

THE INFORMER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CHERAW FIRST BAPTIST

VOL. 6 ISSUE 1 • SEPT 2026



—GO→
Boldly
EPHESIANS 6:19-20

Church Goal is

\$7500

What is this offering?

The Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions supports **missions and ministry efforts** throughout South Carolina.



Gifts help churches and missionaries **share the Gospel**,



strengthen communities,



plant churches,



meet **practical needs**,



and **reach people** with the hope of Christ.

This offering encourages South Carolina Baptists to **"Go Boldly"** in taking the Gospel beyond the walls of the local church.



Ivan
PARKER
— CONCERT —

SEPTEMBER 25TH

@ 6:30PM

CHERAW
FIRST BAPTIST



126 Greene Street
Cheraw, SC



843-537-3863

*A love offering
will be collected.*

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Rod



“He who teaches man knowledge—the LORD—knows the thoughts of man, that they are but a breath.” Psalm 94:10–11

Gladys Aylward was a revered missionary to China who worked tirelessly for orphaned and oppressed children while serving there. Her story gives us a window into one of the quieter mercies of God: He sometimes refuses the thing we think would complete us because He is preparing us for a purpose we cannot yet see.

She once recalled that, as a young girl in London, she carried two great sorrows: her short stature and the color of her hair. Her friends, it seemed, were taller than she was and had beautiful golden hair, while hers was “boring” black. She often prayed that God would change these unwanted features and make her look more like the girl she wished to be.

Years later, however, standing on a wharf in the country where God had sent her, she looked around and saw people everywhere who were as short as she was—and who also had jet black hair. In that moment she realized that God had known what He was doing all along. By saying no to her youthful prayer, He had answered her perfectly—beyond her wildest imagining.

Each of us can recall times when we wanted something from God that He seemed unwilling to grant. Perhaps you wanted a different appearance—wishing to be taller, thinner, stronger, or more attractive. Perhaps you wanted Him to grant a relationship: a romance to begin, a friendship to deepen, or reconciliation to take place. Perhaps you wanted a dream job, healing for yourself or a loved one, escape from hardship, greater financial security, a desired path for your child, or a change in the circumstances or scenery around you.

Yet the passing years may have already revealed that His answer was wiser and better than yours would have been. You did not need what you asked for in quite the way you imagined; you needed what He was preparing. And God has used your life to reveal His glory more clearly because of it.

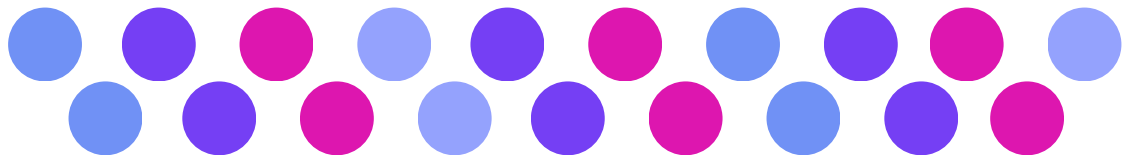
Let this same heart and mind inform your praying today and, in the days, and seasons to come, even when it seems as if no answer of His could possibly substitute for the one that seems best to you. Let Him be God. Trust His wisdom. Rest in His answer.

This is going to be an exciting month . . .

The first Wednesday evening of every month going forward, we will have a concert of prayer in the FLC. This will be modeled after our early morning prayer times we have held during different seasons of church life. The first concert of prayer will be September 2 at 6:00 pm. Then beginning Wednesday, September 9, we begin a midweek worship service at 11:00 pm in the sanctuary. We’re calling this service “Legacy” because we will be featuring the great hymns of our faith. We also begin our Equip classes at 6:00 pm this same day. Lastly, make plans to be in attendance for our Ivan Parker concert on September 25 at 6:30. You may remember Ivan from his time singing with Gold City and the Gaither’s. Let’s make this a memorable night as we kick off the fall!

Happy Fall!

