



October 2023

# CBC Connect

700 South Converse Street. Spartanburg, SC 29306



## Bishop's Heart Harvest or Halloween

Harvest and Halloween... the two go head-to-head seemingly every fall. Most scholars agree that Halloween originated around 2,000 years ago when Celtic people in Europe celebrated the end of the harvest and the start of a new year in a festival called Samhain. People also believed they could commune with the dead more easily during that time, lighting bonfires to ward off ill-intentioned spirits, according to the American Folklife Center. Robert E. Wolverson, a classics professor at Mississippi State University, said "On that night, it was thought that ghosts and witches wandered the country. Some were good - that is, ancestors of the living - but others were bad and sought to harm."

The controversial question is whether Christians should celebrate Halloween or better yet, what is holy about Halloween. Scripture does not speak at all about Halloween, but it does give us some principles on which we can make a decision. In Old Testament Israel, witchcraft was a crime punishable by death (Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:31; 20:6, 27). The New Testament teaching about the occult is clear. Acts 8:9-24, the story of Simon, shows that occultism and Christianity don't mix. The account of Elymas the sorcerer in Acts 13:6-11 reveals that sorcery is violently opposed to Christianity.

In the 13th chapter of the book of Acts Paul called Elymas a child of the devil, an enemy of righteousness, and a perverter of the ways of God. In Acts 16, at Philippi, a fortune-telling girl loses her demonic powers when an evil spirit is cast out by Paul. Interestingly, Paul refused to allow even good statements to come from a demon-influenced person. Acts 19 shows new converts who abruptly broke ties with their former occultic practices by confessing Christ, showing their evil deeds, bringing their magic paraphernalia, and burning it before everyone (Acts 19:19).

As believers we celebrate Harvest. Harvest refers to the time during autumn when farmers traditionally bring in crops to supply their community throughout the year. Although our food today is more likely to come from the supermarket, Christians believe it is still important to remember God as the creator and thank Him for the good things He provides. Harvest is biblical! Feasts connected to harvest are mentioned in the Bible. The Feast of Weeks (Shavuot) marked the first fruits of harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering (Sukkot) marked the end of harvest. Exodus 23:16 (NIV) says, 'You shall keep the feast of ingathering at the end of the year when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor.' It is described in Exodus 34:22, (KJV) as the 'Festival of Ingathering at the year's end' or the 'Festival of the Final Harvest.' (NLT). It marked the end of the harvest and the agricultural year. Harvest is a time when we pause and say thank you "Lord" for the abundance of blessings in our lives. So as we start the Harvest season we celebrate and pray a bountiful and abundant Harvest to each of you. We also speak the blessings of the Lord to manifest in your life in this season.

# Join Bishop...

**Sunday,**  
**October 1st, 2023**

*New Fellowship Baptist Church*

6:00 p.m.

418 Old Spartanburg Hwy  
Wellford, SC

**Monday,**  
**October 16th, 2023**

Shady Oak Baptist Church

7:00 p.m.

1117 White Horse Road  
Greenville, SC 29605





# Monthly EVENTS

Sunday, October 1st, 2023



**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

Wear pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023

**Deacon's Ministry Meeting**

The deacons will meet in the conference room at 6:00 p. m.

Monday, October 9th, 2023

**Miracle Monday**

Come worship with us for our Miracle Monday Service at 7:00 pm!  
Dr. Larry T. Crudup will be our guest!



Sunday, October 15th, 2023

**Pastoral Anniversary**



Wear your jeans and Jordan apparel as we honor Bishop & Co-Pastor for their 23rd Pastoral Anniversary! Bishop Neil Gross will be our guest!

Monday, October 23rd, 2023

**Miracle Monday**

Come worship with us for our Miracle Monday Service at 7:00 pm!  
Apostle S. Derrall Beason will be our guest!

Thursday, October 26th, 2023

**Praise Team Auditions**

The CBC Music Ministry announces Praise Team Ministry Auditions beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th

**Bible Study & Empowerment Hour**

Join us for in-person Bible Study today at Noon & 6:30 p.m.



# Save the Dates

**Saturday, November 4th, 2023**

## **Reset 23 Empowerment Luncheon**

CBC Ministry Leaders it is time to RESET...  
Save the date for our RESET 23 Empowerment Luncheon!

