



## Covenant Baptist Church

*Reformed and Refreshing*

*March 28th, 2021*

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>*

## Service Times:

Bible Education Hour (The Genesis Academy)  
~ 9:30 A.M.

Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 A.M.

Wednesday Prayer Service ~ 6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M.

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

## Order of Worship

*(March 28th, 2021)*

Prelude

Call to Worship: Psalm 89:8–14

At The Cross— 284

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:17–29;  
1 Corinthians 11:27–31

Lord's Supper

Lamb of God— 265

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Message:

Religious Hypocrites and a Postmodernist Judge Jesus  
—John 18:28-38

Prayer and Benediction

Closing Hymn: Hallelujah, What a Savior!—296

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### On-Call Deacon List:

- March 28: Shumpert
- April 4: Smoak
- April 11: Kyzer

### Church Cleaning Schedule:

- April 3: Olds/Shealy
- April 10: Kyzer (K&R)/Bean
- April 17: Allen/Steele

### Church Bookstore:

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



## Announcements

Next Sunday is Resurrection Sunday! We encourage you to invite your friends and family to church this coming Lord's Day. In our celebration of the Resurrection of Christ, we will have a special message from our pastor and a gospel call to the lost to come to Christ and be saved.

—  
We would like to pay off the church mortgage this year. As of December 2020, we have been in this building for 3 years. God has blessed us tremendously to currently owe only \$160,845.66. If you would like to help us pay this off so we can look forward to building more room, we would be very thankful for your generosity. We are currently praying and seeking God's will for the future direction of CBC for worship and teaching, and parking space.

—  
Our Wednesday service includes a prayer time in the "Other Room" at 6pm. Following that, at 7pm, we have our evening worship with prayer and the study of the Book of Romans. We would love to have you come and be with us in this mid-week worship.

—  
Calling all cooks! We are organizing a church cookbook to share all of our wonderful cooks recipes and to raise funds for the India orphanages. Please submit your favorite recipes for breakfast, salads, sides, main course, casseroles, desserts, and more! Please email your recipes (with ingredients and instructions) to [info@covenantbaptistsc.org](mailto:info@covenantbaptistsc.org). We are also collecting artwork to include with the cookbook so if you are an artist (adult or kid) and would like to submit artwork, please give your submissions to Kerri Olds or Renee Kyzer. If you have any questions, please text Kerri (843-819-5080) or Renee (803-331-9024). Please email recipes by March 31st.

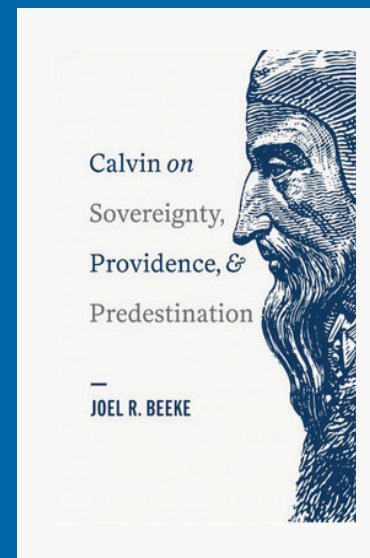
—  
Regarding the India orphanage, we have supporters for all the boys in their house, but need support of \$41 per month for about 12 girls. Please pray about this and if the Lord leads, you can sign up on the blue pad on the hallway table. Thank you all for your help.

## Book of the Week: Calvin on Sovereignty, Providence, and Predestination by Joel Beeke

"The doctrine of God has subordinate truths that are easily appreciated by all God's people and other truths that seem to graduate you into the higher echelons of God's self-disclosure and its attendant spiritual benefits. God's sovereignty is in the latter category, and John Calvin, the Swiss Reformer, did a lot to help the church appreciate this truth from Scripture. Joel Beeke does a great service by helping us to understand some of Calvin's teachings on God's sovereignty, especially in providence and in predestination. Trust me, this little book is worth every moment you will spend reading it!" -Conrad Mbewe

