

**Church Staff**

Chad Thibodeaux

*Senior Pastor*

Don Minter

*Teaching Pastor*

Michael Cathey

*Worship Pastor*

Philip Vaughn

*Senior Adult Pastor*

James Clonts

*Student Pastor*

Crystal Hewitt

*Children's Pastor*

Melanie Moss-Butler

*Child Development Center Director*

Debbie Darnell

*Office Manager*

Sherry Floyd

*Finance Manager*

Karan Gardner

*Financial Assistant*

Sonja Hollis

*Administrative Assistant*

Rick Hinely

*Maintenance Supervisor*

**Whoever Takes the Son**

Many years ago, there was a very wealthy man who shared a passion for art collecting with his son. They had priceless works by Picasso and Van Gogh adorning the walls of their family estate. As winter approached, war engulfed the nation, and the young man left to serve his country. After only a few short weeks, his father received a telegram. His son had died. Distraught and lonely, the old man faced the upcoming Christmas holidays with anguish and sadness. The joy of the season had vanished with the death of his son.

On Christmas morning, a knock on the door awakened the depressed old man. As he walked to the door, the masterpieces of art on the walls only reminded him that his son was not coming home. As he opened the door he was greeted by a soldier with a large package in his hands who said, "I was a friend of your son. I was the one he was rescuing when he died. May I come in for a few moments? I have something to show you."

The soldier mentioned that he was an artist and then gave the old man the package. The paper gave way to reveal a portrait of the man's son. Though the world would never consider it the work of a genius, the painting featured the young man's face in striking detail. Overcome with emotion, the man hung the portrait over the fireplace, pushing aside millions of dollars worth of art. His task completed, the old man sat in his chair and spent Christmas gazing at the gift he had been given. The painting of his son soon became his most prized possession, far eclipsing any interest in the pieces of art for which museums around the world clamored.

The following spring, the old man died. The art world waited with anticipation for the upcoming auction. According to the will of the old man, all the art works would be auctioned on Christmas Day, the day he had received the greatest gift. The day soon arrived and art collectors from around the world gathered to bid on some of the world's most spectacular paintings. Dreams would be fulfilled that day.

The auction began with a painting that was not on anyone's museum list. It was the painting of the man's son. The auctioneer asked for an opening bid, but the room was silent. "Who will open the bidding with \$100?" No one spoke. Finally someone said, "Who cares about that painting. It's just a picture of his son. Let's move on to the good stuff."

The auctioneer responded, "No, we have to sell this one first. Now, who will take the son?" Finally, a neighbor of the old man offered \$10 dollars. "That's all I have. I knew the boy, so I'd like to have it." The auctioneer said, "Going once, going twice...gone." The gavel fell. Cheers filled the room and someone exclaimed, "Now we can bid on the real treasures!"

The auctioneer looked at the room filled with people and announced that the auction was over. Everyone was stunned. Someone spoke up and said, "What do you mean, it's over? We didn't come here for a painting of someone's son. There are millions of dollars worth of art here! What's going on?"

The auctioneer replied, "It's very simple. According to the will of the Father, whoever takes the son...gets it all."

Puts things in perspective, doesn't it? The message is the same this Christmas. Because of the Father's love...whoever takes the Son gets it all.

