



Letter from the
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What we're all about

Reach Out, Columbia is committed to presenting the heart and works of Jesus Christ in clarity and purity. We strive to encourage a deeper, more steadfast love toward others as well as provide a vehicle for the body of Christ to come together as one voice in corporate agreement and expression of faith.

“**E**verything changes and nothing stands still,” said Heraclitus, a fourth-century Greek philosopher. His thoughts aren’t original. King Solomon, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, penned similar words 500 years before in Ecclesiastes 3.

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance. . .”

The truth that change is constant is never more obvious, it seems, than in the fall. Children who were babes in their mothers’ arms just yesterday step into kindergarten classrooms and emerge four hours later older and more mature. Cocky, self-assured seniors regress into nervous freshman the moment they walk onto their new college campuses. On a grander scale, seasons come and go as the earth completes another orbit around the sun.

When all around us seems in a state of flux, I find great comfort in the permanence of God’s Kingdom. From the first sin and sacrificial lamb in the Garden, it has continued to grow. No matter what century, year, or day, God continues to redeem sinners, restore relationships, and draw people to himself. Unaffected by natural disaster, war, peril, famine, or evil, God’s purposes stand in the heavens and no plan of his can be thwarted.

More than two years ago, a young man entered a Wednesday night prayer meeting in a downtown Charleston church and open fired on a group of believers. But what that man meant for evil, God used for good. As our Savior said long ago, “. . . unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds” (John 12:24).

The blood of the slain has nourished the seeds of the church. As you’ll read in our cover story, a wave of revival more powerful than any hurricane has swept through the Holy City, leaving unity, forgiveness, and love in its wake. In our Reaching Out feature, Brandon Clements shares his thoughts on the easiest way to change the world. And in our A Changed Life feature, Grace Hamrick tells a story that never gets old – how God in his grace and mercy opens people’s hearts and draws them to himself. These stories and many more will remind you God is always at work in the world. And, wonder of wonders, he invites us to join him.

May God richly bless you as you seek to follow him.

Lori