



# CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church, Presbyterian  
4201 Southern Pines Drive, Evans, Georgia, 30809

Volume 11, Issue 2

February 2016

## The Pastor's Selection

### Birthdays

- 04 ..... Jennifer Kimbrell  
Mike Ladun
- 07 ..... Jake Bailey
- 10 ..... Adelynn Jones
- 11 ..... Sinclair Foster
- 12 ..... Kirsten Pylant
- 13 ..... Nikki McGraw
- 15 ..... Thomas Steed
- 17 ..... Greg McGraw  
Susan Walters
- 18 ..... Harold Hyatt
- 20 ..... Les Yerger
- 21 ..... William Dyer
- 22 ..... Audrey Lammie
- 25 ..... Josiah Jones  
Jordy Rihl
- 26 ..... Joyce Hyatt
- 27 ..... Madison Steed
- 28 ..... Ryan Dyer



### Anniversaries

- 01... Cathie & Charles McClure
- 06 ..... Patty & Brian Marter
- 27 ..... Anne & Gene Gojda

### True Conversion

— Steven J. Lawson, *Tabletalk* — *Our Missions Conference Speaker*

Jesus said, “Unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 18:3). Jesus is clear that if a person of this world is to be accepted into this other kingdom – the kingdom of heaven – he must be converted. Put very simply, to be converted is absolutely necessary to enter the kingdom of God.

What does the word conversion mean? In the biblical sense, conversion means a turning – a spiritual turning away from sin in repentance and to Christ in faith. It is a dramatic turning away from one path in order to pursue an entirely new one. It involves turning one’s back to the system of the world and its anti-God values. It involves a turning away from dead religion and self-righteousness. It involves a complete pivot, an about-face, in order to enter through the narrow gate that leads to life.

Conversion also involves the idea of changing direction. A true spiritual conversion radically alters the direction of one’s life. It is not a partial change wherein one is able to straddle the fence between two worlds. It is not a superficial turning, a mere rearranging of the outward facade of a person’s life. Conversion is not a gradual change that occurs over a period of time, like sanctification. Instead, a genuine conversion occurs much deeper within the soul of a person. It is a decisive break with old patterns of sin and the world and the embracing of new life in Christ by faith.

This spiritual conversion is so profound that it involves many changes in a person. It involves a change of mind, which is an intellectual change; and a change of view, a new recognition of God, self, sin, and Christ. It involves a change of affections, which is an emotional change, a change of feeling, a sorrow for sin committed against a holy and just God. It involves a change of will, which is a volitional change, an intentional turning away from sin and a turning to God through Christ to seek forgiveness. The entire person – mind, affections, and will – is radically, completely, and fully changed in conversion.

Theologically speaking, regeneration and conversion are two sides of the same coin. Regeneration is God’s sovereign activity of the Holy Spirit in the soul of one who is spiritually dead in sin. Regeneration is the implantation of new life in the soul. Regeneration gives the gifts of repentance and faith. On the other side of the coin, conversion is the response of the one who is regenerated. Esteemed British pastor D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones said: “Conversion is the first exercise of the new nature in ceasing from old forms of life and starting a new life. It is the first action of the regenerate soul in moving from something to something.” Regeneration precedes and produces conversion. There is a

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## The Pastor's Selction

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cause-and-effect relationship between these two. Regeneration is the cause, and conversion is the effect. Put another way, regeneration is the root and conversion is the fruit.

To affirm true conversion implies that there is also false conversion. Put simply, there is such a thing as non-saving faith. Not everyone who says, "Lord, Lord" has entered the narrow gate (Matt. 7:21). People may know the truth and may have felt grief regarding their sin, but it is a selfish sorrow over what their sin has caused them to suffer, not how it has offended a holy God. The most stark example of a false conversion we have in Scripture is that of Judas Iscariot. In a counterfeit conversion, there is no death to self, no submission to the lordship of Christ, no taking up a cross, no obedience in following Christ, no fruit of repentance – only empty words, shallow feelings, and barren religious activities.