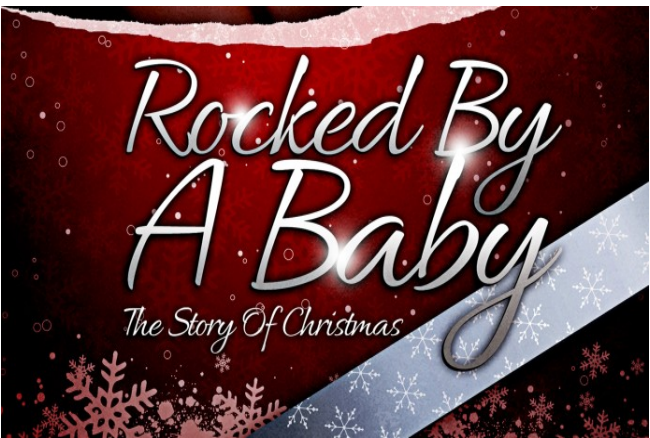
Merry Christmas,  
Pastor Chad



**Chapin Baptist Church exists to equip every generation  
to reach their world (oikos) for Christ**

# CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 5:00 PM

**Chapin Baptist Hall of Honor Established**  
What a blessing the Night of Worship was for everyone as we honored five of the charter members of Chapin Baptist Church - Reverend Pat Johnson, the first pastor of Chapin Baptist Church, Katherine Grooms, Everett and Mary Lovett, Shirley Still, and Bill and Pam Zeigler. Each of these individuals were recognized *"for their many years of faithful and dedicated service to this Body of Christ. Your life has been an example to those around you, and your testimony has created a legacy. It is our privilege on this day, November 17, 2013, to recognize your life here on earth as honorable, until our Savior calls you home and says, "... Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21.*



*A daily devotional and prayer booklet is available at the Information Table for you to use during the Christmas season.*


*A Night of Carols and  
Candlelight  
Christmas Eve  
5:00 and 7:00 pm*

### Town Hall Meeting New Bylaws Presentation

Pastor Chad and the Bylaws Committee would like to invite you to an informative Town Hall presentation of the proposed new Bylaws. The presentation will be followed up by a time of questions and answers. The Town Hall Meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 4 at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. The proposed new Bylaws will be voted on at the Business Meeting scheduled for Sunday, December 8 at 5:00 pm.

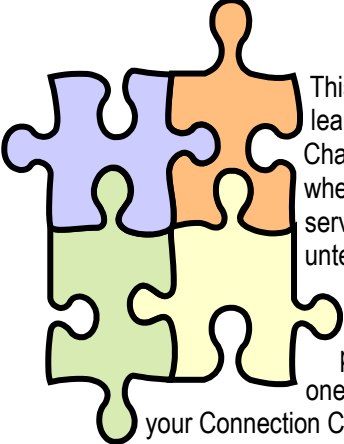
### Christmas Poinsettias

If you wish to have a poinsettia placed in the Worship Center during the month of December in honor or in memory of a loved one, please complete the form in the bulletin on Sunday along with your payment of \$6.00 per poinsettia. Checks should be made payable to Chapin Baptist Church. Poinsettias can be picked up after the services on Christmas Eve.



### Community Service Award

Join us on Sunday, December 8, as we honor Mayor Stan Shealy in both worship experiences with a Community Service Award for his 32 years of service to the Chapin Community.



### Connections Class

This class is a great way for you to learn more about the ministries of Chapin Baptist Church and exactly where God may be leading you to serve alongside our awesome volunteers. Join Pastor Don on Sunday, December 8, during the 9:00 and 11:00 worship experiences. You can sign up for one of the classes on the back of your Connection Card on Sunday, by contacting the church office, or via email to [info@chapinbaptist.com](mailto:info@chapinbaptist.com)

## Children's Ministry at Chapin Baptist

**Crystal Hewitt, Children's Pastor**

crystal@chapinbaptist.com / 803-318-5237

I can't believe it's December already. Christmas will be here before we know it. Time to get down all the boxes of decorations to decorate our house. Oh and then the shopping - my favorite part. I love buying gifts for others! If we went shopping for Jesus, what would we "buy" for Him? One of my kids favorite books is "If Jesus Came to Visit Me". The little boy in the book wanted to give something to Jesus, and he couldn't think of anything because Jesus couldn't take it with Him. But then the little boy says at the end, "I know, I will give Him my heart." Ellington knows this last line so when we get to that page, she reads it by herself. It's so sweet hearing her say those words. I want her to give Jesus her heart; we all want that for our children. So, with the gift buying and giving, let's remember that we can't take any of that with us when we go, but what we can take is Jesus' love and what's taught to us. Let's take every moment as a teachable one with our kids - teaching them that Jesus wants to be their best friend. What a great gift He is to us! I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas!

### Happy Birthday Jesus!

#### Sunday Mornings - Preschoolers (Babies - 4 yr.)

9-10am: Small group and music.

