

# COMPASS



A L I C E D R I V E  
baptist church

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER **September 22, 2016**

1305 LORING MILL ROAD • SUMTER, SC 29150 | 803.905.5200 | ALICEDRIVE.ORG



The Message Series  
continues this Sunday

September 25/26:  
Design Flaws



McManus Hall

The Vision Council is making a proposal to amend the Church Constitution to change the church year from July 1 - June 30 to a calendar year.

In addition, there is a proposal to change the church meeting structure from a quarterly meeting to an annual meeting to be held in November.

In addition to these items, there will be quarterly reports given on attendance, membership, and finances.

Please contact Mark Partin with any questions:  
[mpartin@adbc.org](mailto:mpartin@adbc.org)



# What Were You Thinking?

*DIRECTIONS*  
by  
*Dr. Clay Smith*  
*Lead Pastor*

Have you ever looked at someone's yard and wondered "what were they thinking?"

I saw an old fire truck hooked up to a well with a hose to pump water to the house. Wouldn't an electric pump be easier? In the South, you can't drive more than five miles without finding a truck, car, or tractor up on blocks. You can always tell by the height of the weeds around it how long it's been there. More than once, I've seen twenty foot tall trees growing up through the engine compartment.

In front of one house outside Great Falls, Florida, an old combine sits. It's been there the twenty-two years I've been driving past the house. It makes me wonder if there was a conversation that went like this: "Maw, I've been thinking the front yard needs a little decoration. I think I'll pull up that old combine from the barn and park it in front of the window. It can sit there and rust and folks will understand it is a representation of the deterioration of American industrial might and the rise of neo-deconstructionism."

One day it hit me: everything I have seen, from the fire truck to the combine, started with thinking, "This would be a good idea."

Maybe they thought it would be temporary: "I'll park the combine here and move it later." Maybe they have told themselves the lie all men tell themselves: "I'm going to fix that car/truck/tractor one day." Maybe they were stubborn cusses and figured if something was worth doing, it was worth doing the hard way.

It's not just people's yards. I see people breaking up their marriages to pursue fantasies that I know will be empty. I want to shake them and ask, "What are you thinking?" I see parents who will not say "no" to their children. I want to pull them aside and ask, "What are you thinking?" The other day I saw a young man pull up in a new expensive car I'm pretty sure he can't afford. I wanted to rush over, grab the keys, and say, "What are you thinking?"

But then I pause and remember Jesus' instruction: "First take the fence post out of your own eye before you fish around looking for sawdust in someone else's eye." Does God ever look at me and say, "Clay, what are you thinking?"

I think about words that fly out of my mouth and hurt people. I think how stupid I am to believe old lies I know aren't true: "Two pieces of cake will make you feel better." I think about how often I hurry through prayer or Bible Study, and then wonder why I feel empty.

What was I thinking?

Thinking matters. Before you let your brain sign off on something as a good idea, you need to ask your Father in Heaven, "Good idea or bad idea?" You will be surprised how often He wisely shakes His head and says, "No. Bad idea. You can't see where this leads, but I can. If you do this, it will be like parking a combine in the front yard of your soul."

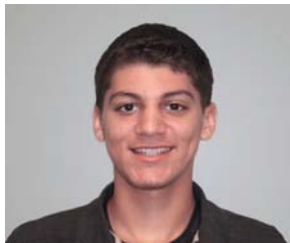
This is why the Bible says, "Pray without ceasing." We need guidance in every decision, for every moment of our lives.

Wouldn't it be great if your Heavenly Father said to you, "I'm glad you prayed. You are learning to think just like me." Isn't that a lot better than our Heavenly Father saying, "What were you thinking?"

Grace,



Welcome these new members!



Judson Carmichael



Adam & Jenni Sederlund



Brooke Vaughn



September 25 @ 9:45am | Room 221

To sign up, contact Mandy Easton:  
x250 | [measton@adbc.org](mailto:measton@adbc.org)

This one hour class will help parents and kids (grades K-5) learn together what every child needs to know about Jesus, faith, Heaven, baptism, and spiritual growth. Starting Line is our process for child baptism and meets monthly so you can attend at a date convenient for you!

## STEWARDSHIP

Our ministry fund giving for September 18 was \$46,019.

