

THE INFORMER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CHERAW FIRST BAPTIST

VOL. 5 ISSUE 11 • JULY 2026



250 YEARS
★ CELEBRATING ★
FREEDOM
GOD
★ BLESS AMERICA ★

1776
★
2026

*"Now the Lord is the Spirit,
and where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom."
2 CORINTHIANS 3:17*

IN GOD
★
WE TRUST
★ ★

★ ★ ★ HAPPY 4TH OF JULY! ★ ★ ★

JOIN US

**PRAYER WALK
AND ICE CREAM
SOCIAL**

JULY 26TH AT 5:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Rod



Veteran George Westover was aboard the USS Tennessee at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. His battle station was so high on the ship that he reported to being able to see the faces of the Japanese pilots as they let loose their bombs early that Sunday morning.

One of the faces he saw first was Japanese Commander Mitsuo Fuchida, who coordinated the attack and led the first wave of 183 planes from Japanese aircraft carriers some 250 miles away. It was Fuchida who gave the order, "Tora!, Tora!, Tora!" – the final go-ahead for the attack.

Fuchida served with the forces of Japan throughout the war and afterwards returned to his farm saying, "Life had no taste or meaning." Then one day in 1948, in a Tokyo train station, he was handed a pamphlet titled, *I Was a Prisoner of Japan*.

On December 7, 1941, Sergeant Jacob DeShazer was peeling potatoes at a stateside army base when news of Pearl Harbor came over the speaker. He would soon volunteer as one of Jimmy Doolittle's raiders. As part of Doolittle's crew, on April 19, 1942, he took part of the first American effort to bomb Japan. DeShazer dropped two thousand pounds of incendiary bombs onto an oil installation in Nagoya. His plane would run out of fuel over Japanese-occupied China, where he would be captured and held as a prisoner of war. As a POW, he endured starvation, beatings, torture, and solitary confinement. He hated his captors and his hatred grew by the day but so did his desire for a Bible. Finally acquiring a copy, he read Romans 10:9: "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

The hatred Jacob felt for the Japanese melted away when he put his faith in Jesus. He would later write, "I read in my Bible that on the cross, Jesus prayed and while suffering excruciating, prayed; 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.' And now from the depths of my heart, I prayed for God to forgive my torturers."

When American paratroopers liberated DeShazer, he returned home, went to school, married and then returned to Japan in 1948 as a missionary where he wrote an evangelistic pamphlet called, *I Was a Prisoner of Japan*.

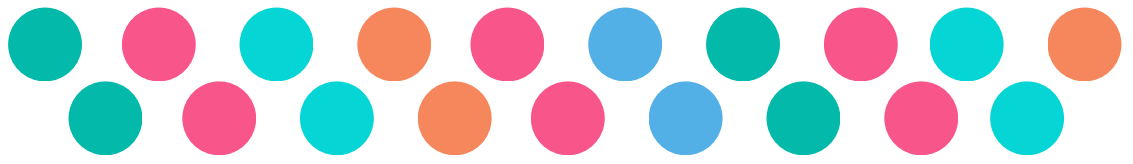
After reading DeShazer's pamphlet, Fuchida was convicted, bought a Bible and soon after reading Jesus' words in Luke 22:34; "Father forgive them, for they do not know what they do . . ." placed his faith in Jesus. He would later say after becoming a Christian that it "was like the having the sun rise." Fuchida would later share his conversion story in the book, *From Pearl Harbor to Calvary*.

Both men, at one time enemies, found Christ and both men would spend the rest of their natural lives in Japan preaching Christ because they recognized the enormity of Christ had done for them.

Recently, the Southern Baptist Convention met in Orlando. We celebrated the commissioning of 63 new IMB missionaries. However, you probably have only heard what has gotten much press concerning a "ban on women pastors." Unfortunately, social media has especially twisted what was voted on at the convention concerning women in ministry. One such article stated how the convention disfellowshipped churches for having women on staff. That was simply erroneous reporting. What the convention did in 2023 was disfellowship churches that had females serving in the role of senior pastor. If anything, what the convention did this year was to affirm what was already stated in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. Next year, the proposed "Mohler amendment" would need to have a 2/3 majority vote in favor of the amendment being added to the constitution. So, what does this mean for local autonomous churches like ours with women serving on ministerial staff in any role other than being a preaching pastor? The short answer...nothing. All believers are called to minister and I for one am glad our convention of churches have women that faithfully serve.



JULY 12TH & 19TH IMMEDIATELY AFTER CHURCH. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. IF YOU ARE NEW TO CFBC, COME LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH AND GET TO KNOW OUR STAFF. SEE A STAFF MEMBER TO GET SIGNED UP.

