

**THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHRISTIAN**

A Publication of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in South Carolina  
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Happy New Year and New Decade!

The theme for the year is:

“Teaching Disciples for Souls to Win in 2010!

Text: Matthew 28:18-20 KJV

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Text: Matthew 28:18-20 CEV

Jesus came to them and said: I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth! Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.

Feel free to use it and release the blessings of the power of the gospel in ministry throughout the year!

Now here is the focused teaching word for today.

**“Communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ through everything you do!”**

Communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ through everything you do. How? By doing whatever you do with excellence. The Bible says it this way,

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. But he that does wrong shall receive for the wrong which he has done: and there is no respect of persons. Colossians 3:23-25

Christ is lifted up in you through your Christ-like actions. Joyfully let that drawing power loose. The Christ lifted up in you draws attention. Those persons drawn to you will ask why you do what you do. When they do, be ready to tell your story of the goodness and grace of God at work in your life because of whose you are. You are somebody because you belong to Jesus Christ! He, Jesus, has reconnected you to Almighty God and although you serve as a servant, you are positioned in the family of God as a child, a son or a daughter. You are a child of God with the privilege of access to God’s divine promises of provision through prayer.

So Happy New Year and New Decade.....know that you are blessed to be a blessing!

Peace

Sotello

Sotello V. Long  
Regional Pastor

# Profiles In Ministry



## **Adjusting Your Attitude: Tom Shreve, Pastor First Christian Church Belvedere**

When you expect sunshine and roses, and get dark clouds and rocks you have to adjust your attitude.

We often become too comfortable with God's blessings. We even begin to take them for granted, and then the depth of our Christian character is tested. I don't mean that God singles us out and says today I shall test Tom or Jane, but natural circumstances arise that we have not planned for or foreseen which can cause real disturbance in our lives.

When this happens to us we have to dig deeply into our faith base and find the strength to accept that which has happened and with God's help use it to become a better Christian.

Recently this has happened in my life in the form of some illnesses which have caused me to curtail many of my normal activities. I am sure I was guilty of taking God's blessing for granted. With the help of my Friend and Savior I am coming back. All things are possible in Him.



## **My faith Journey: Lula H. Samuel Pastor of Path of Life CC Columbia**

My journey in ministry started at Galilee Christian Church, Holly Hill, SC. Growing up in the Church, I developed a love for Sunday school, Bible Study and prayer service. Down through the years, the passion for these ministries blossomed. Rev. Simmons nurtured me and encouraged me to teach Sunday school. I started teaching and it became a part of me.

Then one day, Rev Simmons told me that God had more "work" for me to do. I did not understand. U thought I was doing what God wanted. So, I asked him, "What do you mean?" He said, "When you know, you will come and tell me." Life continues and as time passed, Pastor Charlie G. Goodman became Pastor of the Church. He too told me that God has more for me to do.

In 1988, under the unction of God our family relocated to Columbia, SC to help with the ministry of the Agape Christian Church. I served as a Sunday School Teacher, later as a Deacon, and Youth Minister. One day in June, 1995, while doing a youth retreat at Christmount, I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "this is what you are to do: "Teach My Word!"

I went back to Pastor Susie Cobb, told her what I heard. I answered the call, prepared and was ordained on December 12, 1999. I served faithfully under Pastor Susie Cobb until Aug, 2007, when I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Go start your ministry, do evangelism." Didn't know how to begin; was afraid, timid and lacking confidence.

Pastor Susie Cobb told me, "If God is telling you to do it, even if you are afraid, do it afraid...well, the path of life Christian church was birthed in the physical on November 4, 2007. Two years later...I am stronger, more confident, and more secure in God and what He has ordained me to do.

To God Be the Glory!

