



## Covenant Baptist Church

*Reformed and Refreshing*

*August 25, 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

*(August 25th, 2019)*

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, pg. 143

Prayer and Scripture Reading: Proverbs 11:1-31

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us, pg. 170

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, pg. 274

Message: Created for Christ—Colossians 1:15-16

Closing Hymn: Give Thanks (screen)

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## Upcoming cleaning volunteers:

August 31: Shumpert/Smoak

September 7: Egan/Watson

September 14: Olds/Shealy

## Deacon on-call list:

August 25: Matt Watson

September 1: Daryl Kyzer

September 8: Chris Waddell

## Announcements—August 25th, 2019

The Mission Team made it safely to Kenya and will return August 27th. Please keep Alton Crapps, Pastor Swann, and Luke Swann in your prayers.

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The church bookstore is now open, and purchases can be made between and after services by seeing Annsley or Cristan Smoak.

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There will be a free swap here at the church Sat, Sept 7 from 9-12. If you have items to get rid of, please plan to have them in the church library by Wed, Sept 4 so that they can be sorted by size and category before that Saturday. You do NOT have to donate items in order to take part in receiving items. This is just a way to help out fellow believers and clean out our closets/cabinets! Leftover items not claimed by you will be donated. For more info, see Kerri Olds or Coie.

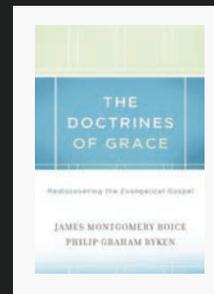
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Please note: any unclaimed dishes left in the kitchen by September 7 will be added to the free swap, and then donated if not taken.

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We would like your input. We are considering whether or not to continue the Fall conference due to expense and attendance. Please let us know if you would be willing to attend a fall conference usually the last week of October, Sunday through Wednesday nights. We are not asking for good intentions but rather would you make a commitment to attend. On the table in the foyer of the church there are some papers you can indicate yes or no to a fall conference. Thank you for your help with this. Elders

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Ladies: you are welcome to join a monthly meeting up of ladies at Ruby Tuesday on Augusta Road every first Tuesday of the month at 11:30. See Diane Falsetti for additional details.

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Men: there will be a men's fellowship and breakfast at church every first Saturday of the month at 8:30, starting in October. See Bob Falsetti for additional details.

## Book of the Month: The Doctrines of Grace: Rediscovering the Evangelical Gospel *James Montgomery Boice & Philip Graham Ryken*



“We live in an age of weak theology and casual Christianity. And this situation will continue as long as God’s people insist on substituting intuition for truth, feeling for belief, and immediate gratification for enduring hope. Yet if evangelicalism will again denounce this self-centered faith and place Christ and his cross at the center of its vision, the church will see great days once more. According to authors James Montgomery Boice and Philip Graham Ryken, this will happen when believers specifically return to the gospel foundation with its doctrines of radical depravity, unconditional election, particular redemption, efficacious grace, and persevering grace.”

Read the full description at: <https://www.amazon.com/Doctrines-Grace-Rediscovering-Evangelical-Gospel/>

# The G3 Conference, 2020

Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=miwh9fWvmLc>

The worship of God has both a theological foundation that must not be ignored as well as practical implications for every Christian and local church.

Does God mandate how we worship and how do we discern what is acceptable worship to God? In an age where pastors are entering the pulpit on zip lines and where motorcycle stunts are being attempted as illustrations during corporate worship—we must ask ourselves what does God expect and what does he forbid?

In the 2020 G3 Conference, we will look at the subject of the worship of God—seeking to understand the theological foundation and real life implications for us in the context of our local churches. Make your plans to join us by securing your seat!

From: <https://g3conference.com/>

## Covenant Baptist Church Events

Greek Class:

*Our Sunday Greek class, "It's Greek to You and Me", will continue in the fellowship hall at 6 P.M. on the first Sunday of September.*



2nd Sunday Fellowship Dinner:

*Our next 2nd Sunday dinner will be on September 8th. Please plan to bring a dish and stay for food and fellowship.*



2019 Kenya Mission Trip:

*The Mission Team made it safely to Kenya and will return August 27th. Please keep Alton Crapps, Pastor Swann, and Luke Swann in your prayers.*



# 3 Reasons Drifting From the Faith Starts With Drifting From the Church –by Michael Kelley

Sometimes when you read the Bible, you get caught on a single verse. Sometimes a single word. You read it, and you're hung up – you can't move on. Maybe it's because that word strikes an emotional chord. Maybe that word stirs up and stokes your affections. Maybe you just sense that this small section requires further reflection.

That's an okay thing. Scripture is not meant to be rushed through, but instead to be thought deeply upon. Savored. Cherished.

And yet, it's helpful even in those moments to zoom out after a time and remember a few other details. It's important to remember, for example, who wrote the book to begin with. And who the book was originally intended for. And it's important to remember the overall purpose or main idea of that particular book of the Bible. Here are a couple of examples (all up for debate I'm sure):

- Genesis is about who God is, and who we are in light of who He is.
- Luke is about a Savior who came to seek and to save the lost.
- Acts is about the Spirit-empowered church fulfilling its mission.

