



CBC News

The Monthly Newsletter of
Clarendon Baptist Church
Alcolu, SC
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A GREAT COMMISSION CHURCH

HOW DO I KNOW THE WILL OF GOD?

This is a question that is asked by billions of Christians all the time. How can I know the will of God for my life? How can I know the will of God in general? Many times, I think we start with the wrong question. Instead of asking “What is the will of God for me?,” we should ask, “What is the will of God, period?” Start with the general and move to the specific. Most of us cannot understand the will of God for us. If He told you to move to Uzbekistan to reach unreached people groups, it would paralyze you. I think many of us say we know the Lord’s will as it makes us sound spiritual. When God says, “Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven,” it is not talking about a one-time event but a process. Most of the time, we don’t want the will of God because it is a long arduous process. We simply want the answer and move on. We need to come to terms that God’s will is more about shaping us into His image than calling us to a certain place. For example, Abraham was given the promise of a child, but it was 25 years before it was realized. Why? God was more interested in building a man than a people. If the people would be right, the man had to be right. Abraham had to learn the lessons of God, which can be excruciating. In our modern day of instant gratification, we want the will of God now. God is about building His Kingdom not being some sugar daddy in the sky. If you want the will of God for your life, it is more about surrender than getting your way.

I would tell you do not worry about the specific will of God. I would tell you to trust Him in whatever you are going through. He knows, “the end from the beginning.” You do not know that. Joseph in Egypt was in a high position, but it was not his doing that he got there. I am sure there were days when he was saying, “God, what are you doing?” God was working out His will through the poor decisions made by men.

I had a friend come to me one time on what to do about a job. It was a “win/win” decision. My suggestion was out of Proverbs 3:5-6. Acknowledge God first, and whatever your decision, He will guide you. God is able to take your decisions and weave them perfectly into His will. You do not need to worry about the specific, but you need to yield to God and His presence. God is not worried about where you are. He is wanting to mold you where you are. Do not fret over am I to do this or that but obsess over the process of knowing Him, and you will be right where you need to be every hour of every day.

Just a servant.

Pastor Mike

Building Attendant: Dr. Robert Etheridge

Nursery

- 3.6 Patti Odom
- 3.13 Kim Gardner
- 3.20 Crystal Thompson
- 3.27 Betsy Jordan

Counting Committee

- 3.6 Dr. Robert Etheridge, Tommy Geddings
- 3.13 Tabitha Gardner, Jodi Thompson
- 3.20 Jewell Brown, Amy Chappell
- 3.27 Betsy Jordan, Patti Odom

Ushers

- 3.6 Aaron, Grainger, & Wyatt Powell
- 3.13 Bryce, Chris, & Reid Jordan
- 3.20 Reese & Stacey McInnis
- 3.27 Tom Chappell, Jay Gardner

Calendar of Events

- 3 Ladies Bible Study (LBS), 6 PM
Adult Couples Classroom
- Men's Supper, 7 PM, CBC FH
- 6-12 Week of Prayer for North American Missions
- 8 Deacons Meet 7 PM
- 10 LBS, 6 PM
- 17 LBS, 6 PM
- 24 LBS, 6 PM
- 31 LBS, 6 PM

Happy Birthday

- 6 Elizabeth Ann Geddings
- 7 Effie Russell
- 8 Kathy Lee
- 10 Maybin Gardner
- 16 Lani-Grace Powell
- 25 Christian Hussey
- 27 Karen DeCosta
- 29 Chuck Goff Dale Thomas

Please call the church office if we have missed your birthday so that we can add your name to the list.

PRAYER MINISTRY

CBC Members

Johnny Baker, Jennie DuRant, Valorie Evans, Dan McInnis, VeLinda Reynolds, Ray Richburg, Shaun Richburg, *Berneice Smith

May God give you ... for every storm, a rainbow; for every tear, a smile; for every care, a promise; and a blessing in each trial. For every problem life sends, a faithful friend to share; for every sigh, a sweet song; and an answer for each prayer.

FAITH PROMISE MISSIONARY



Chip Atkinson

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Family Night Schedule

Youth Schedule

- Mar 6 Nancy McInnis ~ *Not A Fan*: Sess. 6
- Mar 13 Wrap Party for *Not A Fan*
- Mar 20 Kim Gardner
- Mar 27 Dee Dee Horton

Children Schedule

- Mar 6 Will meet at 5:45 pm
- Mar 13 Will meet at 5:45 pm
- Mar 20 Will meet at 5:45 pm
- Mar 27 Will meet at 5:45 pm

Summer Camps

Camp fundraisers will be announced soon. We are looking forward to helping our Children & Youth get to camp this summer!

"Never Mind, March"

By Annette Wynne

Never mind, March, we know
When you blow
You're not really mad
Or angry or bad:
You're only blowing the winter away
To get the world ready for April and May.

Deacon Board Update:

Hello church family!

The Deacons of CBC wanted to provide another periodic update as we have been working on multiple issues recently and wanted to keep everyone up to date.

We have completed our membership roster update and are using this information to help support the creation of the new online church directory and improve communication with our members. If anyone wants to review the roster, this is always available at the church office. Anyone with questions regarding this are requested to speak to Pastor Mike. We are also soliciting bids for help revamping and updating our church website and social media presence moving forward. The new online directory will be integrated with this effort.

The renovations to the parsonage crawlspace have been completed without issue, and we continue to hope this will completely control the moisture issues at the property. Several members of the church have inquired into the ceiling of the Fellowship Hall, and the Deacons requested the Properties Committee look at it. After evaluation, it was determined that the ceiling cracks are cosmetic concerns only, an issue with the sheetrock, and they present no structural/safety concerns. There are no leaks or other issues in the Fellowship Hall roof presenting a concern. If the church membership feels strongly about having this repaired, we can look at options. However, some consideration may need to be made that this would also all be fixed by our eventual building renovation plans.

There are a few leaks that have been found in the Family Life Center ceiling, notable over the youth room. The Properties Committee is speaking to several contractors, seeking bids and recommendations for repair to this issue. More information will be provided as the committee consolidates the information.

The transfer of \$250,000 from the Building Fund into a 1-year CD at First Palmetto Bank has been completed, and the account is secure there. This spreads the church's accounts over 2 banks now, ensuring our church accounts are fully protected with FDIC insurance.

At the request of the Children/Youth Ministry Committee and Pastor Mike, the Deacons have authorized Mike to make some casual inquiries into a possible part-time/intern Youth Minister position for the summer season. This is tentative at this time, but it is something we are interested in doing to build our Youth ministry moving forward. We will have more information to share as this develops further.

Yours in Christ,
Dr. Robert Etheridge,
Deacon Chairperson, CBC

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions

Annie Armstrong was born in Baltimore at a time when women were not expected to lead. She served, challenged churches to action, rallied support for missionaries, and was recognized as a national Southern Baptist trailblazer renowned for visionary missions leadership.

Contributions:

- ... Started Bay View Mission for Baltimore's poor and addicted
- ... Served as the first executive of Woman's Missionary Union
- ... Raised support for missionaries to Italian and Jewish immigrants
- ... Initiated fund-raising "brick cards" to build churches in Cuba
- ... Gained support for the first black, female missionaries
- ... Secured funds to relieve China missionary, Lottie Moon, who had served for 11 years without a furlough
- ... Advocated for Native Americans and impoverished mountain people
- ... Traveled across America in the late 1800s encouraging missionaries and inspiring churches to pray, give, and act
- ... Honored in 1934 when The Home Missions Offering was re-named for her to encourage more to follow her sacrificial example