10-11am: Fellowship and snack

11am-12pm: Worship experience and small group

#### Memory Verse for December

"God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Every year as we prepare for the Christmas season, I have a manger scene that I pull out for my kids to play with. It makes the story come alive when they can hold the pieces and place everything themselves. This month we will be bringing the Christmas story to life for your preschoolers. We are looking forward to having moments filled with wonder as we give preschoolers a "first look" at the God who loves them, made them, and wants to be their friend forever.

#### Sunday Mornings - Grade School

9-10am: Surprise/games (that go along with lesson)

10-11am: VBS style rotation: Bible story, craft, snack and fellowship

11-12pm: Awesome worship experience

#### Memory Verse for December

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Philippians 4:4.

When life is going well for us, we can rejoice in God's goodness. When things don't go our way, we can still rejoice because we know that God has promised to always be with us and give us peace. We can always find joy. Our theme this month as we celebrate Christmas, is JOY. **Joy is finding a way to be happy even when things don't go your way.** Joy isn't dependent on our circumstances, but rather it's about being content beyond our circumstances. We can have joy when we recognize that God's plan is greater than our own. Our joy is a response to our trust in God. Joy will thrive in life's triumphs and endure through life's challenges. Joy is a deep, sincere way to approach life that allows us to know that the hard times will make us stronger and draw us closer to God. Having joy may not mean always wearing a smile, but joy lets us reflect God's love and shine through the dark moments in life.

### WEAR YOUR PJ's TO CHURCH

Sunday, December 22

"Happy Birthday Jesus"

We will be having all kinds of fun activities planned; your child is not going to want to miss it! **Party starts at 11am**

(Small group rotation will be meeting at 10:00 am as usual)



Parents, if you want to join in on the fun, call me or just come on over on Sunday morning with your children (in your PJ's of course)!

This is a GREAT time for our kids to invite their Oikos to church with them! Their friends will have a blast and want to come back! Let's see how many of the kids' Oikos we can have here to celebrate Jesus' birthday with us!

### Props Needed for Children's Worship Experience

Our Children's Ministry Team works very hard to have the worship room decked out and decorated for the kids to enjoy their worship experience even more. Please look at the list of needs below and see if you have some of these things around the house that you could donate to help with this. Some of the things we will need to **borrow** for set change in worship for January are: snow skis, snow outfits, or sleds. Things that we would love for you to **donate** include fake snow, white glitter, spray glue, large cardboard boxes, bright colored plastic table cloths, red, orange and yellow tissue paper, light weight sheets of foam core or pink insulation, or nylon zip ties. If any questions about any of the above items, please contact Sherri Roberts, 540-293-1017.

### BURRRR....It's cold outside!

During December we will have a wrapped box in the Children's Building where we will be collecting winter items for the needy in our community. If you can bring something for your child to put in the box we would appreciate it. These items will be given to kids in our community. Items can be gently used and may consist of gloves, hats, socks, and coats.



## Merge Student Ministries

James Clonts, Student Pastor



### Be Generous With Your Lives

Conforming ourselves to God's image can often require a little work on our part. Not the sweat producing kind of work, but the thoughtful work of being intentional. We get a lot during the holiday seasons about how we should live and act, but I came across an article this week that I thought really laid it out straight and I wanted to share that with you.

We've all been blessed by others' generosity, and we really do wish we could pay it forward. But what if an understanding of generosity in the Kingdom of God has very little to do with finances? Consider Jesus' words in *Matthew 5:16*:

*"Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."* (from *The Message*, emphasis ours) With your lives. While this may sound easier on the wallet, we believe it's actually a more costly challenge. And we can't exempt ourselves from living generously because we're broke.

What does this look like in our families?

1. **Say the right "no"s:** Being generous does not mean always saying yes. It means saying "no" to the more frivolous, self-serving, or non-essential things in life – sometimes even really good things – so we can be free to give. We must say the right "no"s so we can say "yes" to God's best.
2. **Give presence:** (See what we did there?) Being generous with your life means giving your family your best life moments. Resist the temptation to multi-task; instead, give your loved ones your undivided attention. Distraction-free attention is rare these days. Give your focus generously to your family.
3. **Use lots of words:** Be generous with your words. Compliment. Encourage. Gush. Affirm. For some of you it may feel awkward, but in the words of [Greg Stier](#), "Awkward is awesome." So don't hold back.
4. **Keep open house:** Invite people into your home. Few things communicate how much you value someone like sharing your home. So, enjoy a pizza, watch a football game, or sit on the back deck for a chat. Don't freak out about all the dust on your shelves; focus on making people feel loved and welcome.

