



**W**e are thrilled to have you as a guest at Christian Heritage. Visiting a new church can be an intimidating experience, so we want you to know more about us and feel free to ask questions.

**Here's a quick description of what you'll find in this packet.**

- 1 – Contents / Vision, Purpose & Values
  - 2 – Our Statements of Faith
  - 3 – Our Leadership Team
  - 4 – 3 Important Questions about CHC
  - 5 – What Does It Mean... That We Are Pentecostal?
  - 6 – What Does It Mean... To Have Spiritual Gifts?
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**Our Vision**

*To be a vibrant and visible community of Christian faith, full of grace and truth.*

**Our Purpose**

*To lead people to a life of faith and then on the journey to full devotion - one life at a time*

**Our Values**

- **Prayer & Divine Direction**  
*(Philippians 4:6-7)*
- **Worship - the act & attitude**  
*(John 4:23-24)*
- **Biblical Integrity**  
*(2 Timothy 3:16-17)*
- **Lost People**  
*(Luke 15:7)*
- **Authentic Relationships**  
*(Ephesians 4:14-16)*
- **Spiritual Gifts & Empowerment**  
*(1 Corinthians 12:4-11)*
- **Compassion & Care-giving**  
*(Galatians 6:2)*
- **Giving**  
*(Malachi 3:8-10)*
- **Excellence**  
*(Colossians 3:23-24)*
- **Cultural Relevance**  
*(Neh. 8:8, Acts 17:22-34)*



## Our Statements of Faith

Our statements of belief are consistent with the Nicene Creed (AD 381)

**We** believe the Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit and is God's Word - a revelation of Himself to man, a flawless witness to His perfect plan to redeem humanity and the final authority for all true Christian faith and practice. (Psalm 119, Luke 8:21, John 17:17, II Tim.3:16-17, II Pet.1:20-21).

**We** believe there is one God revealed in the relationship of three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – the Triune God or Trinity. (Gen. 1:26, Deut.6:4, Mt.28:19, John 10:30, 17:11, 22)

**We** believe Jesus of Nazareth was fully man and is fully God, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles with unlimited power by the Holy Spirit, and sacrificed himself in obedience to the Father for our salvation. He was resurrected from death and ascended to the Father's side. (Mt. 1:21, 23, John 1:1-2, 14, 3:16, 34, Acts 1:2-3, 9, 2:22, Eph. 2:14-18, Col 1:20, Heb. 4:15)

**We** believe in the sinfulness of all mankind and in our need for salvation. Salvation is available only by the grace of God through personal faith in Jesus Christ, by whose death the guilt for our sins is removed and by whose resurrection we have eternal life with Him. Salvation, which involves confession and repentance, is followed by baptism in water, a powerful symbol of death and spiritual rebirth. (Rom. 3:23, 6:3, 23, 10:13, Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 3:4-7, Acts 2:38)

**We** believe in sanctification, the process of being separated from sinfulness and dedicated to God to do good works produced by faith. This process begins at salvation when the believer receives the Holy Spirit and continues throughout his/her lifetime. (I Cor. 6:11, Gal. 5:22-23, I Thess. 4:3-5, 5:23, II Pet. 3:18, James 2:26, Hebrews 10:22)

**We** believe the baptism of the Holy Spirit is an initiation into spiritual life and relationship with God by His indwelling Spirit. Furthermore, we believe that subsequent filling by the Spirit is available to all believers, which releases His power through us in the "fruit" and gifts of the Spirit and thereby enabling us to be and to do what he desires. (Joel 2:28-29, Lk. 3:16, Acts 1:4-5, 8, 2:4, 38-39, 10:44-47, I Cor. 12:4-11, 13)

**We** believe the Church of Jesus Christ, founded on the prophets and apostles with Jesus as the chief cornerstone, is the hope of the world when it is functioning according to God's Word. (Mt 16:18, 28:19-20, Eph. 1:22-23, 2:19-22, 3:10, Col 1:27, 1 Tim. 3:15)