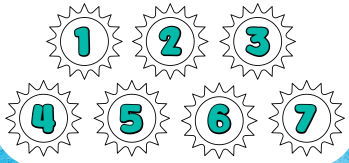


JULY KIDS BIBLE

Reading Plan

EACH TIME YOU READ THE BIBLE VERSE, COLOR IN AN OBJECT IN THE BOX.

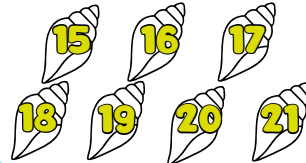
PSALM 118:24



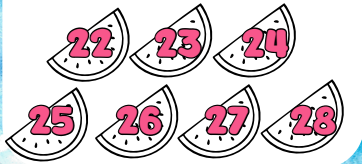
PSALM 19:1



PSALM 18:1



PSALM 46:1



REVIEW ALL VERSES



BRING YOUR PAPER TO MRS. ALEISHA IF YOU READ YOUR VERSES EVERYDAY DURING JULY!

Hey, family! Check out some of the things we have going on in Cheraw Kids.

- All of our Sunday Morning Small Groups as well as Preschool/ Kids Church and All Access are studying ways to worship God and making Godly choices.
- Our nursery children are learning about Daniel and the Lion's Den and that God keeps us safe.
- We have several children that are going through baptism classes and others in some one on one discipleship.
- We are doing some follow up from many children who had questions and uncertainties during VBS.
- We also have Kidsalt this month and a family event.

Love you guys! Aleisha

CHECK THIS OUT

Within the last year or so, there have been many strides made for individuals that struggle with dyslexia especially children. One that I want to share with you is a Children's Bible that was published to help children that struggle with dyslexia and visual stress. Some ways that it helps make the Bible accessible is, it uses...

- Distinct letter forms to reduce confusion between similar characters
- Strong baseline stability to support visual tracking while reading
- Increased spacing between letters, words, and lines
- No alternative letter forms such as italics and bold
- Inclusion of blank lines to create shorter, more manageable paragraphs with more white space than typical

The Bible also comes with nine colored overlays that reduces visual distortions and discomfort that some people experience when they read. This is a great step in making the Bible accessible for these individuals. Let me know if you want to take a look!

Please be in prayer for the kids and chaperones going to Kidsalt 2026.



SAMPLE PAGE

Psalms 92 God's Love and Faithfulness

A psalm. A song for the Sabbath day.

- 1 It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, Most High,
- 2 to declare your faithful love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,
- 3 with a ten-stringed harp and the music of a lyre.

Think back to your high school and college years. What was the best summer break you ever had?

What made it so special? What would you do again if you could?

Summers aren't just an opportunity to relax on the beach, sleep in, or go on a road trip; they are an incredible opportunity to seek God without the normal distractions and obligations of student life.

Here are a few ways your student can seek God more intentionally in the summer:

1. Intentionally Rest

It's easy to look up your schedule quickly in the summer, trying to make the most of the opportunity, and while that in itself is a bad thing to do, we can quickly fall into human-doings and not human beings if we aren't careful (as Life Action put it this year).

A mentor of mine once said, "When we fail to rest, we are communicating to God that what He has done isn't enough for us, so we have to keep doing more and more.

Take some time this summer to rest in the Father, reflect on what has been done, and prepare your spirit for what is coming

2. Be with the people of God

Fewer classes mean more time to spend with others. It's important that we don't isolate ourselves from God in the summer, and it's important that we don't isolate ourselves from the people of God in the summer as well.

Sign up for the church community gatherings. Invite one of your siblings in the faith to lunch or to hang out over a cup of coffee that you wouldn't normally have time for. In an age of isolation and loneliness, intentionally spend time with the people God has given you.

3. Set Spiritual Goals

You miss 100% of the shots you never take. With fewer classes and a little more time on your hands, set some goals for your walk with Christ that can evolve into healthy rhythms when the ebbs and flows of school return.

Commit yourself to a consistent time of prayer and fasting to draw closer to God. Find a podcast you enjoy that will help you grow in your faith (Saddie Robertson's "Woah that's good" or Josh Howerton's "Live Free" are a few examples). Tackle a lengthy book of the Bible you wouldn't normally read when life gets busy.

Let the summer of 2026 be a summer where you intentionally seek God.

CFBC FAMILY NIGHT

with the
FLORENCE

FLAMINGOS

Wednesday,
July 15
@ 6:00 pm



Scan Here to
Sign Up!

\$15 per person
includes concessions
and entry

EQUIP

CLASSES



STARTING
SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 6PM



MEN



WOMEN



CO-ED

These classes will be offered for
MEN, WOMEN, AND CO-ED.

If you are interested in leading a class,
please see Pastor Rod.