CHERAW KIDS



Sunday Mornings

Sunday morning small groups, nursery, preschool church, kids church, and all-access are going well. Nursery children will be learning about creation, while our other children will be exploring what it means to follow Jesus' example of prayer, love, and blessing others.

Sunday Nights

We've kicked off Sunday Nights with a new study on the parables of Jesus! Jesus used stories and situations people understood to teach them important truths about God and how He calls us to live. As we continue through the parables, our goal isn't simply for kids to know the passages, but to recognize what Jesus is teaching and allow His truth to shape the way they live.

Safety

We want Cheraw Kids to be a place where children are known, loved, disciplined, and protected. Because of that, we have several safety procedures in place for check-in/pick-up, volunteer screening, emergency situations, classroom supervision, and more. These aren't just policies to follow; they're part of the way we care well for the children God has entrusted to us. If you are a parent, thank you for following our check-in/pick-up procedures and for trusting us with your children. Also, if you play a role in keeping children safe in any capacity at Cheraw FBC, thank you!

Volunteer Spotlight

It takes a lot of hands to do the work of Children's Ministries. As we kick off a new church year, I wanted you to hear from some of our volunteers. Over the next several months, we'll spotlight some of them and answer the question: "why do you serve in Cheraw Kids?" Here's what Ashley Kimrey had to say. Stay tuned next month to hear from some others!

I serve in Cheraw Kids, because I believe our responsibility as Christians doesn't end with our own faith; we are called to disciple the next generation. I started serving in 2022 when my child, Wade, became old enough to participate and my home church did not have a kids ministry like this one. I've always been intentional about teaching and disciplining my own child. I didn't want to simply drop him off and leave the responsibility of teaching him about Jesus to someone else, so I stayed and then I stayed again, and before you knew it Mrs. Aleisha couldn't get rid of me.



What I didn't expect was how much I would learn and grow too. I'm constantly learning right alongside Wade and the rest of the Cheraw Kids - so much that I often get so locked in I forget I am there to keep the kids from making too many distractions and are not focused on her message.

Is serving in kids ministry hard for me sometimes, yes ... it can be a challenge when they are squirming, talking to the kid beside them, or just seem to not be paying attention but there is nothing quite like hearing and watching these kids sing praises especially acappella or answering questions that they've retained from previous lessons. It's all I can do to not cry from joy when I get to witness these moments.

I serve, because I love each and every one of these kids and they are our future and what we pour into them today matters in the future of our church and our community - what is being taught to them in Cheraw Kids, I hope that they will eventually carry out into our world that's why I serve.



Join Us at One of Our Schools

EQUIP

CLASSES



STARTING
SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 6PM



MEN'S 33:
A Man and
His Design



MAKE ROOM:
Opening Our
Hearts, Homes
& Lives to Others



THE AWE OF GOD:
The Astounding Way
a Healthy Fear of God
Transforms Your Life

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

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

MIDWEEK

Legacy

WORSHIP

Honoring the faith of yesterday.
Inspiring the faith of today.



IN THE
SANCTUARY
Wednesdays
at 11am.

BEGINNING
SEPTEMBER 9TH

TRADITIONAL HYMNS. TIMELESS TRUTH. LASTING FAITH.

GET AWAY. GET FOCUSED. GROW TOGETHER.

MEN'S

Retreat

A WEEKEND TO REFRESH YOUR SOUL
AND STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH.



NOVEMBER 13-15
FRIDAY EVENING – SUNDAY MORNING



at **CAMP McCALL**
— SUNSET, NC —

COST: \$100
(INCLUDES LODGING
AND 5 MEALS)



GOD'S WORD
& TEACHING



BROTHERHOOD
& FELLOWSHIP



OUTDOOR FUN
& RELAXATION



GOOD FOOD.
GREAT COMPANY.



DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT,
REFLECT, AND GROW IN YOUR WALK WITH GOD.

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP:
OCTOBER 4TH!