**We** believe in the personal return of Jesus Christ, who is coming to justly judge the living and the dead and to establish a new heaven and a new earth. (John 5:24-29, Acts 1:11, I Thess. 4:16-18, Titus 2:13, I Peter 4:5, 2 Peter 3:7,13)

**We** believe the faithful will inherit eternal life from their heavenly Father and the faithless, who have no father, will have no inheritance and be separated from God for eternity. (Mt 19:29, 25:46, John 3:18, 5:29, Acts 24:15, I Cor.15:20-24, Rev. 20:4-6, 12-15, 21:7)

**We** believe the finished work of Christ on the cross provides for spiritual and physical healing. (Isa. 53:4-5, Mt. 8:16-17, I Pet. 2:24, James 5:14-15)

**We** believe that the responsibility of every believer to partner in reaching the world with the good news of Jesus Christ is fundamental to faith. (Mt. 28:19-20, Mk. 16:15-20, Acts 1:8, 2:40-41, 47)



## **Our Leadership Team**

### **Rev. Bradley Cox, Team Pastor**

Pastor Bradley has been at Christian Heritage since January of 2005. He grew up in the Greenville area and attended Shannon Forest Christian School. He went on to attend Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, GA where he graduated with a BA in Biblical Studies in 1999. Bradley has been devoted to full time ministry since then. He served as music minister, associate pastor, and youth pastor in two churches; one in NC and one in SC. He served as Director of Music Ministries at Emmanuel College for 2 years. During this time he traveled with ministry groups all over the US and in the UK. Bradley met his wife, Mary, at Emmanuel College and they married in 1999. Mary is a graduate of Emmanuel College with a BA degree in Elementary Music Education. She is a native of Franklin Springs, GA. Mary works alongside Bradley in all areas of ministry, especially music. She is a gifted singer and keyboard player. Bradley and Mary have two children, Thomas ('06) & Ella Cate ('09).

### **Rev. Seth Cain, Team Pastor**

Pastor Seth has been at Christian Heritage since November of 2005. A native of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, Seth graduated from Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, GA with a BA in English in 1999 and then went on to complete his MA in Biblical & Theological Studies/ Evangelism at Wheaton College in 2004. Seth has been in ministry on college campuses and in local churches since 2000. He has been to the global missions front in South America, Europe and Africa. Seth and his wife, Ashley, were married in 1999. Ashley, also a graduate of Emmanuel College, has worked in finance and has a counseling career in her sites. She currently leads the women's ministries and is involved in various other efforts alongside Seth. They have two children, Silas ('05) and Augustine ('07). Seth enjoys outdoor sports, reading, music, golf and the Frisbee.

### **Rev. Ernest Barr, Pastor Emeritus**

Pastor Barr was born in Moncks Corner, SC and grew up in Myrtle Beach, SC. After receiving God's call to full-time ministry, he graduated from Holmes College of the Bible. He has served as a full-time pastor for various churches in Alabama, Florida, and South Carolina. He believes the leadership of the Holy Spirit is necessary in the ministry of the Church, and he has a deep passion for the preaching of God's Word. He and his lovely wife, Betty, began their ministry at Christian Heritage Church in December, 1988. Ernest and Betty have two children and four grandchildren. Pastor Barr Served as Lead Pastor at Christian Heritage Church through June of 2006 when he passed the baton. He and Betty continue to serve Christian Heritage Church through their ministries of preaching, teaching and pastoral care.

### **Board of Elders/Trustees**

Pete Adams, Bill Cox, Eric Faulk, Darryl Kelly (Treasurer), Barron Saxon, Anton Thomas and Robert Watson.