On the contrary, with a true conversion sin is abhorred, the world renounced, pride crushed, self surrendered, faith exercised, Christ seen as precious, and the cross embraced as one's only saving hope.

The whole purpose of conversion is to bring men and women into a right relationship with God. This is why Christ came, and it is the reason for which He died. It was God who was "in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself" (2 Cor. 5:19). Conversion is the crying need of the soul. Until one's life is turned from sin to Christ, nothing else matters.

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## Music Notes

**All musical groups**, including The Augusta Youth Chorale, are actively rehearsing now, preparing music for upcoming worship services and special events. So, if you have any questions or interest in participating within the music ministry at Christ Church, please contact me for more information ([music@christchurchpres.org](mailto:music@christchurchpres.org) or 706-210-9090).

Our **Evensong: An Easter Celebration** will be **Sunday evening, March 27**. Interested in singing celebratory **Easter music** with the Christ Church Choir and Orchestra? You are cordially invited. Besides our regular Wednesday evening rehearsals, **extra practices** are scheduled on the following Saturday mornings: February 6 and March 5 & 19. We gather at 9:00 a.m. for fellowship and then rehearse from 9:30 to 11:00. Come sing with us. We would love to have you. Contact me for further information.

We may have the beginnings of a CC,P Concert Series. The first will be the **Massey Duo in Concert on Friday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m.** The husband and wife team are both conservatory trained musicians; Taylor (Clarinet) and Angela (Flute) Massey accompanied on the piano by Yerin Kim. Angela holds the position of third flute and piccolo with the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and Taylor is currently principal clarinetist with Symphony Orchestra Augusta. Plan to invite your friends and neighbors to come hear these very gifted musicians.



**Two College Choirs, one weekend at one church!** We are indeed fortunate to have two marvelous college choirs coming our way: **Saturday, March 5, at 7:00 p.m.** the Mississippi College Chorale with Director Dr. Mark Nabholz and **Sunday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m.** the Mercer Singers with Director Dr. Stanley Roberts, along with soprano, Brianna Pylant, will participate as part of the evening worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors. **HOUSING** needed Sunday evening, March 6, for the Mercer Singers. If you can help, please call the church office at 706-210-9090. A love offering will be collected on Friday evening to help defray expenses for both choirs.

**Let us come to Him with thanksgiving. Let us sing psalms of praise to Him. For the LORD is a great God, a great King above all gods. Psalm 95:2-3**

Stan Pylant, *Director of Music*

## Women of Christ Church -- Thank You

This is one testimony of how God is using Women of Christ Church (WOCC) to care for our church family: "This is the time of year when one acknowledges all they are thankful for. As for me, I'm thankful for neighbors, friends and family who have helped me thru this year. Your thoughtfulness and kindness have blessed my life. Thank you. May God bless you, Martha Seward 11/24/15."

If you would like to be a part of what God is doing through the WOCC, please contact Linda Jones at 706-231-3758 or via email to [warrenjones0101@comcast.net](mailto:warrenjones0101@comcast.net). God has a place for you!

# Annual Missions Conference: *The Power of the Gospel*



Dr. Steven J. Lawson will be our speaker for this year's Missions Conference on February 19<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Lawson is president and founder of OnePassion Ministries, a Ligonier teaching fellow, and author of numerous books, including *Foundations of Grace* and *The Passionate Preaching of Martyn Lloyd-Jones*. He has served as a pastor for thirty-four years in Arkansas and Alabama. Many of his books have been translated into various languages to be used of God around the world. He also writes articles for several theological journals. God has journeyed Dr. Lawson around the world as an obedient servant sharing His message of hope and truth in response to the Great Commission. He is married to Anne, and they have been blessed with three sons, Andrew, James and John, as well as a daughter, Grace Anne.

Make plans today to join us for a weekend of enrichment and equipping. Dr. Lawson will be speaking on "The Power of the Gospel" from Romans 1:1-17. We will have the opportunity to hear from our missionaries, John and Liz Stekete, Dick and Nancy Baggé, Cheryl Crocker, Glenn and Sharlene Grubb, Doug and Amy Nunziato, along with a special message from our own Mark and Susan Walters about their pursuit of God's call to Taipai, Taiwan. If you would be willing to host a missionary luncheon, either in your home or at your favorite restaurant, or to lodge Glenn and Sharlene Grubb in your home during this conference, please phone the church office at 706-210-9090.

