



## Covenant Baptist Church

*Reformed and Refreshing*

*December 22nd 2019*

Welcome to Covenant Baptist Church. We are a Reformed church committed to three things:

- **The Exaltation of God**

We desire that the people at Covenant truly understand who God is and His rightful place in their lives as their Lord and sovereign Savior.

- **The Edification of the Saints**

We consider it extremely important to correctly teach the Bible, verse by verse, so we can properly have the Holy Spirit apply it to our lives.

- **The Evangelization of the Sinner**

We understand that God has given us the responsibility to be stewards of the Gospel and that means sharing it exactly like God gave it to us with those who need Jesus.

<https://covenantbaptistsc.org>

# Covenant Baptist Church Schedule

Bible Education Hour (Systematic Theology)  
~ 9:30 A.M.

Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 A.M.

Wednesday Prayer Service ~ 7:00 P.M.

*(We are not interested in traditional worship  
or contemporary worship. We are only  
interested in true worship.)*

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## **Order of Worship**

*(December 22nd, 2019)*

O Holy Night—240

Prayer and Scripture Reading:  
Selected Scriptures

O, Come All Ye Faithful—231

What Child Is This—230

Message:

True and False—

The Reality of the Visible Church  
John 15:1-6

Prayer and Benediction

Closing Hymn: Go, Tell It On the Mountain—225

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## **Upcoming cleaning volunteers:**

December 28: Bristol

## **Deacon on-call list:**

December 22: Daryl Kyzer

December 29: Chris Waddell

## **Church Bookstore:**

Purchases (cash only) can be made by seeing Annsley or Cristan Smoak,  
or following the instructions left near the bookstore entrance.

## Announcements—December 22nd, 2019

No Greek class tonight

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There will be no Wednesday evening service on December 25.

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In celebration of the new babies being added to Kenny & Fabi Brown and Matthew & Kelsey Dickerson's families, we would like to announce a gift giving event on January 12th. Both families have requested diapers and wipes for their children. If you would like to provide some diapers and wipes for these two families, bring them to the church by January 12th. Thank you for helping us celebrate these two beautiful lives.

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If you would be interested in taking some Biblical Counseling classes here at the church, please let the pastor know. We would like to see both men and women trained in biblical counseling here at CBC.

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We will resume our Bible Ed hour on 2nd Sundays in order to avoid confusion and so that guests can know the times of services. So, we will have Bible Ed every Lord's Day.

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Please contact Chris Waddell (803-447-8257) if you would like to be added to the church cleaning list for the coming year. Thank you to those that have already responded!

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For those interested: There will be a Christmas Eve service at Pineview Baptist church at 5:30 December 24th.

A few families from Covenant are going. We would love to see you there.

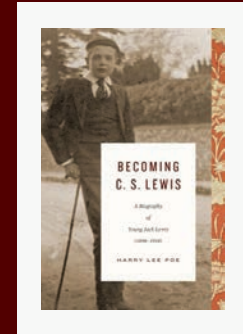
Pineview Baptist Church

3010 Leaphart Rd, West Columbia, SC 29169

Brandon Sandifer, Pastor

## Book of the Week: Becoming C. S. Lewis

*Harry Lee Poe*



The pre-conversion formative years of C.S. Lewis are often overlooked by biographers in favor of his later life as a foremost Christian apologist. But Poe sees those early experiences---habits and tastes he developed in boarding school, his delight in literature, key personal relationships, his deep personal struggles and intense pursuit of joy---as seminal to all he became.

<https://www.amazon.com/Becoming-C-S-Lewis-Biography/dp/1433562731>

# Reserve Your Seat G3 2020

## “Worship Matters!

“...Take time to register for your seat and save the date for a big weekend focused on spiritual renewal and growth through God’s Word.

“As we make our plans for the upcoming G3 Conference, we are excited! Not only will we have three days of fellowship, ministry connections, and free resources available to us—but of most importance will be our opportunity to focus for three days on the theme of worship and to engage in the worship of God.

“Make your plans now to be in Atlanta for this extremely important conference for the local church.”

Read more at: [g3conference.com](http://g3conference.com)

**Reserve your seat at:**  
<https://g3conference.com/events/>

Worship is our innermost being responding with praise for all that God is, through our attitudes, actions, thoughts, and words, based on the truth of God as He has revealed Himself.