We love, because God first loved us. And we give, because God gives to us. Being generous with our lives will point people to our generous Father in Heaven.

### Holiday schedule

Starting Sunday, December 15 our regular Merge activities will be on hold until we return from Christmas break. However, we will be getting together for fires, movies, and awesome times throughout the Christmas break. Keep watching for our emails and on the Merge3 Facebook page.

#### Merge Weekly Schedule

##### Sunday

9:00 am - Traditional Worship Experience in Worship Center (Students attend worship or serve in ministry)  
 10:00 am - Students Small Group— Bible Study in the Big Pointe Classroom  
 11:00 am - Modern Worship Experience in Worship Center (Students attend worship or serve in ministry)  
 Kickball on Field 2 at Crooked Creek Park for all students  
 6:00 pm - Merge Worship Experience for High School Students — Dinner at 6:00 pm and worship experience starts at 6:30 pm and ends by 8:00 pm

##### Wednesday

3:25 pm - Wednesday Walkover / Chapin Middle School dismisses and students (with permission slip on file) are walked over to The Pointe  
 3:30 - 5:30pm - Homework & Hang / MS students work on homework, play games and have fun together  
 5:30pm- Merge Worship Experience for Middle School students - Dinner at 5:30 and worship experience starts at 6:00 pm and ends by 7:30 pm.

## Missional Matters

*"Engage and Connect: What ever it takes"*



### Chapin Baptist Church Members Help With "Operation Christmas Child"

On December 9, thirty-one volunteers from Chapin Baptist Church will travel to the "Samaritan's Purse" facility in Charlotte, North Carolina. There they will join with hundreds of other volunteers in processing incoming shoe boxes for distribution to children around the world. It is always exciting to see this "operation" at the hands-on level!

This will be the second year that volunteers from the Coed 1 class have participated in this event. This year the class is joined by several other Chapin Baptist volunteers. If you would like to be a part of this effort **next year**, please contact Kahn Chaddock or Alice Massey. We would love to have you join us in December 2014.

After our four hour work session at the Samaritan's Purse warehouse, the group will travel to the Billy Graham Library for a tour of that beautiful facility.



Some of the volunteers that participated in 2012

### Game Day for Adults of All Ages

Due to the Legends trip to the Fantasy Lights at Callaway Gardens, the December Game Day has been cancelled. The next Game Day will be Tuesday, January 7 in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 pm. Adults of all ages are welcome to attend. It is a great time of laughter for all! We hope everyone has a very blessed Christmas together with family and friends.

## Chapin We Care Center

Our food inventories are running very low right now. Some of the items needed most this month are: Corn Muffin Mix, Grits, Fruit, Corn, Chili Beans, Spaghetios. We also need grocery bags and egg cartons. Items can be dropped off at the church office or on Sunday mornings at the We Care table in the foyer.

Also, if you selected a We Care child to purchase Christmas presents for, those presents are due back to the church by Sunday, December 15. Please wrap the presents and have them together in a large trash bag with the tag stapled to the outside. This helps greatly in delivering the presents. Thank you to everyone who chose a child this year.



### Legends Christmas Luncheon

The Chapin Baptist Legends will meet at Mid Carolina Country Club at 12 noon on December 18th to celebrate Christmas and enjoy a delicious buffet luncheon prepared by Mid-Carolina. Our own Dana Cassell will provide our entertainment. The cost is \$10.00 per person. If you plan to attend, please sign up and pay at the Information Table in the church foyer on or before Sunday December 15.

### First Annual Dip Off

Family of the Way and Merge Student Ministries will host the first annual Dip Off on Saturday, December 7 at 3:00 pm in The Pointe. Register your best / favorite dip and let the judges decide the best one. Registration is \$20 per dip or \$5 to try all the dips you want. All proceeds will be used for community outreach events of Family of the Way and sponsorships for the Merge ski trip in January. To register your dip, please email [familyoftheway@mail.com](mailto:familyoftheway@mail.com).