Purchase at:

<https://www.heritagebooks.org/products/calvin-on-sovereignty-providence-and-predestination-beeke.html>



## Covenant Baptist Church Events

**Greek Class**—*On hold*

**Biblical Counseling Class**—*On hold*

**Second Sunday Dinner**—*April 11th. Please plan to bring a dish to share and stay for the fellowship. 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.*

## Other Events:

**Truth: Answers for Women, March 27-28 2020**—*(Williamstown, KY)*

*DELAYED UNTIL 2021*

*More at: <https://answersingenesis.org/outreach/event/answers-for-women-2020/>*

**2021 National Conference | Ligonier Ministries, March 18-20**—*(Orlando, FL)*

*More at: <https://www.ligonier.org/events/2021-national-conference/>*



## The Responsibility of Church Growth

—by Josh Buice

During 2020, right in the middle of our COVID-19 season, I wrapped up a decade of pastoral ministry within our local church. Needless to say, when I was called to return back home and serve the local church where my wife and I grew up as children, I had envisioned something much different for the 10-year outlook. Last year was a hard year for many local churches for obvious reasons.

Over the past few months, we have seen an explosion of sudden growth. It's the kind of thing you often pray for, but you rarely see. I'm leading our PMBC Discovery Class which is our membership class that we offer in the Spring and Fall each year—and we have record numbers going through the class. Beyond that, we have new families and young couples showing up each week who are expressing a desire for a biblical church. These families seem to be hungry for truth and dissatisfied with trivialities that are often commonplace within evangelicalism.

As I meet with our elders, we are recognizing this providential season of growth, and while we are overjoyed by what we see happening, we also recognize that God expects us as pastors to be prepared to receive these families and to care for them properly. At the end of the day—they are God's sheep and with church growth comes various levels of pastoral responsibility.

## The Responsibility of Shepherding (Leading and Feeding)

The roles and responsibilities of a pastor are multifaceted, but at the top of the list is the calling of a pastor to feed the sheep. That was exactly what Jesus commanded of Peter when he was restoring him to fellowship following his resurrection (John 21:17). That is precisely what Peter understood his responsibility to be as he articulated the roles of a pastor in 1 Peter 5:1-4). The most important role of a pastor is to preach the Word (2 Timothy 4:1-5) and to make sure the sheep have a proper well balanced biblical diet.

One aspect of pastoral leadership is to also shepherd families as they assimilate into the life of the church. It can be overwhelming at times for new families to come into the church when everyone is a stranger. It can also be challenging to find areas of service as a new member. Sometimes members have a territorial spirit that prevents new members from getting engaged in areas of ministry—and the pastors need to be aware of this challenge and shepherd the entire church through the process of receiving new members.

## The Responsibility of Oversight (Protecting and Correcting)

One of the great responsibilities of a pastor is to protect the sheep from danger. That's what shepherds do and that's why there is so many allusions and illustrations in the Bible that connect the local church ministry to the work of shepherding a flock of sheep.

Just as wolves lurk in the shadows of the field seeking to devour the sheep—religious wolves do the same thing. They seek to divide the flock. They seek to devour the sheep. They will often disguise themselves as sheep in order to enter the fold and do great harm. Paul recognized this danger and warned the elders of the church at Ephesus. Notice the sobering warning Paul issued to his fellow elders:

*Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock (Acts 20:28–29).*

The role of the pastor is to defend the flock of God. This means, that we must keep our guard up as we receive new members to be certain that one of these prospects isn't a wolf. We likewise have a responsibility to protect the church from wolves

who seek to divide, destroy, and do great harm to the church. This can be through books, online resources, and parachurch ministries. Pastors have a responsibility to speak the truth about those who speak error and cause spiritual harm within the hearts and minds of God's people.