## **4 Important Questions and Answers about Christian Heritage Church**

### **Who leads this church?**

At CHC, a team of pastors who have individual gifts of leadership, teaching and pastoral care combine their efforts to “prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up” (Ephesians 4:12). Christian Heritage follows the Biblical model for church leadership set out in Ephesians 4 and 1 Corinthians 12, which establishes apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to ultimately lead the church. Though the titles are not important, these specific callings are. Pastors Bradley and Seth these serve as the “sent ones” to this church (“sent ones” is the simple meaning of the word “apostles” in the New Testament). Leadership and ministry decisions are made in partnership along with Ernest Barr, our Pastor Emeritus, who has been at CHC for nearly 20 years and with the input of ministry leaders throughout the church. Bradley Cox has the prayerful responsibility of final authority on all decisions.

### **Are the leaders accountable to anyone?**

Christian Heritage has a board of trustees, individually appointed by the pastoral team in consensus with existing board members. They are specifically entrusted to guide the pastoral team’s stewardship of the church’s facilities and finances, the specific records of which are always available to the public. Their decision-making and guidance is done by consensus in unity, not by vote. The pastoral team also consults with the trustees on various other issues or decisions relating to the church community.

### **Is Christian Heritage a part of a denomination?**

For purposes of ordination, Christian Heritage Church is connected to the Upper South Carolina Conference of The International Pentecostal Holiness Church. For more information on our Pentecostal faith tradition, check out *“What Does It Mean.... That We Are Pentecostal?”* on the next page.

### **Do members of the church vote?**

No, although input from members is always sought after and encouraged. Voting is divisive and has no Biblical precedent whatsoever. The Bible encourages the Ephesians 4 leadership mentioned above to humbly make decisions that will best build the community and fulfill Jesus’ commission to lead people into an ever-growing relationship with Him (Matthew 28:19-20), not to serve the interests of themselves or any one particular group.



## What Does It Mean...

That We Are "Pentecostal?"

The Pentecostal "movement," as it has been called, is about God's power in us and for us, not just speaking in tongues. So what you're reading is meant to help clarify what we're about at CHC and follow the Apostle Paul's lead in teaching on this topic. God gives many "spiritual gifts" (1 Corinthians 12:1) to the Church so that we can be powerful in life. This is for the ultimate purpose of knowing God better, living life with hope, and telling others the good news of Jesus. At no time in history has God stopped giving these gifts, but there have been times when believers have not been open to them. The gift of speaking in tongues is an important gift, but it is no more important to us than other gifts (see pg. 12). Speaking in tongues is the way that the disciples first declared the good news of Jesus at Pentecost in Acts 2, miraculously speaking the actual languages of foreigners visiting Jerusalem. Many first converts responded to being instantly "filled" with the Holy Spirit by speaking in tongues. Speaking in tongues is how some Christians edify or encourage themselves by the Spirit (1 Cor. 14:4) and communicate thanksgiving (1 Cor. 14:16-17). You might call this a "prayer language." These, tongues can be interpreted so that others can know what is being said, so they too can be encouraged and give thanks. Paul writes in his first letter to the Corinthians that he "would like everyone to speak in tongues," although he would rather have them prophesy, speaking a message to everyone from God that they can understand without the need for interpretation (1 Cor. 14:5).

Historically, there's been a lot of confusion about tongues. Over time, some cultural traditions have developed in the Pentecostal movement. Here are a few:

- Tongues as a form of prophecy (a "message in tongues") that is understood as God himself speaking through tongues to the church.
- Speaking in tongues disruptively during worship, often doing so without interpretation. We believe that speaking in tongues is perfectly appropriate in worship, but according to Paul, it is ideally expressed personally.
- Speaking in tongues has been described as the "evidence" to tell whether or not someone has been filled with the Holy Spirit. While we believe that being filled is a wonderful, separate experience from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit at salvation, we do not believe that the Bible teaches speaking in tongue is necessary evidence of it.
- Being Pentecostal has often meant avoiding order, clarity, education or intellectual thinking just because the gifts are mysterious.