There are many ways you can financially be a part of the ministry of Alice Drive. You can give through the offering baskets; give online by going to [alicedrive.org](http://alicedrive.org); set up an automatic draft through an ACH transfer from your bank; utilize your bank's bill pay service; drop a check by the office or in the secure drop boxes found around the Main Building any time of the week; text to give by texting ADBC to 50155. If you have questions about any of these options, contact Mark Partin, Administrative Pastor: [mpartin@adbc.org](mailto:mpartin@adbc.org).

## Buddies

The Buddies program exists to help children and families with special needs so that parents can attend church or a LIFE Group while their child is safe. If you have a heart to help in this area, contact Mandy Easton: [measton@adbc.org](mailto:measton@adbc.org) | x250

September 30 • 6:00-9:00pm

\$10/child (6 weeks-5th grade)

Register online or on a kid's hall through the 28<sup>th</sup>

Take advantage of this great opportunity!

Whether it's a restaurant you've been wanting to try, a romantic evening out, or a quiet night in, plan a few hours just for yourselves!

## Parent's Night Out



FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

SHARE  
LIGHT

THURSDAY  
OCT 27  
6-8 pm

FREE

Who needs to  
hear your story?

# CALENDAR

## Sunday, September 25

Worship Services (8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am)  
 LIFE Groups (9:45 & 11:00am)  
 9:45a Starting Line Class, 221  
 4:00p Deacon Outreach, Worship Center  
 5:00p Deacons' Meeting, McManus Hall

## Monday, September 26

6:00p Study of James, 118  
 Prayer Group, 119  
 7:00p Worship Service, Worship Center  
 LIFE Groups for babies-5th grade  
 8:00p Sermon Discussion Group, 118

## Tuesday, September 27

6:55a Men of Impact Bible Study, Worship Center  
 10:00a Grief Share Class, 119  
 James Book Class, 118  
 6:30p Precepts: Romans Pt. 1 Class, 208  
 7:00p Celebrate Recovery Worship, studio4.3  
 8:00p Celebrate Recovery Shared Groups, studio4.3

## Wednesday, September 28

2:00p Praying Ladies, 119  
 4:00p In-Depth Bible Study, 202A  
 5:00p Fellowship Meal, Worship Center  
 6:00p Adult Discipleship Classes  
 Awana (newborn-5th grade)  
 The Mix (Middle School), studio4.3  
 7:00p Quarterly Church Conference, McManus Hall  
 7:30p the Mix (High School), studio4.3

## Thursday, September 29

9:00a MOPS, 2nd floor mezzanine  
 10:00a Thimble Thursday, 104A/B  
 5:30p Tech Talk, Balcony  
 6:00p Vocal Team Rehearsal, Green Room  
 7:00p Worship Team Rehearsal, Worship Center

## Friday, September 30

6:00p Parent's Night Out, Kids Halls

## Sunday, October 2

Christmas Packs for Prisoners Collection Starts  
 Worship Services (8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am)  
 LIFE Groups (9:45 & 11:00am)  
 5:00p Deacon Outreach, Worship Center



ALICE DRIVE  
 baptist church

1305 LORING MILL ROAD • SUMTER, SC 29150

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PD.  
 SUMTER, SC  
 29151  
 Permit # 33

## CELEBRATE THE SERVANT LEADERS OF THE WEEK Office Receptionists

Ready to find your purpose in serving others, but not sure where?  
 We can help! Contact Stacy Wright: [swright@adbc.org](mailto:swright@adbc.org)

### ATTENDANCE 9/18 & 9/19

8:30am.....232  
 9:45am.....552  
 11:00am.....580  
 Monday Night.....169  
**Total.....1,533**

### LIFE GROUPS 9/18 & 9/19

Adults.....409  
 Students.....155  
 Children.....177  
 Preschool.....169  
**Total.....910**

## Wednesday Fellowship Meal | September 28

Baked Ziti w/ Italian sausage, veggie medley, & dessert  
 Kids' Menu: Chicken Fingers, French fries, & fruit cup  
 \$5/adults, \$3/kids under 12, \$15/family max

social  
 media



ALICEDRIVE.ORG  
 Like us: Alice Drive Baptist Church  
 Follow: [unlikelyclay.com](http://unlikelyclay.com)  
 Follow: @wclaysmith | @AliceDrive

WORSHIP  
 TIMES

SUNDAYS

8:30am Classic  
 Childcare for 5 & under  
 9:45 & 11:00am Contemporary  
 LIFE Groups for all ages

MONDAYS

7:00pm Contemporary  
 LIFE Groups for babies-5th grade  
 8:00pm Adult LIFE Groups