One more example, for the purpose of this article, is the book of Hebrews. So what is Hebrews mainly about? Well, it's about faith – we see the “Faith Hall of Hebrews 11. And it's about the power and primacy of God's Word as seen in Hebrews 4. But what is it mainly about? I think you could summarize it like this:

Hebrews is about continuing in the faith because Jesus is better. Hebrews tells us that Jesus is better than Moses. He's better than the angels. He's better than Melchizedek. And because He is, we should continue in the faith. We should persevere, no matter how difficult. When you come to understand this main idea, it helps to see how the individual commands and exhortations fit.

Under that banner of perseverance in light of the greatness of Jesus, you find a very simple command, and yet one that is being abandoned rapidly today:

“And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching” (Hebrews 10:24-25).



# 3 Reasons Drifting From the Faith Starts With Drifting From the Church –by Michael Kelley

Contemporary translation? Don't stop going to church. And how does that fit with the main idea of Hebrews? Like this:

Wandering from the church leads to wandering from the faith.

Sounds kind of extreme, doesn't it? After all, we've all got busy schedules. We've all got competing priorities. We have travel sports, dance recitals, lake trips, and all the rest. Surely it doesn't mean that I'm wandering from the faith just because my church attendance has started to wane, does it? Perhaps it does. And perhaps it means we should be careful if indeed it's true that wandering from the faith often begins with wandering from the church. Consider these three reasons that support such a claim:

## 1. When we leave the church, we stop being reminded.

Over and over again in Scripture, you find God telling His people to “remember.” Remember the Sabbath. Remember how you provoked God in the wilderness. Remember, I am with you always. These are commands – not suggestions – and they come because we are by nature forgetful people.

But God is kind to us, and He knows better than we do how forgetful we are of who He is and what He has done. C.S. Lewis knew this and once remarked, “People need to be reminded more than instructed.” More times than not when we come to Scripture or gather together with the saints, we aren't there to learn; we are there to remember. There is, after all, nothing new under the sun, but just because it's not new doesn't mean it's at the top of our minds.

When we start to neglect going to church, we are also stopping the regular rhythm of being reminded of who God is, what He has told us to do, and who we are in light of Him.

## 2. When we leave the church, we embrace self-reliance.

Part of the reason we go to church is that we need to. We need to because we know we are weak. We know we need other people. And we know that other people need us. This is at least part of the reason behind the biblical metaphor of the body Paul used to describe the church. To keep with that metaphor, can you imagine the pride of a leg thinking (if a leg could do that) that it could just go off and have a sustainable experience without the rest of the body?

In a sense, that's exactly what we are doing when we stop going to church. We are saying, “I don't need this. I don't need you. I only need me.” And there we find ourselves on the slippery slope of pride, which inevitably leads us not only to neglect the church but to neglect the authority of God. When there is only me, then I'm the only one I have to obey.

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### 3. When we leave the church, we create a gap.

God made us to live in community with other believers. It's in our DNA. This is at least part of what it means to be created in the image of God—that just as God exists in perfect community with Himself, so also are we created to live in relationships with other people. When we cut ourselves off from the community of faith, we create a gap, and that gap is going to be filled somehow. With someone. Or something.

This is a dangerous place to be – to leave ourselves open to whatever influence tickles our emotions and fancy at the moment and to simply embrace that thing or person because there's no one else there. The gap is going to be filled, one way or another, with something that helps us follow Jesus or something that doesn't.

We must not abandon the church if we want to persevere in the faith. We must keep going to keep ourselves going. The church is God's gift to us – each one of us – not so that we have a perfect experience there, but because we are weak, and we really do need the help.



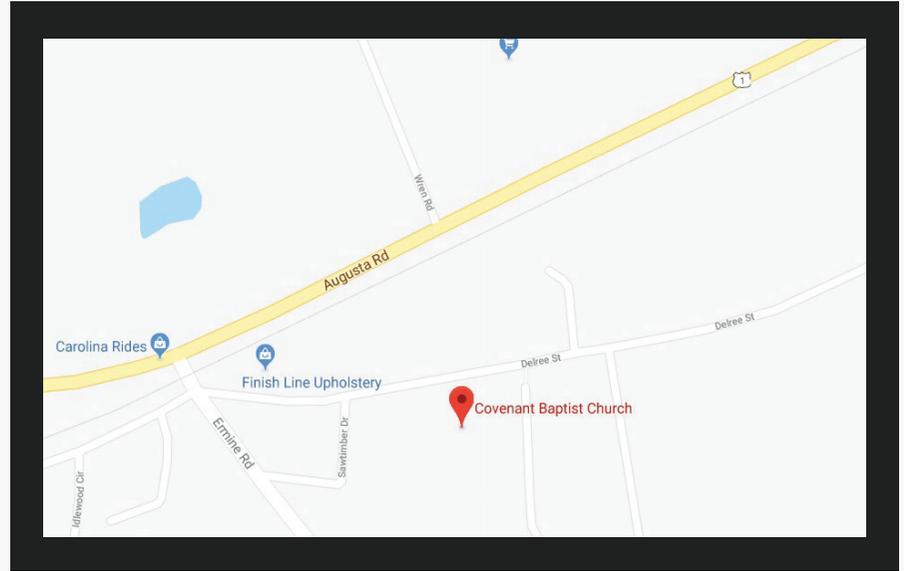
## **Covenant Baptist Church**

*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.*