

Allen Memorial
 Beaver Dam
 Bethany
 Bethany Hispanic
 Bethel
 Bethlehem
 Boiling Springs
 Buffalo
 Calvary
 Camps Creek
 Carpenter's Grove
 Casar
 Christ Covenant
 Christian Freedom
 Christopher Road
 Community
 Crestview
 CC Cowboy
 David
 Double Shoals
 Double Springs
 Dover
 Eastside (KM)
 Eastside (Shelby)
 Elizabeth
 Emmanuel
 Faith
 Fallston
 Flint Hill
 Gethsemane
 Goodes Grove
 Grover First
 Immanuel
 Joy Christian
 Kings Mountain
 Kings Mtn. First
 Kings Mtn. Second
 Lattimore
 Lawndale
 Lily Memorial
 Living Hope
 Macedonia
 Midview
 Mt. Sinai
 Mulls Memorial
 New Bethel
 New Camp Creek
 New Covenant
 New Hope
 New Jerusalem
 New Prospect
 Norman's Grove
 Northside
 Oak Grove
 Oak View
 Pathway
 Patterson Grove
 Patterson Springs
 Peach Street
 Peoples
 Plains View
 Pleasant Grove
 Pleasant Hill
 Pleasant Ridge
 Polkville
 Poplar Springs
 Putnam
 Ross Grove
 Sandy Plains
 Shelby First
 Sunrise
 Temple
 Trinity
 Union
 Victory
 Waco
 Wallace Grove
 Washington Missionary
 Westover
 Westview
 Westwood Heights
 White Harvest
 Zion
 Zion Hill
 Zoar



THE BEACON

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc. Shelby, NC
Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

Volume 59, Issue 5

Website: gccba.org

May 2017

*"He commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their ancestors, and to obey his laws and commands."
 2 Chronicles 14:4*

Who's leading? Who's leading your church? Who's leading in your home? Who's leading in your marriage? Who's leading in your community? Is it like the skit, "Who's On First?" In the passage in 2 Chronicles, King Asa was preparing for battle. He was facing a very difficult task. Really, an impossible task. He had a little over 500,000 men, but was facing 1,000,000 men. He was out numbered with his back against the wall. Asa knew that Judah needed to consult THE leader, GOD. Seeking God led Asa to remove the idols that had crept into Judah. What are some idols that have crept into our lives, our churches, and our communities? Are we willing to ask God to reveal those to us? We need to pray, and seek God. We need to ask God to reveal the idols that are in our lives, church and communities. Then we need to ask God for the ability to tear down those idols and return to God.

We are facing some tough battles in our families, our churches and our communities. We need to prepare for God to do a great work! Read 2 Chronicles 14. God led Asa to win the battle.

Thursday, May 5, 12:00 pm is the National Day of Prayer. What a great time to come together to pray and seek God as a nation. There will be two places in Shelby, the County Commissioners Chambers, and Shelby City Hall.

"Then Asa called to the LORD his God and said, " LORD, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. LORD, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you." " 2 Chronicles 14:11

Wesley Smith



I laughed when my older brother told me that he had just come in from playing pickle-ball. I had called him to see how he was doing. He lives in Louisville, so I don't get to see or talk with him very often. He has always enjoyed teasing his only sister, so I just figured this was a new joke he was playing on me. After a moment of laughter, I asked him what in the world is pickle-ball. You can only imagine what was going through my mind. He explained the game to me so I would stop laughing from the images that were flooding my imagination. "Well," I told him, "I have a game I am playing that might top pickle-ball. I have taken up 'Bee-Minton,'" I said, glad we were not on facetime or skype where he could see the expression on my face. "What is Bee-Minton?" he asked. I laughed and explained that it was the challenging game of taking a badminton racket and going to war with carpenter bees that are around everything wooden in my yard. "Pesky little things," I added. "But so far today, the score is 'Alice: 3 and Bees: 1.'

In Psalm 37, there are three references to 'swatting' something else that is pesky and destructive: the 'frets.' David reminds us that fretting about things is destructive to us. (To fret means to be fussily agitated.). There are a lot of aggravations in life that we wish

Thoughts from our staff.....

were not there. I need to learn how to 'swat' them, not just be fussily irritated about them. What is the 'swatter' that we use? Truth. Whenever the pesky temptations, worries, or aggravations fly around you today, grab some truth from God's word and swat away! Let's rack up a good score today!

