

2025 RECAP

In 2025, Cheraw First Baptist:

- welcomed 44 new members into our family
- gave over \$30,000 to Annie Armstrong, Janie Chapman & Lottie Moon!
- collected for Lois McArn, Backpack ministry, & Palmetto Ridge Nursing Home
- supported Abba House both monetarily and with "boots on the ground"
- raised over \$4400 for missions during VBS and saw 211 children come through our doors
- had 13 salvations in kids / youth ministry
- had over 60 kids go to SummerSalt and KidSalt
- started a nursery curriculum
- in conjunction with SCBC, hosted OneNight evangelistic event at Camp Pinehill with 17 churches and 275 students in attendance
- renovated the nursery, youth room, fellowship and education buildings, and Family Life Center
- served at Connie Maxwell on numerous occasions
- ordained a new deacon
- had the largest collection of Operation Christmas child shoeboxes to date
- started new Wednesday night studies for men and women
- debuted our dancing staff at our 2025 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- provided over 750 plates of food to our community in November via Feed the Need

That is just a few things CFBC did this past year and it wouldn't be possible without our dedicated members/volunteers. Let's make 2026 even better! Happy New Year!!



**CHERAW
KIDS**
CHERAW FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
2026

108

Children playing
soccer

85

Families being served
through soccer ministry

24

Coaches leading
teams

It's game time—Soccer Season 2026 has officially arrived! Our first matches begin January 10th. Whether you enjoy being in the action as a referee, connecting with families at the concession stand, or bringing energy as an announcer, there's a place for you. Contact Aleisha if you want to be a part!

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Rod



The biggest shopping day of the year is Black Friday. The mere thought of it sends shivers of excitement down the spine of eager bargain hunters while causing others to break out into a cold sweat. Boisterous crowds of turkey-stuffed, deal-seeking shoppers flood the malls and department stores, frantically scouting out drastic price reductions on everything from flat screen televisions to Pima cotton underwear. The day after Thanksgiving, Black Friday is traditionally the day retail businesses hope to begin moving their balance sheet from the red to the black. Retailers recognize that sales during the following weeks will determine whether their companies realize a profit for that year or not.

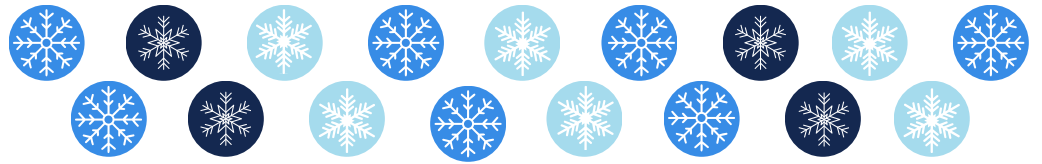
Here's a question for you as we begin the New Year, how long do you have to go into the new year before there is a noticeable gain in your spiritual life?

For example, Jesus is able to increase your faith (Mark 9:23-27). So, how has your faith in God grown this year? At what point in the year did you begin trusting God for more than you had before? Likewise, is your prayer life more robust now than it was last January? Scripture assures us that the Holy Spirit can help us to pray for deeper things than we would know to ask for on our own (Romans 8:26). Jesus said the Holy Spirit can powerfully increase our capacity to receive deeper, more profound words from Him (John 16:12).

What month was it when you realized that God has taken your understanding of His word to a deeper level? Jesus said if we would abide in Him, His joy would fill our lives to overflowing (John 15:11). So, at what point this past year did you recognize that God had expanded your joy to a dimension you had never experienced before? Is it overflowing yet? The Bible assures us that God will grant us increased wisdom if we ask Him to (James 1:5). So, the question is: are you enjoying a deeper level of wisdom now than you were a year ago?

As in business, our spiritual life could be viewed from a profit and loss perspective. Sometimes our selfish choices or our carelessness with our spiritual life causes us to take a hit spiritually. Our spiritual fervency can wane, or we compromise how we represent Jesus to others, or our power in prayer diminishes. At other times we immerse ourselves in prayer and Bible study, resulting in dramatic spiritual advancement. Our pursuit of God's will, and our obedience to do it, leads us to results that can be measured like figures on a year-end sales report. Some people end the year in worse condition spiritually than when they began. Others plateau in their spiritual life, seeing no advancement the entire year. But there are those who take major leaps forward in their spiritual maturity that results in unprecedented victories in their walk with God. May this be such a year for you. With that in mind, what do you need to do to regain the spiritual ground you lost this past year? How can you approach this new year, so you experience significant spiritual gains from the outset?

Happy New Year!



