



CBCO Connect

Bishop Charles & CoPastor Alaine Jackson
700 S Converse Street Spartanburg, SC 29306

Merry
Christmas

December 2025



Cbconthegrow.com





Bishop's Heart

A SET ON READY *Christmas*

As an unapologetic Charlie Brown fan, for me, Christmas is one of those times when the classics come to life. In the 1965 television special, **A Charlie Brown Christmas** Charlie Brown said that he just didn't feel the way that he was supposed to about Christmas. No one seemed to have the Christmas spirit. Lucy was upset because she never got real estate. Sally asked Santa Claus for money and Snoopy was busy decorating his doghouse. Charlie Brown agreed to direct the Christmas pageant and everyone was more interested in dancing and celebrating than getting into the actual Christmas story. So when Charlie Brown asked what Christmas was all about, Linus was **set on ready** and responded by reciting the Biblical Christmas story from the second chapter of the book of Luke. After hearing the Christmas Story Charlie Brown realized that Christmas was more than just materialism and commercialization. Linus, known for carrying around his security blanket stood out to me in this episode because of his intelligence and wisdom. While holding his blanket he shared the story of the birth of Christ. I believe everyone has some form of a "security blanket" and unlike Linus, we allow our "insecurities" to keep us from sharing about Jesus Christ. Linus prompted me to ask the question what if we were as bold to tell the Christmas story? What would happen in the world if we as "Christians" were ashamed to tell the truth about the birth of Christ? Like Charlie Brown and the crew people are filled with hopelessness, depression, disappointment, and pain. Sharing the Christmas story is necessary because there are many "Charlie Browns" who have never heard or maybe have forgotten about the Savior of the world and others who need a word of hope. The Christmas story is a message of hope, peace, and divine love. The Bible is full of prophecies and affirmations to the birth and purpose of Christ's birth such as: Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" and Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." This Christmas, like Linus let's be "set on ready" to share and celebrate the birth of Christ because He is the Savior of the World! When there is so much bad news and devastation, let us share the good news that's worth celebrating! Merry Christmas!

Shalom,
Bishop



December Events

3

Weekly Bible Study
EMPOWERMENT

12 Noon
IN-PERSON

6:30
Virtually



10

Weekly Bible Study
EMPOWERMENT

12 Noon
IN-PERSON

6:30
Virtually



17

Weekly Bible Study
EMPOWERMENT

12 Noon
IN-PERSON

6:30
Virtually



20

Mother's & Father's Ministry
Christmas Brunch

CBC Gym

10 am

21

UGLY SWEATER SUNDAY

25

MERRY
Christmas!





CBC CARES

Joint Ministry Leaders of the month

Trustees: Charles Goodwin, Lawrence Henderson, Robay Stroble, Paulette Young, Rudy Rice
 Deacons: Lenny Kindall, Tommy Dawkins, Mryon Glenn, Julie Goins, Ann Cuff
 Deaconesses: Jennifer Kindall, Nancy Dawkins, Mary Glenn, Stacy Williams, Doris Tidwell



Just remember, while you worship and while you tarry...
NO FOOD OR DRINK in the sanctuary!



Attention Ministry Leaders and Members- Paxton is working!



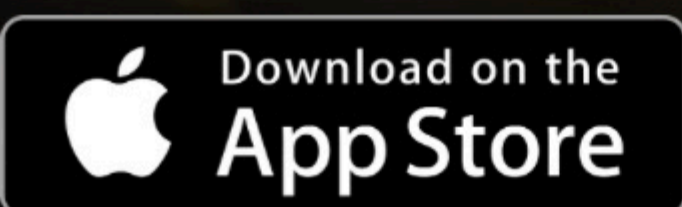
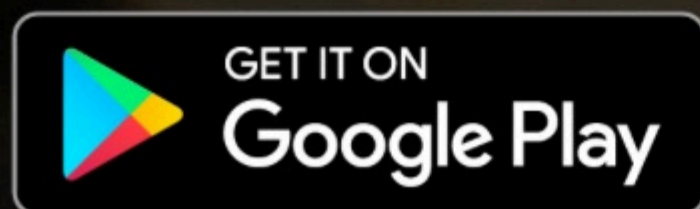
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PUSHPAY



Follow us on Facebook & 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. Please note this number is for outgoing messages only and cannot receive incoming messages or calls.





Encouraging Corner with CoPastor

Christmas For Real

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders.
And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

~ Isaiah 9:6 NLT

I distinctly remember the Christmas when I discovered that Santa Claus wasn't the one who delivered our toys. As my brother and I prepared for Santa's arrival, I was responsible for putting out the cookies and milk - a task I took very seriously. Two cookies were placed on a saucer each Christmas Eve on my mom's marble coffee table right next to the Christmas tree—one cookie for Santa and one for his elf. One half glass of milk and a napkin completed our display and off to bed my brother and I went. That Christmas morning, my brother and I woke up to a brand-new basketball hoop and several other small gifts. I wanted a basketball goal most of all and Santa delivered. My parents' intentionality was impeccable to the point that there were black finger-prints on the white backboard (must be Santa's - so I thought) but there was one omission - the cookies were left uneaten. I was disappointed. So another unsolicited life lesson began. My parents sat down with me and explained what no "Santa-fan" wanted to hear. They explained how hard they worked to get my "ginormous" basketball goal into the living room and that my dad was so tired that he forgot about the cookies and milk. My mom's closing words resonated with me, as they often would "Christmas is the day we set aside to celebrate Jesus' birthday" she said, "but you received gifts" and with that, my perspective began to change. After our chat, I looked at the Christmas and holiday season differently. I also passed that same revelation on to my children. Santa doesn't get the praise - Jesus does, the tree gets no glory - Jesus does. Let's keep Jesus as the center of our celebration. We give gifts as Jesus gave Himself - His life, as a ransom for many. He is the reason not just for the season but for all that we say and do! It's a celebration of His birth - the gift that we received freely. So let's celebrate CHRISTmas for real this year. Let's keep Jesus Christ as the center and focus of all we do all year long.

Stay encouraged!

CoP