

VOL. 5 ISSUE 2 • OCTOBER 2025

THE INFORMER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CHERAW FIRST BAPTIST

Church-Wide

Fall Carnival

Wednesday, October 29th
6:00pm

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN!
SUPPER WILL BE PROVIDED!

Food, Games, Fellowship, and Fun

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

November 6th
6pm

Cypress Music Hall

Join us for dinner & unforgettable entertainment!
We could not do what we do without you!

Sign up at the Welcome
Center or using the QR.



From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Rod



Recently our church affirmed six men to begin serving as part of our deacon ministry. These men were nominated by the church and vetted by our deacon body. When we look for men to serve in deacon ministry, we look for men who exhibit the biblical requirements for deacon. We also look for men who exhibit the following characteristics.

First, we look for men to serve in this ministry who are committed to this church. In other words, these are men who have invested their time, talents, and treasure in this local body of believers that we call home. For you to be considered to serve as a deacon, you must be a member of the church. Church membership is important.

Secondly, we look for men to serve who represent the church membership. The Bible has a lot to say about the nature, skills, and character of those who would be deacons. We see the deacon ministry addressed in the books of Acts, Timothy, and Titus especially. From the biblical record, we can summarize these readings into three, concise points. A deacon must 1) have a good reputation in the church and community, 2) be a tither, and 3) be regular in worship and Bible study attendance.

Third, we look for men willing to serve our church membership. What we ask of all church members is to gather with the body in corporate worship, grow in your walk with the Lord through discipleship, give of your time, talents, and treasure, and to go on mission. We expect that of deacons but especially expect them to serve the church body. The word deacon is a transliteration of the Greek word for servant. In Acts 6, the deacons (servants) were appointed to “this duty” or “service.” The best deacons are those who are “all in” and currently serving in some ministry capacity.

Lastly, we look for men to serve who will lead the membership of the church. God has called pastors to lead and shepherd His church as the undershepherd of a local body of believers. Deacons come alongside their pastor offering wisdom, counsel, encouragement, and prayer. In the absence of a pastor, deacons should be those that lead the body in transition.

It's not too often that I share thoughts on those called to this ministry, but know how grateful I am for the men who willingly serve our church as deacons. This month, we will have a deacon ordination service, where one of the men elected to this ministry will be ordained as deacon. I hope you will take part in this service.

Even if you are never elected to the office and ministry of deacon, my hope for you is that you will be a dedicated member of our church that gathers, grows, gives, and goes on mission for Christ in our community and beyond.



CHERAW KIDS



Sunday AM - Our morning childrens' ministries are off to a great start after kicking off a new year in August. Our Sunday morning small groups, nursery, preschool and kids church, as well as All Access are full of children eager to learn the promises from God's Word and spend time with one another. We peaked in preschool/kids church at 38 children this month (3K to 2nd grade). Praise the Lord for families for making Morning Worship a priority for their homes!! Speaking of being "full," we are in need of additional nursery volunteers and preschool church volunteers. I invite you to ask the Lord if this is an area in which you could serve. It takes many willing hands in children's ministries to keep everyone safe and teach them gospel.

Let me know if I can answer any questions for you on what our children's ministries look like on a given Sunday or how you can be a part.

SUNDAY PM - Our Sunday night kids' service has also started with a bang! Our children are walking through the book of Colossians and learning how "Jesus + Nothing = Everything." In August, we worked through chapter 1. Jesus gives grace. He creates. He completes. And, He gives us the ability to Go, Glow, and Grow.

Why are Children's Ministries Important at Cheraw FBC?

Research shows a person's worldview is largely formed by age thirteen—what a child believes about God, themselves, and the world by then carries into adulthood. By age two, children are already beginning to answer big questions like: Who am I? Why am I here? What's right and wrong? Who is God? What happens after I die?

That's why children's ministry is so vital! Early faith formation must start here. Even the youngest children in our nursery are learning what love, safety, and peace feel like. Children's ministry is about planting seeds that can grow for a lifetime.

Every encouraging word, every prayer, every worship song, and every fist bump or hug shapes how a child understands God and life. And your presence speaks volumes too—the way you handle situations, the way you pray and call out to God, the way you answer questions. It matters, friends.

In a world that is constantly shaping young minds, we don't have time to waste. So let's lean in, friends. Let's keep planting, teaching, praying, and loving well. It matters. Love you guys, Aleisha



CHERAW KIDS

CHERAW FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

2026

We are still in need of soccer coaches. We will only take the number of children we have coaches for this year. If you have questions or are interested in signing up, please let me know as soon as possible.

All children registered will be added to a Waiting List until we have secured coaches. Add your child to the Soccer Waiting List by scanning here:





NEXT GEN NEWS

An update from Cheraw Students and Young Adults



COMING UP:

5th Quarter: October 3rd, after the football game in the Family Life Center

Bible Study: Wednesday nights at 6pm at Pastor Ryan's house

Snapshot of This Semester

If you could be a fly on the wall during Cheraw Students on Sunday nights, you'd notice something really incredible. You'd see students sharing their testimony every single Sunday night!