### The Responsibility of Discipleship (Equipping)

One of the great joys of a pastor is to engage in biblical discipleship. This is the process that goes beyond assimilation to genuine spiritual growth. The goal of a pastor is to equip the saints for the work of ministry, not for sitting on a pew and watching others engage in ministry. Notice the words of Paul to the church at Ephesus:

*And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes (Ephesians 4:11–14).*

Notice the language of equipping. It's the job of faithful pastors to invest in the church through the weekly preaching and teaching of God's Word in order that the church will grow spiritually and will experience maturity in the faith and be equipped by the Spirit of God to engage in faithful gospel ministry in and through the local church.

When all of this is done properly, the church builds itself up in love and is able to efficiently serve together and serve one another which will at times result in numerical growth as well.

If you're a member of a local church—recognize these responsibilities of your pastor and pray for them as they faithfully serve you. Receive their ministry and seek the spiritual maturity and growth that will enable you to be a profitable member who contributes and enables the church to function properly for God's glory.



### White House signals openness to adding third gender to official documents

—by Jordyn Pair

Officials in the White House have signaled that they would be open to adding a third gender option to official federal identification documents.

White House Gender Policy Council Executive Director Jennifer Klein said during a Monday press conference that she was unsure if such a move would require an executive order.

*"I mean, I would note that we are very inclusive in our definition of 'gender' and we intend to address all sorts of discrimination and fight for equal rights for people, whether that's LGBTQ+ people, women, girls, uh, men," Klein said when asked about the possibility of expanding gender options on identification. "So that's certainly something we will look at. But I honestly don't know whether that requires an executive order."*

Several states and Washington, D.C., allow people to choose "X" as their sex designation for certain identifying documents, such as a driver's license.



## Other News:

**Judge blocks SC abortion ban from being enacted while court fights continue**— <https://www.wistv.com/2021/03/19/judge-blocks-sc-abortion-ban-being-enacted-while-court-fights-continue/>

**SCOTUS rules college that stopped Christian student from sharing faith violated First Amendment**— <https://disrn.com//news/scotus-rules-college-that-stopped-christian-student-from-sharing-faith-violated-first-amendment>

**Retailers Will Be Fined \$1,000 for Having Separate Boys, Girls Sections under New California Bill**— <https://www.christianheadlines.com/contributors/milton-quintanilla/retailers-will-be-fined-1000-for-having-separate-boys-girls-sections-under-new-california-bill.html>

**Southern Baptists move to expel LGBT-promoting church from their denomination this week** —<https://disrn.com//news/southern-baptists-move-to-expel-lgbt-promoting-church-from-their-denomination-this-week>

## Quote of the Week:

When I was young, I was sure of many things; now there are only two things of which I am sure: one is, that I am a miserable sinner; and the other, that Christ is an all-sufficient Saviour. He is well-taught who learns these two lessons.

—John Newton



## Biblical Counseling Resources

**Strategies for Fighting Depression Well**—by Jim Newheiser  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/fighting-depression-well/>

**Identity Language in Counseling**—by Martha Peace  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/identity-language-in-counseling/>

**The Pursuit of Peace**—by Sam Stephens  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/the-pursuit-of-peace/>

**Defeating Despair**—by Tim Pasma  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/defeating-despair/>

**Gracious Words Amid Sword Thrusts**—by Jim Koerber  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/gracious-words-amid-sword-thrusts/>

**You Can Please God**—by Kyle Gangel  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/you-can-please-god/>

**Crafting Temptation and Repentance Plans to Help Addicts**—by Keith Palmer  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/crafting-temptation-and-repentance-plans-to-help-addicts/>

**Counseling Self-Injuring Teens**  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/resource-library/conference-messages/counseling-self-injuring-teens/>

**Enduring Dark Providences**  
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/resource-library/articles/enduring-dark-providences/>

### Covenant Baptist Biblical Counseling Class:

*A Biblical Counseling class started February 13th at 7 PM here at the church. If you would be interested in participating, please let the pastor know. We are going to live-stream the class. Just go to the website at <https://covenantbaptistsc.org> and click the live-stream button on home page at 7pm Thursdays.*