—John MacArthur



# Covenant Baptist Church Events

Greek Class:

*No Greek class tonight.*



2nd Sunday Fellowship Dinner:

*January 12th is our second Sunday fellowship meal. Please plan to bring a dish and join us after the service! Also remember that we usually have visitors who stay for the meal, and you are encouraged to bring more than a small side dish so that there is plenty to go around.*

Lord’s Table on the 22nd:

*The Lord’s Table observance is this Sunday. Please pray and prepare your heart for this important time of worship.*



## He's Just Blind –by Jordan Standridge

It doesn't matter how many times you share the Gospel, you still need encouragement from time to time.

After over an hour-long conversation with a young Roman Catholic named Jimmy, we ended the conversation with a hug. It was obvious, though, as he walked away that spiritually we were speaking different languages.

We talked about whether Jesus was the only way. He said yes, but kept saying that Jesus' death made it possible for people who might never even hear about Him to be saved. In other words, that if they lived good lives and followed their conscience that Christ could save them.

He kept saying that it is only by the grace of Christ that he will be able to not die shortly after committing a mortal sin, but then, when asked why Jesus didn't help those who have died while committing a mortal sin, he said that it was probably their parents' fault for teaching them poorly and, therefore, God would show them leniency.

It was very clear that though Jimmy had been catechized and that he had asked his priest many questions, in the end, he was pretty much a universalist like Pope Francis.

He explained that there were three ways to be saved. One way was through baptism, the other through doing your best with whatever information you have (which includes those who've never heard of Christ all the way down to evil people who just weren't raised well and therefore are probably excused), and the other was through being killed or dying as a martyr (this was referring to people who die through any war and especially children who are innocent).

I was very direct with him, I told him that he was trusting in his works and was self-righteous, and I told him that if he didn't trust in Christ alone for his salvation he was headed towards hell. We left with him thanking me for being direct with him and him leaving with one of my tracts. It was such an emotional conversation for me that I even hugged him before he left, and pretty much begged him to read the Bible.



## He's Just Blind —by Jordan Standridge (cont.)

As we watched him go away, my friend turned to me and said some very helpful words.

“He’s just blind.”

Experience in sharing the Gospel is important. Your theology of the Lord’s sovereignty in salvation is crucial. But even with those two things in place, it can still be downright discouraging to spend over an hour in conversation with someone, listening to them, answering their questions, and then watching them walk away, unchanged. Of course, they can be saved later on, perhaps even years later, but there is a shock that comes with clearly explaining the Gospel to someone and them walking away, rejecting it.

It is only amplified when it is someone you’ve known for more than 1 hour.

Perhaps there’s someone in your life you’ve shared the Gospel with time and time again. You’ve explained the Gospel so clearly. You have poured yourself out to them, you’ve listened to them, and have answered their questions as best you can, and yet they simply will not believe. You need to be reminded of the blindness of man.

They love their sin, they love to be the god of their own life, ultimately, they love being able to control their eternal destiny.

In other words, they are just blind (1 Cor. 2:14).

That is what makes Jesus’ conversation with the Pharisees, after He had healed the blind man and saved him from his sin, so fascinating. They were the blind ones all along, and they would not admit their need for Christ to save them from their wickedness (John 9:40-41 [Open in Logos Bible Software (if available)] ).

Be encouraged that it doesn’t depend on you to lead people to Christ. You are just a sower using the only Seed that can bring forth fruit, the Word of God. That is the only weapon at your disposal and God is the only one who can make it go deep into the heart of man and cause man to be born again (Rom. 10:17 [Open in Logos Bible Software (if available)] ).

You may be doing everything right, so to speak, but the fact remains that the Lord must open the eyes of the blind; no man can do it. So, as we labor in

## He's Just Blind —by Jordan Standridge (cont.)

evangelism, we must be laboring in prayer for those to whom we speak (Col. 4:2).

As you continue to preach the Gospel to those around you, remember to always rely on the Word of God and pray that God would grant people repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth (2 Tim. 2:25). There's only one Man who can open the eyes of the blind and that is Jesus Christ Himself (Psalm 146:8, John 9).