Dr. Alice Cullinan

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We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps. Proverbs 16:9

To say that the plans I have had for the last 2 weeks have not gone the way I expected is an understatement. From guest speakers canceling at the last minute, to emergency surgery, and canceled planes and long road trips, my family's life has been interrupted and changed several times. As things are starting to get back to normal I am trying to look back and see what God is teaching me through all of this. First I noticed how God has put many people in my life to come alongside me and help. At times we all need to stop and take a moment to thank those who support us. Second I realized that I need to be more open to the moving of the Holy Spirit and not so set on carrying out the plans I have made for my life. And third I see the importance of perseverance when you know you are doing what God is calling you to do. There are many times during the last 2 weeks I could have given up and decided I could not or should not do something, but I am thankful that God gave me the strength and support to continue to do His work.

I hope that as you make plans for your life and as you watch them change, you will be open to the moving of the Holy Spirit, but still have the strength to continue on when things seem too hard or impossible.

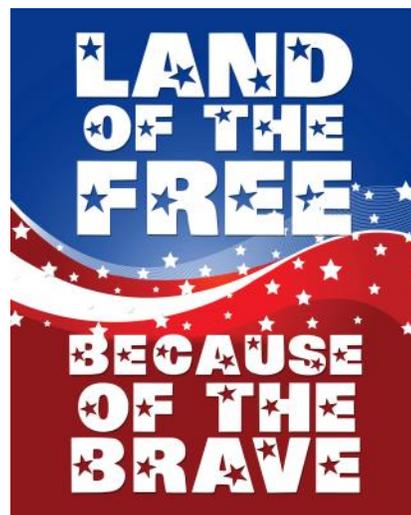
Katie Harris

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Jose Espinal is available to come cook a meal for your church family and share about GCCBA mission work in Nicaragua. The proceeds from the meal go to help support our dental clinic in Jinotega, Nicaragua. To schedule his group to cook a meal please contact Katie Harris.

Office Closed:
May 29th for
Memorial Day
May 30th for
Staff Retreat



Thank you!
Memorial Day
May 29, 2017



Wishing you the
very best this
Mother's Day!
May 14, 2017

Education and Network Opportunities

GCC Baptist Association Ministers' Conference

GCCBA
Office
1175 Wyke Rd.
Shelby, N.C.

Monday, May 1, 2017

10:00 am till 12:00 pm

Discover How To:

- Make important plans for your family's future.
- Increase your financial impact for now & the years to come
- Expand your church's financial discipleship for greater & extended influence for Christ's kingdom.

For more
information, call us
at
704.482.3472

Making Dollar\$ and Sense for You and Your Ministry!



Join us on Monday, May 1, to discover how to make "Dollar\$ & Sense" for your life, your family, and your church family!

This event, sponsored by the NC Baptist Foundation & NC Baptist Financial Services, will give you insight on how to make plans for your family and Christ's kingdom.

Sponsored by



Join Allen Schuyler & Russell Jones
with NC Baptist Foundation &
NC Baptist Financial Services for lunch following the
meeting for more information.

*Please join us Monday, April 24th at our Spring Bi-annual Meeting, as we gather to worship together at Westwood Heights Baptist., 650 Dellinger Rd., Shelby 28152
6:00-6:45 Meal
6:50— Biannual Meeting*

Uniquely Bi-vocational Pastors Fellowship

Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Annual WMU Spring Meeting

Our annual WMU Spring Meeting (formerly WMU Salad Supper) will be held on [May 11th at 6:30 pm at Crestview Baptist Church](#). Katie Harris will be sharing about the mission work we do in Nicaragua, and Jose Espinal will prepare our meal. Please bring a dessert to share. An offering will be taken for the Dental Clinic we sponsor in Jinotega Nicaragua. Our goal is \$425 which will provide one month of services.