**Biblical counseling class on hold while teacher recovers from surgery.**



## Covenant Baptist Church

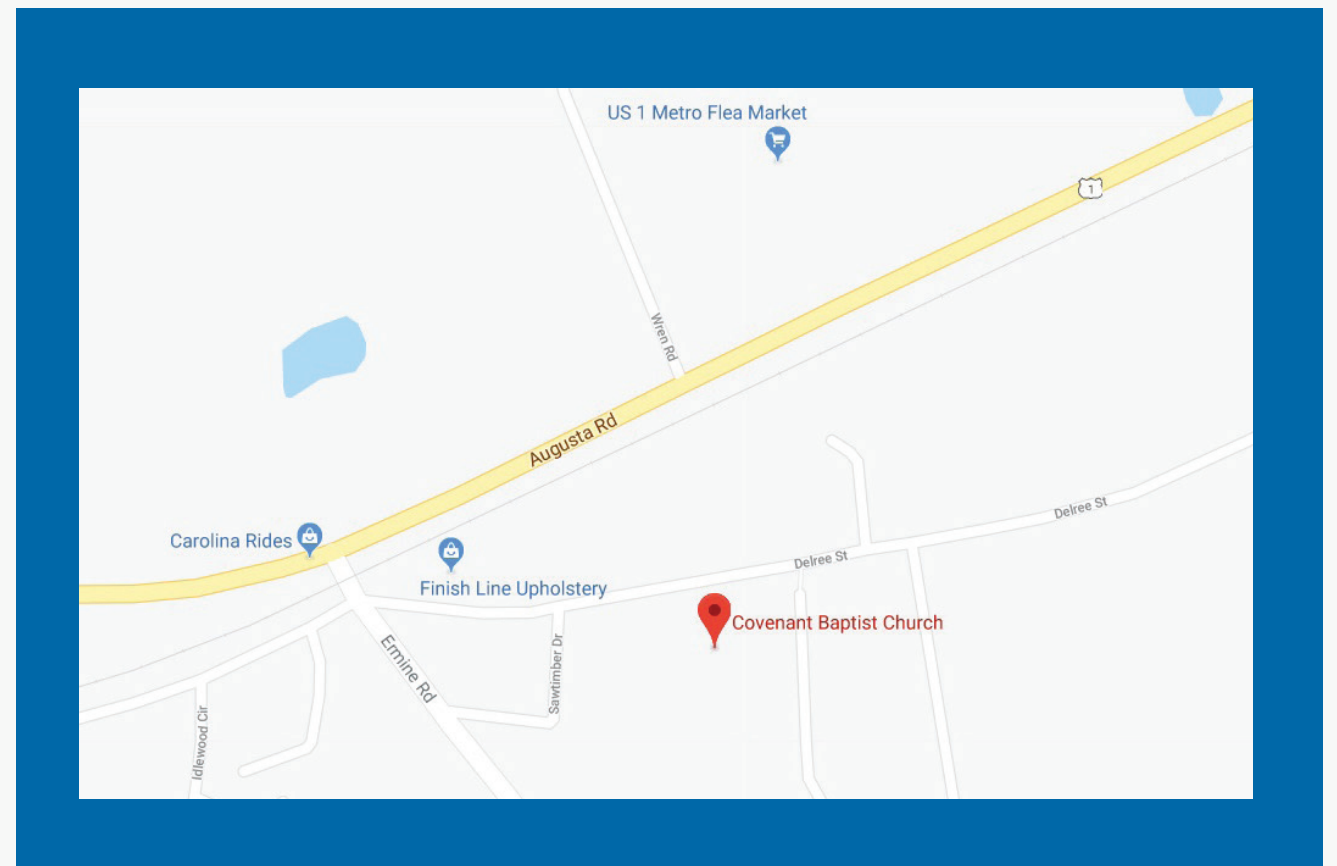
*Reformed and Refreshing*

*3535 Delree Street*

*West Columbia, SC 29170*

*<https://covenantbaptistsc.org>*

## Location:



*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.*