**Sunday, November 5th, 2023**

## **Food Truck Rodeo Showcase**

Join us for the Food Rodeo Truck Showcase in the CBC parking lot from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday, November 12th, 2023**

## **Church Anniversary & Harvest Breakfast**

CBC Celebrates our 117th Anniversary and our Harvest Breakfast  
Breakfast will be from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Alphonso Houston will be our guest for our morning worship experience!

# **Health Corner**

**Sunday, October 22nd**

**Wear purple for Domestic  
Violence Awareness Month**



**Domestic Violence  
Awareness Month**



# Monthly

# Announcements



**LIVE STREAMING**



Follow us on Facebook (Cornerstone Baptist Church), subscribe to us on YouTube (CB Church Spartanburg) or visit our website ([cbconthegrow.com](http://cbconthegrow.com)) for all worship experiences!

## Reminder

### Cluster and Ministry Leaders

Please submit any announcements for our CBC Connect Newsletter by the 15th of each month.

## MEETING TIME

### Ministry Leaders

Do you need to reserve a meeting space and time?  
Please consult your Cluster Leader with your requests.

## Fundraising EVENT

Have a fundraising project idea that would bless CBC??

Please submit your ideas to Minister Aleasha & Minister Akia via email.

# CORNERSTONE



Trustees: Robert Smith, Sandra Thompson, BJ Lyles

Deacons: Fred Means, Alfred Meadors, Callie Smith, Garfield Dawkins

Deaconess: Tonda Smith, Christine Robinson, Phoebe Meadors, English Gibbs



Just remember, while you worship and while you tarry...  
**NO FOOD OR DRINK in the AV Room or Sanctuary!**



All Ministry Leaders and Members- Paxton is working! If you would like to purchase or pick up your key fob please contact Minister Aleasha Jackson to schedule a pickup time .

*Offering*  
IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP

Pay your tithes with ease with credit card, debit card, online through PayPal or CBC Cash App.



## Stay Connected

Join us for Intercessory Prayer at 8:00 am, Sunday School at 8:30 - 9:30 am, and Sunday Morning Worship at 9:30 am.

Follow us on Facebook and on YouTube (CB Church Spartanburg) for all worship experiences & virtual Bible Study on Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm! Download our CBC App, create a profile and save 864-689-2996 in your contacts on your phone for important notifications.



[cbconthegrow.com](http://cbconthegrow.com)





# Encouraging Corner with CoPastor

## FearLESS

“For I hold you by your right hand— I, the Lord your God. And I say to you, ‘Don’t be afraid. I am here to help you.’” Isaiah 41:13 NLT

J5 and I walked into Sam’s Club and as usual, the seasonal items were out. While holding his hand I felt a little tug. Puzzled by his unusual hesitation I looked at him only to find out that his eyes were fixed on a gigantic zombie decoration that was seemingly hanging from the ceiling. I asked J5 what was wrong (because we had discussed on several occasions what to do when he felt afraid). He said to me “Ma, I don’t like that, it’s scary!” I asked him what should he do when he is afraid ... he responded “in the Name of Jesus” but he still wouldn’t move. In that moment. I picked him up and I shared with him “J5 you don’t need to be afraid. I’m here! Sugar Mama won’t let anything happen to you” and we talked about how we were going to walk past the Zombie confessing the Name of Jesus! I shared with J5 that Jesus will protect us and we don’t have to fear. I put J5 down, and with a sigh of relief, he walked by the huge zombie figurine, his hand in my hand, speaking the Name of Jesus.

What a revelation I received that day. When we are afraid or feel fear rising in us or around us, if we call on Jesus, He will pick us up, reassure our faith, and walk with us through the valley of the shadow of death. He will even carry us past the danger, past the threat. He will assure us that HE is there to hold us and help us. This scripture in Isaiah speaks to us in those uncertain, uncomfortable, and fearful times. We are commanded by our loving Father “don’t be afraid.” Not only does He command us not to be afraid but He reassures us with His presence saying, “I am here!” The joy is in the fact that as believers - we are NEVER alone especially when we are afraid. The scripture tells us that the Lord is with us. What an amazing promise and privilege! The God of this universe promises to not only hold us up with His omnipotent hand but to help us! He knows what we are facing, He knows what we are going through. He promises to hold us and help us. In our humanity, we will experience situations that provoke us to be fear-FULL! So while we are living in a world that is entrenched in fear let us be intentional to FEAR - LESS and allow our wonderful Savior to hold us and help us in these fearful times.

*Stay Encouraged!*

*CoP*