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL [KELLI@CHERAWFBC.COM](mailto:kelli@cherawfbc.com)

MEN'S MINISTRY

S STUDY SCRIPTURE
W RESTLE WITH THE MEANING
A APPLY IT TO LIFE
T TALK WITH GOD AND OTHERS

A MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLASS



FRIDAYS
6:30AM – 7:30AM



BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 18TH

2 New ♥ LADIES BIBLE STUDIES

GROW IN GOD'S WORD. • GROW TOGETHER.

Luke

IN THE LAND

Walking with Jesus
through His words,
His world, and
His purpose.

Beginning
SEPT. 14

The Power of a Woman's Words

Discover how
God's Word can
transform the way
you speak and
encourage others.

Beginning
SEPT. 13

♥ SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER! ♥

WE WERE CREATED FOR

community.

because some *burdens* are lighter,
some *joys* are sweeter,
and *faith* grows stronger
when we share them *together*.



SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS *Training*



Creating a Safe Place.

Together, we can protect the vulnerable and build a culture of safety and care.



DATE

**Saturday,
September 19, 2026**



TIME

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM



Light breakfast provided!

Come be equipped. Help keep every church and ministry a safe place for everyone.

SIGN UP HERE



Cost for
Non-Members \$10



SEPTEMBER *Men's, Women's* & VIP EVENTS



**SEPTEMBER 1ST
@ 6PM**

IN THE SANCTUARY

*Snacks and fellowship
after prayer.*



**SEPTEMBER 8TH
@ 6PM**

**GOOD FOOD.
GREAT COMPANY.
GOD'S PURPOSE.**



**SEPTEMBER 23RD
@ 12PM**

**FOLLOWING MID-WEEK
LEGACY WORSHIP**

KICKING OFF

Cheraw Students kicked off this semester with a Back to School Bash out at Camp Pinehill Baptist Retreat!

We did some swimming, fishing, paddle boarding, ate some great burgers, introduced our new series through the book of Judges, had an amazing time of worship, and even got to hear Harley Chewning share her testimony.

Our series through the book of Judges is meant to help us learn how to “pass the test.”

Judges 2:22 says that God left the Canaanites and Israel's enemies in the Promised Land as a test—to see whether Israel would follow the ways of God or turn to false gods.

That's an interesting thought, isn't it? God could have completely removed Israel's enemies. Instead, He allowed them to remain.

Why? Because the presence of opposition would reveal what was really in Israel's hearts.

The book of Judges is essentially a repeated cycle. Israel would follow God, then slowly drift away from Him. They would turn to false gods, experience the consequences of their sin, cry out to God, and God would raise up a judge to deliver them. But eventually, the cycle would begin all over again.

And while we may not have Canaanites surrounding us, we still face tests every single day.

Will I follow God when my friends don't?

Will I obey God when obedience costs me something?

Will I trust God when I don't understand what He's doing?

Will I remain faithful when nobody is watching?

The tests we face aren't always about whether we know the right answer. Sometimes they're about whether we'll actually live according to what we already know to be true. That's one of the things we're hoping our students learn through Judges this semester: God is not simply interested in what we say we believe—He wants us to faithfully follow Him when our faith is put to the test.

And here's the good news: when we fail the test, God doesn't abandon His people.

Judges is a pretty messy book. Israel fails again and again. But God's faithfulness continues to show up even when Israel's faithfulness doesn't.

That points us toward the greater Judge who would ultimately come—not just to rescue Israel from their enemies, but to rescue His people from sin.

Our hope this semester isn't that our students would simply become better at “passing tests.” Our prayer is that they would know Christ, love Christ, and develop a faith strong enough to stand when the test comes.

Because eventually, every one of us will face a test. The question is: what will our faith look like when we do?

We're excited about what God is going to do in Cheraw Students this semester, and we're praying that He uses the book of Judges to challenge our students, deepen their faith, and teach them what it means to faithfully follow Him.

ONE CHURCH. ONE NIGHT. ONE PURPOSE: HIS PRESENCE.