### Chapin Baptist Church sponsors Blood Drive In Memory of Lost Loved Ones

Wednesday, December 18 from 2:00 - 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Please contact Lavonda King (803-600-0873) for your donation time. Walk-ins are welcome. Please bring a photo ID.

**On Marriage...**

It never fails, following every marriage seminar, some poor victim, male or female, laments the role that God has assigned within the marriage covenant, that ridiculous covenant filled with promises sublime, “for richer or poorer, better or worse, richer or poorer...”, and other lofty ideals. But most of us recognize, sooner rather than later, that life in general, and marriage in particular, is simply ‘not fair’. I can still hear my beloved father drilling that into me as a child. I knew full well that his world may not have been ‘fair’, but someday mine would be. And sadly, then I grew up into the same world that human beings have been inheriting across the ages.



And so we discover a universe in which ‘fair’ is never the reigning principle, as the Son dies on a cross, the ultimate ‘unfair’ of the ages. Instead, God is concerned with a much more boring principle: pragmatic (does it work). And so, the principles for marriage unfold before us in Ephesians 5:21ff, the ultimate utilitarian guidebook for creating long term relationships.

Of course, in the end, God’s pragmatism, actually does work, as we lay down our lives for the sake of ‘another’, even an unworthy ‘other’. In the end, it is ‘surrendered power’, which overpowers the ‘unfairness’ of our world, and marriage, in ways we could have never imagined (His ways are not our ways).

So go ahead and live on the ‘wild side’, that reckless surrendering of your life into the ways of God. You know the routine. Wives surrender to the leadership of your husband even when you know he is dead wrong. Husbands, surrender your own self-interest for the sake of your wife. And get ready for God’s ‘pragmatism’ to ‘work’ in this unfair world in which we live.

Blessings,  
Pastor Don

**EmmanuWheel Project**

The next EmmanuWheel wheel chair ramp is scheduled to be built on Saturday, December 7 at 8:00 am at 2516 Stone Hinge Drive, Cayce, South Carolina. For those that want to carpool to the site, please be at the church at 7:30 am. Everyone is asked to wear closed toe shoes and bring a bag lunch. For questions or more information, please contact Donna Lynch (803-730-5187).

**Financial Report for November**

Monthly Budget Requirements.....	\$85,896.00
Monthly Budget Receipts.....	\$92,628.60
Over Budget Amount.....	\$6,732.60
Total Yearly Budget Requirements.....	\$1,011,218.06
Total Yearly Budget Receipts.....	\$1,079,854.93
Over Budget Amount.....	\$68,636.87
Debt Retirement.....	\$16,796.00

**Year End Giving**

The deadline for year-end giving to be included on the 2013 Contribution Statements is **10:00 am on Tuesday, December 31**. Any contributions received after 10:00 am on December 31 will be posted to your 2014 contribution records.

**2014 Contribution Envelopes**

2014 Contribution Envelopes will be available for you to pick up in the foyer beginning Sunday, **December 15**. If you do not see envelopes for yourself, please write your name on the list on the table and envelopes will be provided for you the following Sunday.

# Thank you

Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls, and prayers during my recent surgery. It's wonderful to feel the love in our church.

Yours In Christ,  
Janet Marshall

We offer heartfelt thanks to our church family for all the kind gestures you made during the home going of our beloved daughter, Paula. We love this church family and thanks for being our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We love you,  
Philip & Nancye Vaughn

Words cannot express the appreciation and love I feel for all the care shown to me during my recent hospitalization, rehab, and home recovery. Thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, visits, and meals. May God continue to bless all of you.

Paula Aull

# Congratulations



- Heather and Jeremy Moseley on the birth of their son, Rhett Baxter born on November 12, weighing in at 7 lbs. 2 oz and 18" tall. The proud grandparents are Larry and Jerri Moseley.
- Stan and Kathy Lathren on the birth of their grandson, Connor Teager Ruddy-Lathren. The proud parents are Casey Lathren and Shannon Ruddy.