Missions Opportunities



Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We are still in need of groups to sign up to help with our Friday lunch program. We would love for you to join us in serving the needy in Cleveland County. Groups are welcome to cook a meal to bring or provide sandwiches. If your group wants to help with the food but cannot come to serve we can work that out! Please contact Katie about how to get involved in this vital ministry in Cleveland County.



We also have **volunteer openings for our Crisis Assistance desk**; answering the phone, greeting clients and doing intake forms. This is a big ministry of the GCCBA. In order for us to best serve our community we need more great volunteers! Please consider serving with us!

We are in need of **volunteers to work in our food pantry and clothing room**. If you would be willing to spend a couple of hours a week stocking food and making food bags or sorting clothing and helping clients, please contact Katie or Charles. There is also a form located on our website.

Missions Opportunities



BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME FOOD ROUNDUP

Remember that the last day to receive boxes of food you have packed for the Baptist Children's Homes Food Roundup for 2017 and gift cards at the associational office is Friday, April 28!

Gift Cards are appreciated for buying perishables and items not received. (i.e. Wal-Mart, Sams Clubs, Food Lion, Lowes, Ingles, Piggly Wiggly) They

can use all size cans. Some locations prefer #10 cans (family size). Please check for expired dates on food.

Please help their volunteer truck drivers by packing your church's donations in small, sturdy boxes. Questions? Contact Alan Williams at 1-800-476-3669 ext. 277 or awilliams@bchfamily.org or Charles Reed at (704) 482-3472 ext. 106 or go to the BCH website www.bchfoodroundup.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 5/4/2017

Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found -Psalm 32:6

The Psalmist implies that there comes a time when God cannot be found. A time when God hides Himself. A time that I believe may have begun in America.

Our nation is in turmoil. Why? Could it be because America is losing God's blessing? His favor? Could our sin be provoking His judgment? Judgment that is not necessarily in the form of a nuclear dirty bomb, or another ISIS attack, or an economic collapse; but a Romans 1 judgment as God backs out of our national life and turns us over to ourselves.

In the Old Testament, God moved in judgment on His own beloved nation of Judah. Interestingly, His judgment of Judah was a 22-year process. God moved slowly, giving plenty of opportunity for Judah to repent of her sin, turn to Him, and therefore escape judgment. But with all of God's warnings, Judah became even more defiant. More disobedient. More wicked. She insisted on her right to immorality and idolatry. In the end, God became her enemy. He sent in the Babylonians to destroy Jerusalem, the temple, and the people. Those who were not taken captive were slaughtered in the streets. (2 Chronicles 36:15-19)

God warns a nation that judgment is coming. He doesn't want any to perish. But if a nation does not heed His warnings, He unleashes His anger; and there is nothing--no one--who can prevent it. If God would judge His own beloved nation of Judah, why would we think America could escape?

So ... if we are coming under the judgment of God--if He is giving us over to ourselves and removing His blessing, protection, and favor--the solution will not be found in politics or the economy or the military or technology. The solution will be found on our knees as we humble ourselves, pray, seek God's face, and repent of our sin. Then plead for Him to return to us as we return to Him. Now is the time to get serious about repentance and prayer.

God promises: "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13). There can be no casual, half-hearted turning to God--not if we want Him to return to us. God emphasizes this principle in Joel 2: 12-14: "Even now", declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments ...who knows? He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing. (from Anne Graham Lotz Prayer Task Force, Chairman for the National Day of Prayer Task Force)

Join other Christians in praying at their City Hall or Commissioner's Chambers on May 4, 2017, from 12:20 to 12:40 p.m. to pray for our nation, state, and county, rending our hearts before God! Should your City Hall not be opened feel free to pray outside of the building!

Missions Opportunities

The **Cleveland County Potato Project** started its eighth season on March 3, 2017. GCCBA has played a significant role in this organization's efforts to reduce hunger in Cleveland County. We are thankful for the financial support, prayer support, volunteer support, distribution support, etc. that so many of our churches have provided to the CCPP. In return, over 700,000 pounds of white and sweet potatoes have been given to local residents.

Since the first planting on March 3, approximately 15,000 pounds of white potatoes have been planted in the county. Two local congregations are sponsoring white potato projects this year: Union Baptist and Boiling Springs Methodists. If your church would like to be a part of this effort, it is not too late to join the Project by planting sweet potatoes. Sweet potato planting will start in early June.