COME EXPECTING

Fall Into His Presence

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 • 6:30 PM



TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY

For months, we've been talking about preparing our hearts. We've encouraged one another to slow down, seek God, pray faithfully, and make room for His presence.

On Tuesday, September 22, we will gather as one church family for Fall Into His Presence.

This night isn't about a concert. It isn't about a performance. It isn't even about a worship team. It's about Jesus.

We don't know exactly what God will do... but we believe He will move.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Jeremiah 29:13

*"You will seek Me and find Me,
when you seek Me with all your
heart."*

God has never ignored a heart that genuinely seeks Him. September 22 isn't about creating an emotional moment-it is about creating space for God to work in our lives.

WHAT ARE WE EXPECTING?

We are praying that God will...

- Save the lost.
- Break chains of fear and addiction.
- Restore the weary.
- Renew our passion for worship.
- Heal broken hearts.
- Unite our church around Christ.
- Strengthen marriages and families.
- Fill His house with His presence.
- Call people into ministry.

WE COME EXPECTING A PERFECT SAVIOR.

HOW CAN YOU PREPARE THIS MONTH?



Spend time
with God



Read His
Word



Pray for
someone



Invite a
friend



Come with
an open heart

WHAT'S NEXT?

From His Presence...
to the Wonder of Christmas.

Something special is coming this December.

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR 2026

COMING SOON

Volunteer Spotlight

OUR P3 WORSHIP FAMILY

Every person serving on our worship and production team has a story of God's faithfulness. We're honored to introduce six more members of our P3 Worship family.



Jim Murray

Production: Director

I grew up in a small country church that had generations of my family and close friends that were like family. They all were a tremendous influence on my understanding of who Christ was and what being a Christian meant. Around the time I was eight I felt God talking to me and I opened my heart to Christ and knew He was my Savior. That was a very confusing time for me because the more I longed for the Lord and ran towards Him the more the world wanted me to run the other way, but He never gave up on me. Because of the Cross, even though my sins put Christ on the Cross, Christ's blood that flowed to wash away those sins I have assurance of life with Christ. Because of the Cross, because of the Blood!



Karan Byrd

Vocalist: Alto

I grew up attending church and church camps. My mother always taught us about Jesus and loved her Heavenly Father. My father came to know Jesus from her as well. I did stray away from God at various times in my life but I decided that sinful life wasn't for me I wanted to serve God. I rededicated my life to Him several years ago and have never had any doubts about that decision. God has been so amazing to me and the seeds that were planted in my life, my kids and my husband have just grown more each and every day. I thank God everyday for the life I have and for God's mercy, grace and forgiveness.



Ron Woodham

Production: Audio

Growing up a preacher's kid, church was automatic every time the door was open. My father got sick and passed away when I was 14 years old. Blindsided, I felt anger-confused, constantly wondering why, how, and what to do next. In my hardest moments of grief, Jesus met me with a comfort and unexplainable peace.

Today, my faith isn't just checking a box or tradition; it is my lifeline. I know without a doubt God becomes a Father to the Fatherless. He stepped in and has been here for me without a doubt every single time.



Raina Wallace

Vocalist/Production: Soprano/Livestream Audio

I was raised in the southern Methodist church, and I was saved and baptized at a very young age. When I left home for college and then law school, I felt myself drifting away from God; it was hard to find a Christian community that felt like home. But a local church found me, and they opened their hearts and homes to me and helped bring me back to the Lord. Now all I want to do is serve the church and love others the way those strangers loved me.



Majik Lowery

Vocalist: Tenor

Over the past year, God has taken me through some seasons that stretched my faith in ways I didn't expect. There have been moments of uncertainty, pressure, and simply not knowing what the next step would look like. But through it all, God has continued to remind me that I am never walking alone. Serving through worship has been one of the ways He has kept my heart grounded and reminded me that my circumstances may change, but His character never does. I've learned to trust Him even when I don't understand Him, to worship even when life is difficult, and to believe that He is still working even when I can't see it. My testimony is simple: God has kept me, God is still keeping me, and I trust Him with whatever comes next.