A new year has a way of waking something up inside us; doesn't it? Suddenly we're looking at school calendars, setting new routines, tweaking chore charts, and dreaming about a year that feels a little more peaceful, a little more purposeful. That desire for a fresh start is built into us—but here's the truth: real, lasting renewal doesn't come from perfectly organized schedules, color-coded planners, or even our best intentions as moms and dads. It comes from something far bigger and far stronger... God Himself.

We long for a fresh start. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us that this renewal is possible because "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." While our plans fall apart, our routines get messy, and parenting can swing from calm to chaotic in seconds, Jesus never changes. His love, His promises, and His character stay steady. When we anchor ourselves to Him, we find the kind of renewal our hearts need—not just a quick burst of motivation, but a deep, lasting refreshment that strengthens us for the year ahead.

So no matter what this season looks like in your home—busy schedules, big emotions, challenging days, or moments where you're not sure what comes next, allow Jesus to be your constant. As we step into this new year, we don't have to rely on our own strength to start fresh. We anchor ourselves to Him; the God whose mercies are new every morning (Lam. 3:22–23). The God whose power is made perfect in our weakness (2 Cor. 12:9). The God whose faithfulness extends to all generations (Ps. 100:5). The God whose peace surpasses all understanding (Phil. 4:7). The God whose promises are steadfast and true (Num. 23:19). The God whose joy is our eternal hope (Rom. 15:13). Love you guys, Aleisha

Sunday AM Update

Sunday morning ministries are going great. We are continuing to grow which is a blessing, but it does require more hands! If you are interested in serving in the nursery or kids church once a month, let me know!

Children's ministry isn't about keeping kids busy while adults do the real church — it's about helping them know and follow Jesus today. - Ryan Frank

Sunday PM Update

WINTER KICK-OFF

January 11th 5:00–7:00 pm



We will be doing an apologetics study on God's Word. You do not want your kid to miss it!



NEXT GEN NEWS

An update from Cheraw Students
and Young Adults



Coming up:

Conclave: January 29th-31st

One Night March 13th

Senior Trip: April 10th - 12th

Reflections

The end of the year is always a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what God has done!

This year, we have had five teenagers give their lives to Jesus. There isn't anything better than that!

This past Spring, we held our first-ever "One Night" out at Camp Pinehill. On this One Night, we had 17 churches, with 275 students, 375 people in total, all coming together in fellowship and in worship to our God.

As always, we had another amazing trip to Summer Salt. Forty-seven of our own students came together to go down to Charleston, unplug for the normal day-day, and grow closer to God and each other.

A Look Ahead

We've got a busy 2026 coming up!

Starting in January, we are taking a group of our youth leadership team to "Conclave", a youth ministry conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Next up, we are hosting another One Night this year, with it being held at our church campus. That will be March 13th. Please go ahead and start saturating this night in prayer.

We are having a Senior trip this year of the youth! That'll be April 10th - 12th, we'll be announcing the location of that early this January, and as always, we can't wait to end the spring semester with Summer Salt!

SAVE THE DATE

January 3rd

Ladies, make plans to join us for a sacred pause - a time to rest, listen, and seek the Lord as you begin a new year.

Selah MORNING

CHERAW
women

7am-10am
Drop-in time of
prayer in the
sanctuary

WOMEN OF JOY™

May 1-3, 2026

Speakers: Lysa Terkeurst, Lisa Harper, Susie
Larson, Whitney Capps

Worship by Cain & Charles Billingsley



The cost will be \$250 for the
stay and conference. Scan the
QR to reserve your spot!

CHERAW
women

PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP

January 15th-19th

Please be praying for the
Mission Trip Team:

Rod Elliott, Todd Garris, Sandy
Garris, Aleisha Ainsworth, Nate
Ainsworth, Marc Goldberg,
Quentin Goldberg, Mollie Phillips
& Karen Adeimy.

6th Annual CHILI COOK OFF

February 4th

Wednesday Night Winter Schedule - Equip Classes

Beginning Wednesday, January 7, the men's and women's Bible study will run consistently each week instead of monthly. Men are studying The Titus Ten (Foundations of Godly Manhood) and ladies are studying Lyrics for Life (a study of selected psalms). We are refocusing our Wednesday nights this year on the subject of providing classes that address biblical topics that apply to daily life. These will be one hour per week classes that will take place in various classrooms on our campus beginning at 6pm. If you are interested in leading a class, please see pastor Rod.

PRAISE & WORSHIP



WHAT IS PRAISE?

Praise is our joyful expression to God for who He is and what He has done. It is outward, vocal, celebratory—through singing, clapping, shouting, music, and testimony.