*Pastor Chad and Teresa, along with the church family, extends their deepest sympathy to:*

- *Pat Hightower on the death of his aunt, Betty*
- *Leo Frick on the death of his mother .*
- *Alison Greco on the death of her grandmother*
- *Cadie Bodie and Holly Lee on the death of their grandfather.*

# December Birthdays

- |                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Elaine Allcut<br>Bill Plump<br>Larry McLinden<br>Kerry Faglie<br>Jordyn Musick | 18 Jack Rector<br>Tim Chapman<br>Coribeth Cook<br>Joelle Davis                                                                                |
| 2 Kim Sullivan<br>Pebble Briggs<br>Belinda Doss<br>Joey Bodie                    | 19 Debra Johnson<br>Philip Miller<br>Abby Rogers                                                                                              |
| 3 Sarah Kelly<br>Dee Swygert<br>Emma Goostree                                    | 20 Nicholas Robertson                                                                                                                         |
| 4 Pleas Faglie<br>Benjie Derrick<br>Toma Fowler<br>Dani Price                    | 21 Lillie Mae Graham<br>Carolyn Marsh<br>Judy Ellis<br>Brian Hall<br>Megan Lynch                                                              |
| 5 June Ingram                                                                    | 22 Renetta Williams<br>Chynna Rowe<br>Adam Doss                                                                                               |
| 6 Megan Williams<br>Jamie Lord<br>Reagan Dorr                                    | 23 Miriam King<br>AJ Czeresko                                                                                                                 |
| 7 Alice Thompson<br>Tanner Sullivan<br>TJ Barnes                                 | 24 Margie Klauk<br>Suzanne Lindler<br>Layla Neal                                                                                              |
| 8 Heather Bird<br>Tristan James                                                  | 25 Lori Williams<br>Scott Huffstetler<br>Chris Jackson<br>Rachael Stenger<br>Olga Nichols<br>Lee Bundrick                                     |
| 9 Ashlyn Moss<br>Bailey Strawhorn                                                | 27 Scott McLeod<br>Paul Thompson, III<br>Charlie McLinden<br>Jayden Slack<br>Hunter Taylor                                                    |
| 10 Larry Russell<br>Deena Davis                                                  | 29 Cal Maddox                                                                                                                                 |
| 11 Lynda LaBruyere<br>Emma Hickey                                                | 30 Kathy McDaniel<br>Jana Carter<br>Lila Cook<br>Greg Smith                                                                                   |
| 13 Susan Nussler<br>Randy Nussler                                                | 31 Sherri Hinely<br>Alison Greco<br>Pam Harper<br>Valerie Reisman<br>Amelia Taylor<br>Maegan Taylor<br>Savanna Tokunaga<br>Christopher Boland |
| 14 Linda Shirer                                                                  |                                                                                                                                               |
| 15 Karamie Sullivan                                                              |                                                                                                                                               |
| 16 Stacy Taylor<br>Taylor Metts<br>Luke Abstance<br>Carlie Hamilton              |                                                                                                                                               |
| 17 Bea Hudson<br>Mike Joyner<br>Anna Powlas<br>Mary Beth Hickey                  |                                                                                                                                               |

**CHAPIN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
950 Old Lexington Highway  
Post Office Box 640  
Chapin, SC 29036  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Chapin, SC 29036  
PERMIT No. 10

*Reach Wide*

*Teach Deep*

*Unleash Grace*

*1st Annual*  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
APPRECIATION *Gala*

Pastor Chad and the entire church staff would like to express our gratitude to the hundreds of volunteers who serve the body of Chapin Baptist Church. Please join us for an exciting evening of sugar, entertainment, laughter, and awards.

CHAPIN'S LARGEST DESSERT BAR • COMEDIAN MARTY SIMPSON • LIVE MUSIC  
PHOTO BOOTH • WIRED GOAT SPECIALTY COFFEE

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013 @ 6:30 PM**  
Sugar. Entertainment. Awards.

**FREE EVENT for all  
Chapin Baptist Volunteers,  
Staff, Members, Community Partners,  
and Friends**

Chapin Baptist Church - "The Pointe"  
950 Old Lexington Hwy - Chapin, SC

Regrets only to [info@chapinbaptist.com](mailto:info@chapinbaptist.com)  
803.345.3477