
- 4/10 Early: Adrienne McCabe, Vassar Turner
Later: Christi, Julia, & Morgan Morris
Linda Pierce
- 4/17 Early: Erica Eaddy, Casey Pelfrey
Later: Nicole Garrett,
Heather & Lundee Olsen
- 4/24 Early: Kim, Lauren, & Jordan Gardner
Later: Judy Gamble, Beth Lyles,
Daphne Powell

- Toddler 4/3 Sara Thompson
Church: 4/10 Barbara Hussey
4/17 Linda Eaddy
4/24 Nancy Mitchum

Children's Church (k5 – 3rd grade)

- 4/3 Erica Eaddy
4/10 Chandace Tanner
4/17
4/24

Building Attendant: Tommy Geddings

- Flowers: 4/3 Taken
4/10 Ed Hinson
4/17 Crystal & Patrick Lester
4/24 Open

Ushers:

Benji Haney, John Horton, Cory McWhite,
Brad Pelfrey, Bobby Pierce, Aaron Powell
John Smith, Scott Tanner

Prayer Ministry

Patricia Flowers, Juanita Hunter, Mary Frances Lee,
Margie Mutchler, VeLinda Reynolds,
Rodney Richburg, John & Berneice Smith,
Grace and Gabriel Tufares, David Young,
Francis Young, Melva Young

Happy Birthday

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

- 5 Yvonne Hodge
Analisa Smith
- 7 Brenda Harrelson
- 10 Rosemary Herring
- 11 Carl Floyd
- 12 Lauren Richburg
- 13 Bryce Acord
David Woodbury
- 14 Evan Burgess
- 15 Allyson Goff
Broughton Lester
- 18 Cody Morris
- 20 Brett Belt
- 21 Barbara Hussey
- 22 Aidan Briley
Wayne Burke
- 23 Shawn Geddings
- 26 Teresa Dunlap
Eva Eaddy
- 28 Lenn Gardner
Tommy Lee
- 29 Nancy McInnis
Hunter Taylor

Ladies Night

Tuesday, April 5 ~ 6 p.m. CBC FH
Guest Speaker: Melodie Griffin
Bring a dish to share and
invite a friend!

Sr. Adult Outing

To Millford Plantation

Saturday, April 9

Cost: \$5

We will meet at CBC at 9 a.m. Gates at
Millford open at 10 a.m. After a self-
guided tour of the house and gardens,
lunch will be at Golden Corral
(at your own expense).

Please sign up and address any questions
to Doris Daniel, 803.478.3372.

2016 Clarendon County Revival

May 1-4 ~ 7 p.m. each night
Manning High School
Football Stadium

Guest Speaker:

Bishop Anthony Gibson
Grace Cathedral Ministries
Sumter, SC

Nursery provided at FBC Manning (infants – 5 yrs.)

March Monthly Records

Avg. Sunday School Attendance: 158

Avg. Worship Attendance:

8:45 – 88 11:00 - 133

Monthly Offering Total: \$25,946.74

Building Fund: \$14,469.59

Encouragement Opportunities

Faith Promise Missionary Family:

Rick & Elisabeth Arnold & Family

Senegal6onfire@emailearth.net

Student of the Month:

Morgan DeCosta
PO Box 307
Alcolu, SC 29001

Shut-in of the Month:

Francis Young
The Crossings at Columbia
2300 Clemson Road
Apt. 225
Columbia, SC 29229

Ongoing Missions Opportunities

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. *Periodically, volunteers
needed to sort, pack, and deliver materials to the
associational office. If interested, please speak
with 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: Donald Morris

Operation Christmas Child for April

Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Washcloths
Bars of soap

Collection box located in Mallie Alderman
SS classroom (back of sanctuary)

Point Person: Mary Jo Jones

Wednesday Night Menus & Kitchen Teams

- 4/6 Menu: "Spring Picnic" – Grilled chicken,
Mac-n-cheese, Mixed veggies, Roll,
Dessert
KT: Carolyn Brewer, Stacey & Nancy
McInnis, Janice Richburg
- 4/13 Menu: Hot dogs w/fixin's, Chips, Cupcakes
KT: Chuck & Allison Goff,
Jamie & Erica Hodge
- 4/20 Menu: Sloppy joes, Baked beans, Slaw,
Chips, Peach cobbler
KT: The G Squad: jay & Kim, Lenn & Tabitha,
Maybin
- 4/27 Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, Veggie, Garlic
bread, Pound cake
KT: Jonathan & Denise Jones,
Justin & Nikki Woodard