Note to retired farmers: If you have a sprayer just laying around collecting dust that is appropriate for spraying liquid herbicides and pesticides, please consider donating it to the CCPP. It should be driven by tractor power with a tank of 55 gallons or so. If such an implement is only a vision to you, a donation of \$700.00 would just about purchase a new one. If you would like to make this gift, please contact Charles Reed at (704) 482-3472, EXT. 106 at the Association office.

We ask for your prayers for a good growing season and safety for our volunteers. Most of all, please pray for that senior citizen, school kid, unemployed neighbor, etc. who has to go to bed hungry tonight.

Indiana Mission Trip

Several of us have just returned from a planning weekend in New Albany, Indiana. After this trip I am so excited about our mission trip in July. We will be working with several new church plants and one existing church that is going through revitalization. It was wonderful to be able to spend some time with these pastors and learn about their love for the Lord and the mission field God has given to them. If you are interested in this trip, please contact Katie asap about it.

Summer Missionary

For 10 weeks this summer our Summer Missionary will be available to help our churches with VBS and other mission events. They would love to be a part of your church's ministry whether it be teaching a class, leading music or crafts, or helping with an outreach event. In order to schedule them to help please contact Katie Harris.

Below are suggested items needed. (GCCBA churches by geographical areas) We can always use canned meat products, soups, peanut butter, crackers, canned vegetables (we have plenty corn and green beans right now), and nonperishable fruit!

2017 GCCBA FOOD GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

SHELBY: macaroni & cheese, canned salmon or tuna, soup, stew, flour, powdered milk, paper towels

WACO rice, canned vegetables and meats, peanut butter, crackers, macaroni & cheese, powdered milk, spaghetti & canned meat sauce, sugar, flour, shampoo

KINGS MOUNTAIN: canned spaghetti & meatballs, ravioli, oatmeal, rice, dried beans, flour, powdered milk, paper napkins, clothing detergent

GROVER canned meats, stew, tuna, cereal, peanut butter, saltine crackers, soup, dried beans, Kleenex, clothing detergent

POLKVILLE: canned spaghetti sauce and noodles, grits, oatmeal, cereal, rice, dried beans, dish detergent

LATTIMORE: peanut butter, saltine crackers, soup, canned fruits & juice, sugar, flour, bath soap, toilet tissue



GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries for May

Bethany:

Scott Hardin, 8 years

Emmanuel:

Jerry Brooks, 13 years

Sandy Plains:

Chase Robinson, 1 year

Washington Missionary:

Melvin Clark, 8 years



Pray for our Pastor less Churches

Beaver Dam ~ Crestview ~ Grover First ~
Lattimore ~ Lily Memorial ~ Temple ~ Zoar



2016 Annual Minute Books are ready to be
picked up!

If any of these positions have been filled please
let me know at nicole@gccba.org

Block Party Trailer

Our summer schedule for the Block Party Trailer is already starting to fill up. If you are interested in using the trailer for your summer mission work please contact us to get on the calendar. This trailer is a very useful tool for Bible School, Block Parties, and other outreach events.



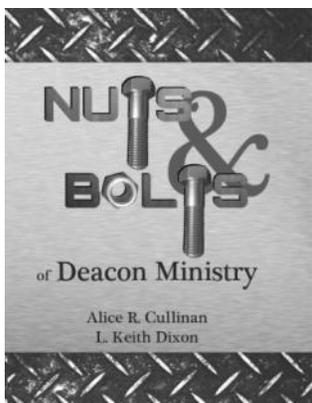
\$24.95

DEACON TRAINING BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

Keith and Alice have worked for over 3 years compiling, writing and adding other helpful information from 10 years of deacon training events and their own personal ministry experience. They

have started a non-profit ministry called Lamplighters Ministries, through which they will make these books and other resources available to churches and church leaders. Please prayerfully consider purchasing books for your pastor and deacons as well as yourself. (The material is helpful for anyone wanting to grow in their walk with Jesus.)