Aleisha Ainsworth

Vocalist/Musician: Soprano-Alto/Keyboardist

When Jesus is all you have, He truly becomes all you need. Growing up, I did all of the right things. But, despite those things, I knew my heart was not in a good place. My circumstances changed drastically at home, and I quickly learned that checking off all of the right boxes did not make life fair. It was in those quiet moments, alone as an unsure teenager, that I heard the Master speak loud and clear. I accepted whatever God wanted for my life that day and, while rough the road at times, I've not looked back. God continuously shows me that He wastes nothing, not even the broken pieces of our stories, and every piece can become evidence of His grace in His hands. At every moment of uncertainty, God has been faithful. Every time I have decided that I would rather step out of the boat and sink, then stay in the boat never fulfilling the purpose God has for me life, God has been faithful. He has been faithful to me; it is my story. It is my song, and I'll sing it wherever He leads.

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 September

Tom & Grace Hudson
144 Burchwood Circle, Cheraw
Grace's Birthday: Sept. 29th

2026 - 2027 Deacons

Tom Boan	Jack Rhonemus
Dorr Depew	Darrell Burch
David Paschall	Mitch Harpe
Joey Polson	Clayton Hurst
Scott Laney	Collin Burch
Jim Murray	Rhett Phillips
Joe Elvington	Ron Watson
Aaron Parker	



September 1
Sherry Hedrick

September 2
Susan Robertson

September 3
Genelle Cole

September 8
Zeke Velez

September 10
Ava Logan
Betty Roberts

September 11
Julia Fenters
Wayne Quick

September 12
Lora Chavis

September 13
Kellon Hall
Ruth Keith

September 14
Mollie Phillips

September 15
Janet Caulder
Laura Haley
Ellie Tipton

September 16
Richard Board
PJ Claytor Jr

September 17
Robyn Brown
Meredith Elvington

September 19
Graham Kiser
Zack Newton
Natalie Phillips

September 20
Wesley Goldberg
Ben Pelfrey
Heather Worsham
Lauren Worsham

September 21
Ashley Fenters
Molly O'Neal
Donna Teal

September 22
Evelyn Carter

September 23
Jerry Dixon

September 26
Courtney Sellers

September 27
Hope Burch
Jenny Keefe

September 28
Leslee Nace
Lily Pelfrey

September 29
Grace Hudson

GIVING

through
August 23

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:

578,904.74

GIVING:

538,841.76

SAFETY TEAM

Sunday, September 6

Bill McIntosh ,Frankie Joyner, Jack Rhonemus, Brandon Pelfrey,
Mitch Harpe

Evening: Bobby Roberts & Jack Rhonemus

Sunday, September 13

David Paschall, David Caulder, Randy Caulder, Terrie Caulder,
Darrell Burch

Evening: Todd Garris & Jim Murray

Sunday, September 20

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

Evening: Jim Kennedy & Bob Whiteman

Sunday, September 27

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

Evening: Tom Boan & Todd Garris



Mark & Pam Durham
Alexus Cox
Katie Brune

September 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6pm Selah Prayer Night (Ladies)	2 6pm Prayer Time	3	4	5
6 No Evening Activities	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8 6pm Men's Wing Night	9 11am Mid-Week Legacy Worship 6pm Equip Classes	10	11 5th Quarter	12
13 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	14	15	16 11am Mid-Week Legacy Worship 6pm Equip Classes	17	18 6:30am Men's SWAT	19 8:30am Sexual Abuse Awareness Training
20 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	21	22 6:30pm Encounter Night	23 11am Mid-Week Legacy Worship/ VIP Lunch 6pm Equip Classes	24	25 6:30am Men's SWAT Ivan Parker Concert	26
27 5pm Cheraw Kids/Students Adult Small Groups	28	29	30 11am Mid-Week Legacy Worship 6pm Equip Classes			