## NEWS FROM OUR REGION

**Dr. Robert M. Knight**, pastor of First Christian Church, Charleston, will be interviewed about his book, Balanced Living, on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am on Low country Live (**Channel 4**). He will have a book signing at the West Ashley Barnes and Noble on Saturday, **January 16<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 4 pm.**

**Path of Life CC:** Celebrate the ordination of their first Deacon in Ministry of Service, Brother Rufus Carmichael on Sunday February 28, 2010 @ 4:00pm

**Districts Fellowship Events:** Jan.29:Assembly District # 2@Luray CC, Luray

Jan.31:Assembly District # 3 @ Path of Life, Columbia

Jan. 28-31:Convention District #1 meets @ Agape CC Columbia

Jan .28-30:Convention District #2 meets @ St. Phillip CC,Reevesville

**Regional Leadership/Board meeting @** Canaan CC Moncks Corner February 6, 2010

February 26-27 Bar-B-Que @ Camp Christian, Hampton SC

## Disciples Women Ministry

*Spring Workshop will be held Saturday March 20, 2010@ Rice Patch Christian Church, Islandton SC*

*Keynote speaker*

**Elder Gloria V. Lyles**

*CEO of Lyles Ministries Inc.*

*Author of the Course:*

*Empowered Godly Women*

**Quadrennial Assembly June 23-27, 2010**

*Greensboro, NC*

**Note:***All Scholarship applications must be in the Regional Office by the extended*

**Date: January 25th**

Agape Christian Church to 627 Dixie Avenue, Columbia. cordially invited you thereThe Disciple Women Annual Women in White Program on February 21, 2010 @ 4:00 p.m.This is a program you do not want to miss. The speaker will be **Dr. Bishop Dorine Williams** of Bethel Holiness Church, Columbia, SC. We are looking forward to seeing you. Come help us celebrate Jesus you don't want this opportunity to pass you by. Thank you in advance. Susie H. Cobb, Pastor

## "Have you been an angel lately" ?

**Psalm 55:22 --- 'Friends are God's way of taking care of us.'**

From a Metro Denver Hospice Physician:

I was driving home from a meeting this evening about 5, stuck in traffic on Colorado Blvd., and the car started to choke and splutter and die - I barely managed to coast into a gas station, glad only that I would not be blocking traffic and would have a somewhat warm spot to wait for the tow truck. It wouldn't even turn over.. Before I could make the call, I saw a woman walking out of the quickie mart building, and it looked like she slipped on some ice and fell into a gas pump, so I got out to see if she was okay.

When I got there, it looked more like she had been overcome by sobs than that she had fallen; she was a young woman who looked really haggard with dark circles under her eyes. She dropped something as I helped her up, and I picked it up to give it to her.. It was a nickel.

At that moment, everything came into focus for me: the crying woman, the ancient Suburban crammed full of stuff with 3 kids in the back (1 in a car seat) , and the gas pump reading \$4.95.

I asked her if she was okay and if she needed help, and she just kept saying 'I don't want my kids to see me crying,' so we stood on the other side of the pump from her car. She said she was driving to California and that things were very hard for her right now. So I asked, 'And you were praying?' That made her back away from me a little, but I assured her I was not a crazy person and said, 'He heard you, and He sent me.'

I took out my card and swiped it through the card reader on the pump so she could fill up her car completely, and while it was fueling, walked to the next door McDonald's and bought 2 big bags of food, some gift certificates for more, and a big cup of coffee. She gave the food to the kids in the car, who attacked it like wolves, and we stood by the pump eating fries and talking a little.

She told me her name, and that she lived in Kansas City. Her boyfriend left 2 months ago and she had not been able to make ends meet. She knew she wouldn't have money to pay rent Jan. 1, and finally, in desperation, had called her parents, with whom she had not spoken in about 5 years. They lived in California and said she could come live with them and try to get on her feet there.

So she packed up everything she owned in the car. She told the kids they were going to California for Christmas, but not that they were going to live there.

I gave her my gloves, a little hug and said a quick prayer with her for safety on the road. As I was walking over to my car, she said, 'So, are you like an angel or something?'

This definitely made me cry. I said, 'Sweetie, at this time of year angels are really busy, so sometimes God uses regular people.'

It was so incredible to be a part of someone else's miracle. And of course, you guessed it, when I got in my car it started right away and got me home with no problem. I'll put it in the shop tomorrow to check, but I suspect the mechanic won't find anything wrong.

Sometimes the angels fly close enough to you that you can hear the flutter of their wings...

**Psalms 55:22 ' Turn your burdens over to the LORD, and he will take care of you. He will never let the righteous person stumble" .**

*For the March-April newsletter,*

*The due date for articles is*

*March 13,2010*

*Please submit any articles, church activities, church  
Anniversaries, etc. to the Regional Church Office at:*

**roccsc@aol.com**

*We rejoice in sharing the news of God at work  
from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth  
and from the ends of the earth to our doorsteps.*



**The South Carolina Christian**

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