Donations to Lamplighters Ministries are tax-deductible and will be used to provide books and other materials to churches who cannot afford to purchase them. Bi-vocational pastors, and churches with less than 100 members, will be given 2 free copies of the Deacon Ministry book as monies are available. (Visit lamplighters-ministries.org for more information about this ministry and resources. Prayers are appreciated.)



Available Positions in our Churches:

Allen Memorial:

We are seeking a **Pianist/Music Director** part-time employment for Sunday morning, Sunday evening, choir practice, and Wednesday evening services Contact Kenny at 704-739-1262 or email Kenny at ambcgrover@aol.com for more info.

Beaver Dam:

Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Shelby, NC is currently seeking a **full-time Senior Pastor**. We are a conservative, Southern Baptist, family and community oriented church that was established in 1850. We are a thriving church with an average Sunday School attendance of 150. The Senior pastor will lead three services each week (Sunday morning Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening). He will work alongside an associate pastor, minister of music, and minister of children and youth. Senior Pastor should have a minimum of five years pastoral experience with a seminary degree from an accredited seminary. After prayerful consideration, please submit résumés to: Pastor Search Committee, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, 123 Beaver Dam Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152.

Calvary:

Calvary Baptist Church is currently looking for a **youth director**. The position will be about six to eight hours per week coinciding with the academic calendar increasing to about fifteen hours per week in the summer months. Salary will be adjusted to accommodate this hourly difference. The position will be responsible for planning and coordinating a comprehensive youth ministry. A full job description is available upon request. All inquiries should be directed to Pastor Tony Sisk. Please send a letter of interest and a resume with references to tony@visitcalvaryonline.com.

Crestview:

Crestview Baptist Church, Shelby, N.C.—We are a small rural church seeking to fill the **pastor** position. We are looking for

Church Needs.....

looking for an outstanding communicator, leader, strong administrator and visionary. The person will teach the word of God, provide pastoral care, and has prior pastoral experience. Must be an excellent teacher who can challenge all ages through his sermons, have strong leadership skills and uphold the biblical doctrine of the Baptist faith. The pastor should also emphasize evangelism and the importance of lifestyle witnessing. Candidate should have at minimum a bachelor's degree. Please mail resume to Pastor Search Committee, Crestview Baptist Church, 1090 Old Boiling Springs Road, Shelby, N.C. 28152. Deadline: April 24, 2017

Grover First:

First Baptist Church of Grover, N.C. , a small conservative congregation, is seeking an evangelistic and mission – minded **pastor** who will help us reach our community through visitation and inspirational worship. Send resume to PO Box 237, Grover NC 28073 or email groverfirstbaptist@yahoo.com

Mulls Memorial:

Mulls Memorial is praying for a **part time pianist**. This position will require Sunday morning service and choir practice. They can send a letter of interest with salary requirements to MMBC Attn: worship committee- 3299 Fallston road, Shelby NC 28150.

Mulls memorial has a PT opening for **music director** focusing on traditional Baptist hymns but not limited to only traditional hymns. This position would only require attendance at morning worship and choir practice. Please send letter of interest and salary requirements to MMBC attn: worship committee 3299 Fallston Rd Shelby NC 28150.

Oak Grove:

Oak Grove Baptist is currently seeking a **pianist and organist**. If anyone shows an interest in either position, please have them contact : mjimison@carolina.rr.com, or phone 704-685-1735. They could also call the church office at 704-739-4833

Pleasant Hill:

Pleasant Hill Baptist is in need of a **pianist/choir accompanist** for Sunday morning worship and Wednesday night choir rehearsal. Music is traditional/blended style. Contact Amanda Lowery alowery52@gmail.com

Poplar Springs:

Poplar Springs Baptist Church is seeking an experienced **part time organist**. Responsibilities include playing all regularly scheduled Sunday Services, practice with choir on Wednesday night, playing for any specially scheduled church activities, funerals and weddings as needed. Resumes may be mailed to Personnel Committee, Poplar Springs Baptist Church, 1106 Poplar Springs Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152.