## Conference Schedule

Friday, February 19	6:30 p.m.	Dick & Nancy Baggé and Cheryl Crocker.....	Sanctuary
		Dr. Steven J. Lawson.....	Sanctuary
Saturday, February 20	10:00 a.m.	Women's Brunch with Susan Walters.....	Townsend Home
	10:00 a.m.	Men's Brunch with Mark & Rachel Walters .....	Covenant Hall
	5:15 p.m.	Catered Dinner & Children's Missions & Pizza .....	Covenant Hall
	6:10 p.m.	Missionaries: Grubbs & Nunziatos .....	Covenant Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Missionary Glenn Grubb; Speaker Dr. Steven J. Lawson .....	Sanctuary
Sunday, February 21	9:45 a.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade - Adults with Steketees and Walters.....	Covenant Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Missionary Stekete; Speaker Dr. Steven J. Lawson.....	Sanctuary
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch with the Missionaries.....	Various Host Homes
	5:00 p.m.	Cinnamon Rolls and Missionaries .....	Covenant Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Conclusion: The Power of the Gospel Unleashed through Prayer .....	Sanctuary

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20*



This year's Share Your Faith workshop has been rescheduled to Saturday, February 27, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Our trainer this year is Wes Knight of Everyday Evangelism. Mark your calendar today and join us to enhance your ability to share your faith clearly, confidently, and winsomely. Register online at [christchurchpres.org](http://christchurchpres.org). Only \$15 per person collected at the workshop.

## Children's Chatter: Let's Talk About...

### Vacation Bible School Cometh!!

Mark your calendars! June 13 through 17 is the schedule for our VBS here at Christ Church.

Calling all Super Sleuths!!

This year we are investigating "**The Case of the Baffling Beginnings.**"



Needed are dedicated detectives to help children investigate and solve the case of the "baffling beginnings" of the world. Beginning Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, sign-up sheets for those who would like to assist in VBS will be in the bulletin. Please prayerfully consider where God would have you serve Him while teaching His (and our) children. Volunteer by completing the sign-up sheet with areas of preference, email and phone number. Once complete, place it in the offering plate or in the VBS basket on the Welcome Table in the foyer. Come one and come all to share in presenting of the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the next generation. Feel free to contact Fay Deal with any questions at 803-278-1176 or [runningdeal@gmail.com](mailto:runningdeal@gmail.com).

# Christ Church Press

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## February

**Each Sunday's Schedule:** 9:45 a.m. Sunday School • 11 a.m. Worship • 6 p.m. Worship

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	2 7:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	3 *Midweek Gathering	4 6:00 p.m. Young Family & Couples Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	5 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	6 9:00 a.m. Easter Music Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Church Workday 1:00 p.m. Church-wide Football Game 5:00 p.m. Foster Care: Parents' Night
7 4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	8 7:00 p.m. Trail Life 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	9 10:00 a.m. Ladies Daytime Bible Study	10 *Midweek Gathering	11 6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study	12 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	13
14 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion 4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	15 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	16 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	17 *Midweek Gathering	18 6:00 p.m. Young Family & Couples Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta	19 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer 6:30 p.m. Missions Conference Begins (See Schedule with Article)	20 Missions Conference Continued (See Schedule with Article)
Missions Conf. 21	22 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	23 10:00 a.m. Ladies Daytime Bible Study	24 *Midweek Gathering	25 6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study	26 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer	27 9:00 a.m. Share Your Faith Workshop
28 9:45 a.m. Missions Conference Continued (See Schedule with Article) 6:00 p.m. Missions Conference Conclusion	29 7:00 p.m. Trail Life		*Each Wednesday's Schedule: 6:00 p.m. Midweek Gathering • 6:30 p.m. Student Gathering 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal & Midweek Prayer • 8:15 p.m. Brass Ensemble			
4:30 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m. Massey Concert						