

COMPASS



ALICE DRIVE
baptist church

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER **May 12, 2016**

1305 LORING MILL ROAD • SUMTER, SC 29150 | 803.905.5200 | ALICEDRIVE.ORG



ADBC snapshots



April 30, 2016





Praying on Empty...

DIRECTIONS
by
Dr. Clay Smith
Lead Pastor

Empy is a vicious word. It brings fear of being stranded without gas, of having nothing to eat, and of feeling like no one cares.

Most of us will feel empty at some point. We have poured out all we can, and feel like we have nothing left to give. We feel numb, because our emotions have been run over time after time. We feel like something is missing – a child, an opportunity, a future, a hope.

Emptiness breeds shame. We hide the hollows of our souls. We assume we are the only ones who feel the ache of something missing. So we smile vacant smiles, go through the motions, and hope no one sees the vacancy sign flashing over our lives. We withdraw, sometimes physically, often emotionally. We mask our loneliness from people, even from God. Somehow we think that if we don't pray, if we don't worship, if we don't gather with His people, God will not know we are empty. We think emptiness is not something to be shared with our Father in Heaven.

Preserved for us in the ancient texts of the Bible are prayers called "Laments." A lament is prayer offered with deep emotion that cries out to God for help. There are laments about emptiness: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping (Ps. 22:1)?" Solomon, who had wealth, wine, and women, said, "Emptiness, Emptiness, emptiness of emptiness! All is empty (Eccl. 1:2)." Apparently, these people thought it was a good idea to tell God, "We feel empty."

So how do you pray when your soul is on empty? Start by being honest. "God, I feel empty." No sense in pretending with God. Tell Him how you feel. I call this dealing in reality.

Second, make sure you are thinking about God correctly. God is not a helpless old man with arthritis seated on a throne on a cloud. He is the Mighty God, who stands ready to do battle, with angel armies standing behind him. A small god cannot fill your needs; a Mighty God can. This is staying connected to God, to who He really is.

Bring your request to God. No matter how ridiculous it sounds, ask the Father

to bring justice, to right wrongs, to show His presence, to teach you what really counts. One of the dumbest things I hear people say is "Don't pray for patience! God will make something happen so you will learn it." God knows what you need, and He is arranging an answer that meets your deepest need.

Finally, don't stop praying until you have peace. People sometimes erroneously say "Pray until God answers." A better strategy is to pray until you experience the grace and peace of God. You might ask for answers, and God may not give you any. Instead, God will offer you Himself, which is infinitely better.

When you feel empty, do not let shame take control. Fight against all the shame messages and bring your empty soul to your Heavenly Father. Your emptiness doesn't frighten Him. In fact, He is the only one who can fill the hole in your soul.

Grace,



Diaper Drive

for the Sumter Pregnancy Center & the Advocacy Center

May 1 - 31 / Any brand, size newborn - 6

Diapers are the #1 expense for new mothers.

Did you know that food stamps cannot be used to purchase diapers? We can help!

Let's show people matter to God by stuffing the designated container in the lobby.



GOING ONLINE IS EASY @ ALICEDRIVE.ORG

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

HELPS

May 15 @ 4:00pm | 201

HELPS is the local "share light" ministry of ADBC. We'll be discussing ongoing transportation, collection, and light construction projects focusing on those requiring assistance in our community. This meeting for HELPS team members and for those who are interested in seeing what HELPS is all about.

STARTINGPOINT

May 15 • 5:00-7:00pm | McManus Hall

- Learn more about Alice Drive's mission, vision, & values
 - Ask questions
 - A meal & childcare provided
- Your next step toward church membership

CLASS OF
2016



HS GRADUATE RECOGNITION WEEKEND

Saturday, May 28
& Sunday, May 29

If you are interested in participating,
contact the Student Department
by May 20.



Celebrate Awana!

Wednesday, May 25

6:00pm | Worship Center

Come cheer on the kids as we showcase their accomplishments from this year.

Missed a service? Want to catch up on a series?



By going online to alicedrive.org (click on Media and then Watch & Listen online), you can listen to a sermon or watch a full version of a service. You can also watch full services online by going to vimeo.com and searching Alice Drive Baptist Church.



CALENDAR

Friday, May 13

6:00p Crafters' Escape, 202C

Saturday, May 14

10:00a Stitches of Love Quilting, 202C

Sunday, May 15

Worship Services (8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am)

LIFE Groups for all ages (9:45 & 11:00am)

4:00p HELPS Team Meeting, 201

5:00p Starting Point, McManus Hall
Outreach, Worship Center

Monday, May 16

7:00p Worship Service, Worship Center
LIFE Groups for babies-5th grade

8:00p Adult LIFE Group, 118

Tuesday, May 17

7:00p Celebrate Recovery Worship, studio4.3

8:00p Celebrate Recovery Shared Groups, studio4.3

Wednesday, May 18

2:00p Praying Ladies, 119

4:00p In-Depth Bible Study, 202A

5:00p Fellowship Meal, Worship Center

5:30p FISH Market, Upstairs Adult Hall

6:00p FISH Adult Discipleship Classes
Awana (kids)

The Mix (Middle School), studio4.3

7:15p Vision Council Meeting, Admin Building

7:30p The Mix (High School), studio4.3

*No Worship Choir Rehearsal until May 25

Thursday, May 19

9:00a MOPS, Worship Center

10:00a Thimble Thursday, 104A/B

5:30p Tech Talk, Balcony

6:00p Vocal Team Rehearsal, Green Room

7:00p Worship Team Rehearsal, Worship Center

7:30p Men's Softball v. Autumn Woods, Dillon Park

Sunday, May 22

Worship Services (8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am)

LIFE Groups for all ages (9:45 & 11:00am)

5:00p Outreach, Worship Center

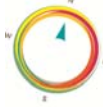
5:30p GO Share Class, McManus Hall

Monday, May 23

7:00p Worship Service, Worship Center
LIFE Groups for babies-5th grade

7:45p GO Share Class, McManus Hall

8:00p Adult LIFE Group, 118



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PRAYERS THAT CHANGE HISTORY

May 15/16: Surrender

CELEBRATE THE SERVANT LEADERS OF THE WEEK Lighthouse Ministry Team

Ready to find your purpose in serving others, but not sure where?
We can help! Contact Stacy Wright: swright@adbc.org

ATTENDANCE 5/08 & 5/09

8:30am.....349

9:45am.....565

11:00am.....564

Monday Night.....160

Total.....1,638

LIFE GROUPS 5/08 & 5/09

Adults.....355

Students.....132

Children.....140

Preschool.....250

Total.....877

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL | May 18

Country fried steak & gravy, potatoes, garden peas, & dessert

Kids' Menu: Hotdog, chips, & cookie

\$5/adults, \$3/kids under 12, \$15/family max

social
media



ALICEDRIVE.ORG



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WORSHIP
TIMES

SUNDAYS

8:30am Traditional

Childcare for 5 & under

9:45 & 11:00am Contemporary

LIFE Groups for all ages

MONDAYS

7:00pm Contemporary

LIFE Groups for babies-5th grade

8:00pm Adult LIFE Group