Key Scriptures:

- Psalm 150:6 – 'Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.'
- Psalm 100:4 – 'Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.'
- Hebrews 13:15 – 'Continually offer...a sacrifice of praise.'

WHAT IS WORSHIP?

Worship is a posture of the heart—surrender, awe, devotion, and obedience to God. It is more than music; it is honoring God with our life.

Key Scriptures:

- John 4:23–24 – 'True worshipers...worship in spirit and in truth.'
- Romans 12:1 – 'Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice...your true and proper worship.'
- Psalm 29:2 – 'Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.'

WHY BOTH PRAISE & WORSHIP MATTER

1. Praise prepares the heart.
2. Worship transforms the heart.
3. Praise reminds us of what God has done.
4. Worship aligns us with who God is.
5. Together they create a full response to God.

Vision Statement:

To lead the congregation into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through passionate and authentic worship, drawing from both contemporary and traditional elements. In line with our church's vision, the worship minister will help the body of Christ gather in unity, grow in faith, give praise to God, and go into the world with the message of Christ, reflecting the heart of Psalm 100:4 and Psalm 150.

“ W E D O N ’ T S I N G T O F I L L T H E R O O M W I T H
S O U N D — W E S I N G T O F I L L T H E R O O M W I T H
H I S P R E S E N C E . ”

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Each month, we will "spotlight" one of our homebound members. Feel free to send words of encouragement or even visit this member
(with their permission, of course).

Spotlight of the Month

January

Tom & Grace Hudson

144 Burchwood Cir

Cheraw, SC 29520

Birthday: January 15th (Tom)

Contribution statements for 2025 will be available in the foyer on January 11, 2026. Offering envelopes are available in the foyer. If you do not see yours and would like envelopes, please call the office or email Kelli.

GIVING

through
December 28

You can give online at
cherawfbc.com/give, through the Realm app

BUDGET
TO DATE:

782,391.48

GIVING:

803,924.35

Text to give! Text **CFBC** to **73256**, followed by your gift amount (ex. \$50)

SAFETY TEAM

Sunday, January 4

Brad Redfearn, Frankie Joyner, Jodie Goodwin, Jack Rhonemus

Evening: No Evening Activities

Sunday, January 11

David Paschall, David Caulder, Randy Caulder, Darrell Burch, Jerry Dixon

Evening: Todd Garris & Jim Murray

Sunday, January 18

Tom Boan, Melinda Boan, Chris Sellers, Ron Watson, Kenny Robertson

Evening: Jim Kennedy & Bob Whiteman

Sunday, January 25

Bobby Roberts, Jim Kennedy, Jay Hinson, Eric Jones, Keith Thomas

Evening: Todd Garris & Tom Boan

congratulations

Congratulations to Matt Southard, Jack Rhonemus, John Philips, Joey Polson, and Joe Elvington. As of this writing, these deacons have completed with pastor Rod the Pray and Go evangelistic initiative. This January, our staff will be going through this study together. If you are interested in becoming more of a Great Commission Christian, see Pastor Rod.

Happy
Birthday!

January 1

Amanda Caulder
Cynthia Luck

January 4

Amy Kulo
Jennie Labonte

January 5

Nancy Sandifer

January 6

Ryan Fleming

January 7

Francis Chorba
Jeremy Phillips

January 11

Emmaline Rogers
Quentin Goldberg

January 12

Barton Cole

January 13

Desiray Rushing

January 15

Tom Hudson

January 16

Sarah Haile

January 17

Gail Laney

January 18

Adley Perry

January 19

PJ Jordan

January 20

Joe Polson
Kenny Robertson

January 22

Tina Elliott

January 23

Mark Elliott
Katie Rushing

January 24

Latreta Kennerly

January 26

Layla Cole

January 28

Dawn Wallace
Sandi Watson

January 31

Ainsley Polson

January 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Closed Happy New Year	2	3 7am-10am Selah Morning
4 No Evening Activities	5	6	7 6pm Adult Mid-Week Men's & Women's Study	8	9	10 Soccer
11 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	12	13	14 6pm Adult Mid-Week Men's & Women's	15 Puerto Rico Mission Trip	16 Puerto Rico Mission Trip	17 Soccer Puerto Rico Mission Trip
18 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups Puerto Rico Mission Trip	19	20	21 6pm Adult Mid-Week Men's & Women's Study	22	23	24 Soccer
25 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	26	27	28 6pm Adult Mid-Week Men's & Women's Study	29 Youth Conclave Conf.	30 Youth Conclave Conf.	31 Soccer Youth Conclave Conf.