So what is a testimony? We define it by three different pillars: where were you before Christ, when did you repent and give your heart to Christ, and what is Christ doing in your life right now?

We get this testimony format from **Acts 22:1-21** where Paul publicly shared his testimony. We believe that your testimony is one of the most powerful tools in a believer's tool box.

So, let me encourage you to be prepared to share your testimony, your personal testimony of salvation and how God is working in your life now.

Your testimony doesn't have to be a 45-minute sermon! Whenever we share our testimony with Cheraw Students, we typically spend five to seven minutes, whereas I have witnessed many students sharing their testimonies at the lunch table for just two minutes.

MEET RONALD CRAWFORD – HEART FOR WORSHIP

Hello church family, my name is Ronald Crawford. I am blessed to be married to my wife, Angela, and together we have two amazing children, Melody (17) and Trent (15). God has given me a love for music and worship that has carried me for more than 30 years of singing and leading, along with over 20 years of playing keys and piano. Earlier this year I faced vocal surgery, but by God's grace He healed me without the need for the procedure—a testimony of His power and faithfulness.

My passion runs deep for music and for what God is doing through worship. I believe worship is more than songs; it is the bridge that brings every generation together in the presence of the Lord. My heart is to see us go deeper as a church family, growing closer to God while uniting younger and older voices in praise to Him.



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH & 26TH
FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

**OCTOBER IS PASTOR
APPRECIATION
MONTH.**

Please take the time to
let our ministerial staff
know how much you
appreciate them!

TOWN OF CHERAW RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES

HALLOWEEN WALK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

CENTENNIAL PARK

(DOWNTOWN CHERAW)

HALLOWEEN WALK

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

SENSORY FRIENDLY TIME 4:00 PM – 4:30PM

COSTUME CONTESTS

KIDS & ADULTS

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM

SPOOKTACULAR MUSIC BINGO & SCAVENGER HUNT

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM



Join us as we partner with the Town of Cheraw for their annual Halloween Walk. We will be downtown passing out candy and sharing the love of Christ. More information to come.

OCTOBER MISSIONS MOMENT
WE WILL BE COLLECTING
CANDY IN THE FOYER FOR
THE HALLOWEEN WALK.

VIP BINGO

October 21st @ 12pm



A Devotion for Men

Pastor Rod sends these via Realm each Tuesday. If you aren't receiving them, please let Kelli know.

*Shells of Hope
Ladies' Night*

Gather with us for a night of joy as we kick off the Christmas season—creating beauty and remembering the hope we have in Christ.

November 20th @ 6:00 pm

Join us for Bingo and lunch. Sign up at the Welcome Center.

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 October

Merle Whitt
205 Dianne Drive
Cheraw, SC 29520
Birthday: October 16

GIVING

through
September 28

BUDGET
TO DATE:

586,793.61

You can give online at

cherawfbc.com/give, through the Realm app

GIVING:

582,895.56

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

SAFETY TEAM

Sunday, October 5

Brad Redfearn, Frankie Joyner, Jodie Goodwin, Jack Rhonemus
Evening: Bobby Roberts & Jack Rhonemus

Sunday, October 12

David Paschall, David Caulder, Randy Caulder, Darrell Burch, Jerry Dixon
Evening: Todd Garriss & Jim Murray

Sunday, October 19

Tom Boan, Melinda Boan, Chris Sellers, Ron Watson, Kenny Robertson
Evening: Jim Kennedy & Bob Whiteman

Sunday, October 26

Bobby Roberts, Jim Kennedy, Jay Hinson, Eric Jones, Keith Thomas
Evening: Todd Garriss & Tom Boan

"FALL FOR CHERAW"

Month of November
(stay tuned for more details)



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Attention all ministry leaders responsible for your department budget: please submit your 2026 budget requests to the church office no later than October 19th. Forms are available in the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 2

Millie Boan

October 4

Oliver Carter

October 5

Betty Surratte

October 6

Melinda Boan
Betty Simmons
Teresa Whiteman

October 9

Drew Copeland

October 11

Josh Sandifer

October 12

Cameron Hurst

October 13

Brandon Perry

October 16

Merle Whitt

October 18

Richard Ainsworth
Savannah Ange
Margie Pruitt

October 19

Travis Novinger

October 20

Todd Butler

October 22

Jonah Dyson
Milton Simmons

October 23

Connie Carroll

October 25

Brian Brown

October 26

Laurie Novinger

October 27

Brandon Pelfrey

October 30

Patti Elvington

October 31

Ana Rushing

October 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6pm Adult Mid-Week Men's & Women's Study	2	3 5th Quarter	4
5 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	6	7	8 6pm Adult Mid-Week Missions	9	10	11
12 5pm Cheraw Students *no Cheraw Kids* Adult Small Groups	13 ABBA's House (Deacons)	14	15 6pm Adult Mid-Week Bible Study	16	17	18
19 Gateway 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups * Budget Request Due	20	21 12pm VIP Bingo & Lunch	22 6pm Adult Mid-Week Prayer Time	23	24	25
26 Gateway 4pm Deacon's Meeting 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	27	28	29 6pm Mid-Week Church Fellowship	30 4:30pm Halloween Walk Centennial Park	31	