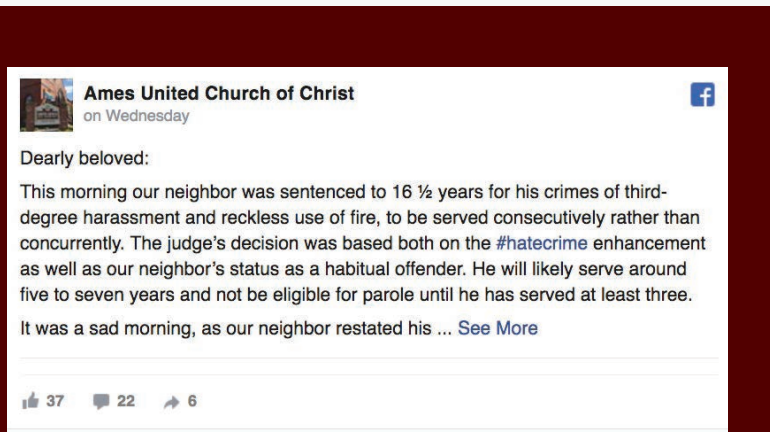
## Iowa man gets 16 years in prison for stealing church's LGBT flag, burning it elsewhere —by Daniel Payne

An Iowa man this week was sentenced to 16 years in prison for stealing an LGBT flag from a local Christian church and burning it outside of a nearby strip club.

Adolfo Martinez, 30, stole the flag in June from Ames United Church of Christ and later burned it outside of a local “gentleman’s club.” Martinez openly admitted to police that he had committed the crime.

Martinez’s lengthy sentence stemmed from the state’s successful prosecution of a “hate crime.” The prosecution believed that Martinez had burned the flag due to its LGBT connotations.

On the church’s Facebook page yesterday, senior minister Eileen Gebbie wrote that the congregation had sought to pay the criminal’s court fees and that the church is currently exploring the possibility of supporting his children and their mother during his incarceration.



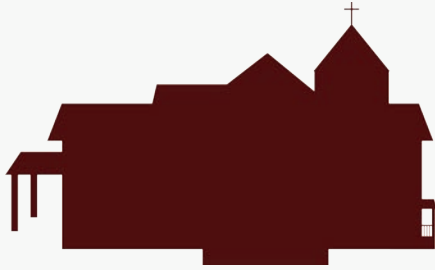
From:  
<https://disrn.com/news/iowa-man-gets-16-years-in-prison-for-burning-lgbt-flag-outside-of-strip-club>





## **Strategies for Fighting Depression Well—by Jim Newheiser**

<https://biblicalcounseling.com/fighting-depression-well/>



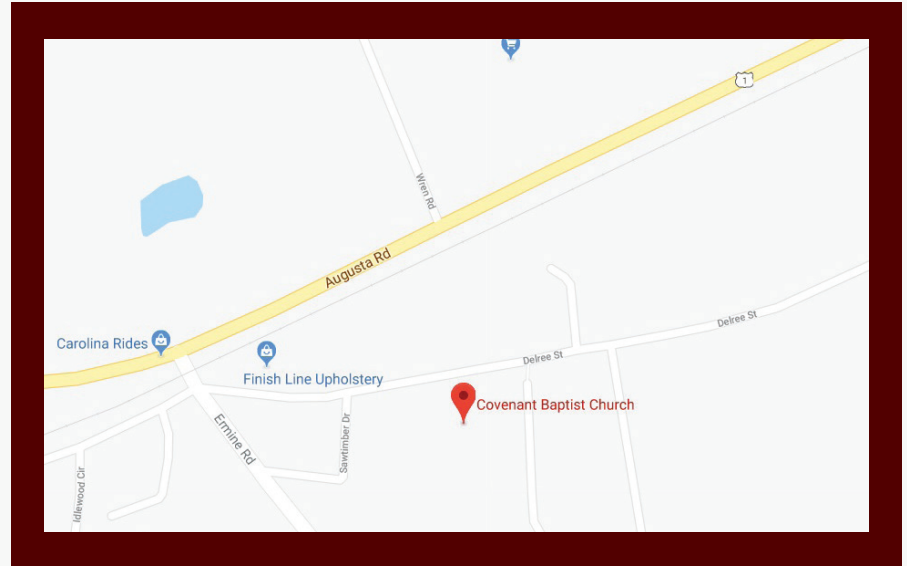
## Covenant Baptist Church

*Reformed and Refreshing*

*3535 Delree Street*

*West Columbia, SC 29170*

*<https://covenantbaptistsc.org>*



*If you are interested in joining our church, please speak to one of our elders or deacons.  
They will be happy to give you the information you need.*