CO-ED STUDY

The Awe of God

THE ASTOUNDING WAY
A HEALTHY FEAR OF GOD
TRANSFORMS YOUR LIFE



Make Room

Opening Our Hearts, Homes, and Lives to Others

WOMEN'S STUDY

A STUDY ON BIBLICAL HOSPITALITY

MEN'S STUDY

33

THE SERIES™

AUTHENTIC MANHOOD VOLUME 1 TRAINING GUIDE

A MAN AND HIS DESIGN

Mid-week WORSHIP



BEGINNING
SEPTEMBER 9TH



AT
11AM



IN THE
SANCTUARY

A time to pause. A time to praise. A time to draw near.

W e l c o m e
S u m m e r

PSALM 27:4

"ONE THING I HAVE DESIRED OF THE LORD, THAT WILL I SEEK:
THAT I MAY DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE..."

SUMMER OFTEN FILLS OUR CALENDARS, BUT GOD IS STILL
CALLING HIS PEOPLE TO HIS PRESENCE.

THIS FALL, OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY IS OPENING THE DOORS
FOR A SPECIAL NIGHT OF WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND
ENCOUNTER:

"Fall" Into His Presence

Tuesday, September 22nd

THIS WON'T BE A CONCERT.

IT WON'T BE A PERFORMANCE.

IT WILL BE A GATHERING OF BELIEVERS SEEKING JESUS TOGETHER
—MAKING ROOM FOR HIS PRESENCE, HIS VOICE,
AND HIS WORK IN OUR LIVES.

WE BELIEVE GOD WANTS TO DRAW PEOPLE CLOSER,
RESTORE HEARTS, STRENGTHEN FAITH, AND REMIND US
THAT HIS PRESENCE CHANGES EVERYTHING.

WE INVITE YOU TO BEGIN PRAYING NOW
AND ASKING GOD WHO YOU CAN BRING.

PREPARE THE WAY

Isaiah 40:3 "Prepare the way of the Lord..."

As we look ahead to Fall Into His Presence,

we're not simply preparing an event—we're preparing our hearts.

Take time this month to:

- Seek God daily
- Pray for someone to invite
- Ask God what He wants to do in your life
- Come expecting Him to move

P³
worship
PRACTICE PRAISE PRESENCE

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 JULY

Maxine Allen
106 Mary Road
Cheraw, SC 29520
Birthday: July 19th

NOMINATING SURVEY

If you are interested in serving during the 26-27 church year, please complete the Nominating Survey at the Welcome Center. Due 7/5/26

DEACON NOMINATION

Deacon Nomination cards for the 2026-2027 church year are available at the Welcome Center. Due 7/12/26



July 1
Victor Lowery

July 3
Jordan Wright

July 6
Barbara Babb
Majik Lowery

July 7
Stuart Adeimy
Colin Stewart

July 8
Kip Kiser
Ben Rivers
Dick Young

July 10
Pat Godbold

July 12
Reed Tipton
Dallas Keefe

July 13
Eryn Butler
Tommy Creech

July 14
Temple Dyson
Lanny Rayfield

July 15
Carie Huggins

July 16
Belinda Driggers
Victoria Lowery
Rhett Phillips

July 17
Doug Fields

July 18
Landon Goodwin
Judy Sellers

July 19
Maxine Allen
Marsha Porter
Judy Knight

July 20
Abbey Novinger
Jeya John

July 21
Amy Allison
Timberleigh Phillips
Hayden Watts

July 22
Randy King

July 25
Nathan Ainsworth

July 26
Jim Dickson
Jodie Goodwin
Jesse McGee

July 27
Kody Bozard
Bill McIntosh
Paul Velez

July 28
Tim Rogers

July 29
Steve Howiler

July 31
Mary Bauman
Wesley Dyson
Belinda Southard

GIVING through
June 21

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

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

BUDGET
TO DATE: **425,665.25**

GIVING: **399,928.74**

SAFETY TEAM

Sunday, July 5

Brad Redfearn, Frankie Joyner, Jodie Goodwin, Jack Rhonemus

Sunday, July 12

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

Sunday, July 19

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

Sunday, July 26

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

**SUNDAY NIGHTS
ARE BACK!**

Games. Worship.
Bible Study. Community.

August 2nd @ 5:00 pm

CHERAW KIDS CHERAW STUDENTS Adult Small Groups

It is "POP" up Sunday!

Sunday, August 2nd

**Promotion
Sunday**

We will have a
photo booth and a
pack of popcorn for
everyone "popping"
up to celebrate!



July 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Nominating Surveys are due	KidSalt	KidSalt	KidSalt	KidSalt	SummerSalt	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Gateway Deacon Nominations are due			6pm Family Night: Florence Flamingos			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Gateway	6pm Cheraw Kids Sunday Night Volunteer Meeting					
26	27	28	29	30	31	
5pm Prayer Walk & Ice Cream Social						