Full-Time Minister of Youth and Children -

Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Shelby, NC (www.poplarspringsonline.org) is seeking a full-time minister of youth and children. We are a moderate congregation that is dually aligned with the SBC and CBF that supports the Baptist Faith and Message of 1963. We seek a candidate with experience that is also a graduate of an accredited seminary or divinity school. Qualities we desire are an organized leader to continue to grow the youth and children's ministry. Send resume to Poplar Springs Baptist Church Search Committee, 1106 Poplar Springs Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152 or church_office@poplarspringsonline.org by April 28, 2017.

Putnam:

Putnam Baptist Church is in search of a **Student Pastor** Putnam Baptist Church, located in Shelby, NC, has an active Sunday attendance of 700, with a Student Ministry involving 100 individuals. We are a church that believes in the inerrancy and inspiration of Scripture. Education: Bachelor's required, Master's preferred Experience: Experience in some capacity supporting student ministry Expectations: Has a passionate and personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Able to communicate effectively with students, parents, staff, and church body Full-Time position Competitive salary Resumes may be emailed to info@putnambaptist.org

Ross Grove:

Ross Grove is looking for a **part time Minister of Music**. The interested parties would need to send a resume to 1225 Fallston Rd Shelby NC 28150 Attn: Personnel Committee or email them to rossgrovebaptistchurch@gmail.com The church phone number is 704-482-6051.

Waco:

Needed: **Part-time youth & children's leader**. Call the church 70-4435-9311 to leave a message or call Everette Grigg at 704-435-2937. Send resume to Waco Baptist Church PO Box 297, Waco, NC 28169

Zoar:

Zoar is prayerfully a **part-time worship leader**. Please contact the church office at 704-482-4151 or send resume to 1740 S. Lafayette Street, Shelby, NC 28152

Zoar Baptist Church of Shelby, N.C. is seeking a **part-time Children and Youth Minister**. Some of the responsibilities will be planning, coordination and directing the Children/Youth Ministries. This job will involve approximately 20 hours per week. Please send a letter of interest, resume, and 3 references to lynnpitches@carolina.rr.com or Zoar Baptist Church, Attention: Y&C Committee, 1740 S. Lafayette St., Shelby, NC 28152 or contact the church office at 704-482-4151

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.
1175 Wyke Road
Shelby, NC 28150
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Office Phone Number: 704-482-3472
Counseling Center Number: 704-472-1437
Website: www.gccba.org

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If you are not going to read the printed version of the newsletter, please call and have your name removed from the mailing list. We can add you to the email list, if you so desire.

THE BEACON

STAFF, PHONE EXTENSIONS & EMAIL

Associational Missionary:
Wesley Smith, 104—wesley@gccba.org

Ministry Team Leader:
Charles Reed, 106—charles@gccba.org

Missions Team Leader:
Katie Harris, 109—Katie@gccba.org

Christian Ed Leader:
Alice Cullinan, 107—alice@gccba.org

Hispanic Missionary:
Jose Espinal, 100—jose.espinal231@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:
Nicole Mosley, 101—nicole@gccba.org



- 1**— Minister's Conference at GCCBA 10:00 am
- 2** – GCCBA Bible Study "The Power of Payer" taught by Dr. Alice Cullinan 10:30 am, GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 4** – National Day of Prayer 12:20 pm
- 5** – Hungry program with Crestview Volunteers 12:30 pm
- 9** –Dr. Alice Cullinan Bible Study Meal 11:30 am, GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm, Uniquely Bi-Vocational Minister's Fellowship 6:00 pm
- 11**—Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am Shelby Youth Ministers Fellowship at Jammin J's, 12:00pm WMU Salad Supper at Crestview, 6:30 pm
- 12**- Hungry program with Beaver Dam Volunteers 12:30 pm
- 16**—GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 18** – Polkville and Waco Minister's Fellowship at Hwy 18 North Café, 11:30 am
- 19** – Hungry program with KM Eastern Star Volunteers, 12:30 pm
- 22** – Shelby Minister's Coffee Fellowship at Hannah's Coffee House, 10:00 am
- 23**—GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 25** - Thrive/Revive at GCCBA 9:30 am
- 26** - Hungry program with Zoar Volunteers 12:30 pm
- 29** - GCCBA Office closed for Memorial Day
- 30** – GCCBA Office closed for Staff Retreat