We believe it is good to move beyond these cultural traditions that are not anchored in the Bible. In fact, we want to learn from the Corinthians' mistakes, as they were firmly corrected by Paul for an overemphasis on tongues. We are excited that God's people can be filled with the Holy Spirit, an awesome experience that is available to all Christians when they've come to faith in Jesus. Not all will speak in tongues as a result (1 Cor. 12:30) and not all have to, but we should desire to receive whatever spiritual gifts God wants to give us. This "filling" can happen sooner or later, it can happen often and it can happen anywhere. In the Bible, it often occurred when great power was needed for a task, for facing trouble, for encountering God more deeply, or for overcoming areas of personal sin or doubt. Being "filled" with the Holy Spirit, however, is different than baptism in (or with) the Holy Spirit. Baptism in the Holy Spirit is an initiation into the new life and indwelling presence of God, promised by Jesus before he ascended to the Father's side (John 16:7, 1 Cor. 12:13).

Conclusion: This topic has a way of raising lots of questions, so please understand that what you've just read isn't everything there is to know, but hopefully it will help you begin to see what being Pentecostal is all about.



## **What Does It Mean...**

### **To Have Spiritual Gifts?**

As mentioned on the last page, God gives many “spiritual gifts” (1 Corinthians 12:1) to the Church by the Holy Spirit so that together, we can be powerful in life. This power is for the ultimate purpose of knowing God better, living hopeful lives, and telling others the good news of Jesus. At no time in history has God stopped giving these gifts, but there have been times when believers have not been open to receiving and using them. We simply believe that there are spiritual gifts from God that are waiting to be used by you for the “common good.” Read what Paul has to say in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11:

*“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.”*

After he wrote this in his letter, Paul went on to explain that the Church is like a body with different parts working together in unity toward one purpose, all of the parts being important. So you and your gifts contribute to the way the body works. And because spiritual purpose in the world is the greatest motivation for a believer, you might say that God *gives you to your gift!*

### **How do I get spiritual gifts?**

Paul told a young minister, Timothy, that the gifts were given to him when Paul and others laid their hands on him, a sign of connection and agreement, and prayed for him to receive them (1 Tim 4:14, 2 Tim. 1:6). At CHC, we are excited to agree with and pray for believers to discover the gifts God wants them to have. Because we believe that being “filled” with the Holy Spirit who dwells in your life is a vitally important part of the Christian life, we encourage you to desire the Spirit’s filling on your way to discovering and using your gifts. It’s as simple as agreeing together for God to do it. And he will!

### **How do I know what my gifts are?**

We should desire to receive whatever spiritual gifts God wants to give us. It seems that most often, our gifts are discovered when we begin working together with other believers, applying ourselves to the greater purpose. Apparently, some gifts are more personal in nature, such as speaking in tongues, and others are more community-oriented, such as encouragement. Paul encourages believers to seek to have gifts that “build up” the church, that is, the whole community (1 Cor 14:12). Many people have more than one gift. Here are the spiritual gifts identified in the Bible, specifically in 1 Corinthians 12. They are all very important:

- Appointed Leadership (Apostles, Prophets, Pastors & Teachers)
- Messages of wisdom (special inspiration to know and communicate the right things)
- Messages of knowledge (special and specific knowledge of certain matters)
- Faith (apparently, a special degree of belief, trust and expectation)
- Healing (special faith for physical or emotional restoration)
- Miracles (special grace to perform what would seem otherwise impossible)
- Discernment (deeper insight into matters of life and Spirit)
- Speaking in tongues (for special personal edification)
- Interpreting tongues (for making a personal tongues edification available to all)
- Helps (special grace to meet the needs of the hurting or lacking)
- Administration (managing affairs of the Church)



## **Contact Information:**

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## **www.chcgreer.com**

### **The Members Section of our Website**

A complete and updated church directory, along with other resources, is available online under the "Members" tab of our website. The username is: "member@chcgreer.com" and the password is "chc."

### **The Church Calendar**

A detailed interactive calendar of events is kept up to date on our website.

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."*

**Matthew 28:19-20**