

Allen Memorial  
 Battleground  
 Beaver Dam  
 Bethany  
 Bethany Hispanic  
 Bethel  
 Bethlehem  
 Boiling Springs  
 Buffalo  
 Calvary  
 Camps Creek  
 Carpenter's Grove  
 Casar  
 Christ Covenant  
 Christian Freedom  
 Christopher Road  
 City of God  
 Community  
 Crestview  
 David  
 Double Shoals  
 Double Springs  
 Dover  
 Eastside (KM)  
 Eastside (Shelby)  
 Elizabeth  
 Emmanuel  
 Faith  
 Fallston  
 Flint Hill  
 Gethsemane  
 Grover First  
 Hope Community  
 Immanuel  
 Joy Christian  
 Kings Mountain  
 Kings Mtn. First  
 Kings Mtn. Second  
 Lattimore  
 Lawndale  
 Lily Memorial  
 Living Hope  
 Macedonia  
 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 City  
 Pleasant Grove  
 Pleasant Hill  
 Pleasant Ridge  
 Polkville  
 Poplar Springs  
 Ross Grove  
 Sandy Plains  
 Shelby First  
 Sunrise  
 Temple  
 Trinity  
 Union  
 Victory  
 Waco  
 Wallace Grove  
 Washington Missionary  
 Westover  
 Westview  
 Westwood Heights  
 Zion  
 Zion Hill  
 Zoar

**Office: 704-482-3472**

**Website: gccba.org**



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

*Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries*

# THE BEACON

**Volume 64, Issue 5**

**May 2022**

*Jeremiah 29:11 tells us, "For I know the plans I have for you" —this is the LORD's declaration—"plans for your well-being, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope" (CSB).*

Hello Cleveland County! My name is Jason Ballard, and I am joining you and the ministries of Baptist churches in the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association as your new Associational Missionary. I want to thank you for your prayers for me and my family as we have made this new step together and as we transition to be a part of the family of believers in Cleveland County. In this, my first monthly newsletter, I just wanted you to get to know a little about me as I begin to get to know all of you and work with you in what God has in store for us to accomplish together.

I grew up in west Gastonia and was a member of a Cleveland County church in my years as a youth. My parents are strong Christian believers who took my sister and I to church and showed us what it meant to follow God, serve God in His church, and to be a witness for Him locally and all over the world.

In the summer of 1999, I boarded a plane for India as a medical volunteer with the International Mission Board. Over the next 62 days I would immerse myself in another culture. I would experience the highs and lows of life and death in a developing country. I would make new friends and worship in a church with people who looked and sounded nothing like me. I would also go on a spiritual journey that God continues to use to lead me today.

However, the most significant moment for me came as I walked down the jet way to board my first flight. I had just checked my luggage that contained everything that tied me to home, hugged my parents and told them goodbye. At first, I thought it might be nerves or anxiety, but then it settled into a peaceful excitement. It was there, alone on that jet way that I realized something – I was exactly where God wanted me to be.

It was a brief moment, but one I cherish to this day, because it reminds me that when we are obedient to God's will – no matter how great the challenge is before us – God will be with us through whatever may come, and God will bring joy in that journey. It is with that same excitement and responsibility that I make my way to Cleveland County.

*writing continued on next page*

## Thoughts from our Staff.....

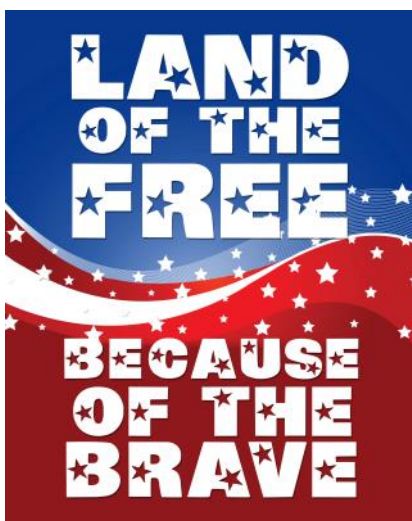
Everywhere we turn we see new things blossoming to life. This time of year has been exciting for me as I turn a new page in my ministry life as well. It feels a bit like I'm back on that jet way before that first flight – a little nervous, maybe even anxious. I was unsure of where my journey would lead me 23 years ago, but God had a plan and God is still working that plan in my life.

I may not be sure of all that lies ahead for the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, but I know that God's plan will be for our good and for a great future with Him – and that is exciting! Thank you for your prayers for me, my wife Laura, and our daughters, Lucy (15), Tess (13) and Ruby (10), as we make this transition. I look forward to meeting and speaking with each and every one of you as we journey together toward God's "future and hope" for us.

Jason Ballard

We all know that international missions is an important duty God has called us to fulfill when he said to go to the nations. Many of our churches are doing a great job at this by going on international mission trips, collecting items to send to missionaries, and giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering or to an individual missionary. But many times we forget about the international mission opportunities God has given us in our own hometowns, sometimes in the backyard of our church. In America, today, we have a wonderful opportunity to share with the nations right here where we live. It is estimated that over 45 million immigrants live in the US, that is over 14% of our total population. Though we may not realize it in Cleveland County, there are people around us that have moved from other countries and are in need of hearing about Jesus and having the hope that he gives. In the book "The Baptist Association" the writers share these words, "We need to continue to challenge people to go to the airport, get on a plane, and go to the nations-but we also need to challenge them to go to airport to welcome the planes and the nations -because God is sending them to us." I want to challenge you to do some research to find out what people groups are living near your church. Then, begin having intentional conversations about how you can reach out to them, love them, and share Jesus with them.

Serving together,  
Katie



**Thank  
you!**



VBS is one of the biggest outreach events of the year! Let me know at [nicole@gccbba.org](mailto:nicole@gccbba.org) the details of your church VBS, so we can pray with you.

**Office Closed:**  
Monday May 30 for  
Memorial Day



# Mission and Network Opportunities

## Pastors:

**KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship** will meet at the Carolina Crossing Restaurant on Thursday, May 5th, at 8:30am.

**Lattimore Pastors Fellowship** will meet at the Snack Shop, Thursday, May 19th, at 8:30am.

**Ministers Conference**  
Monday, May 2, 2022  
Lunch 11:30am, Program 12:00pm.  
Sandy Marks will be joining us.

## APPLY NOW

### **Summer Missionary**

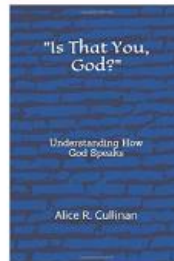
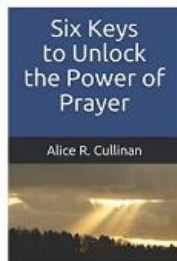
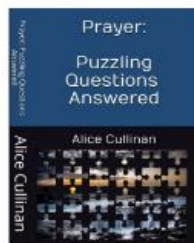
Once again we are excited to be able to have a Summer Missionary join us for 10 weeks. They will be working with our churches doing mission projects, helping with VBS, and assisting in our office. If you are interested in working with us this summer or know someone who would be good, please send a resume to [katie@gccba.org](mailto:katie@gccba.org) or [nicole@gccba.org](mailto:nicole@gccba.org)

*Please join us at our Spring Bi-annual Meeting, as we gather to worship together. Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association Bi-Annual Session  
Monday, April 25, 2022 Oak Grove Baptist Church  
1022 Oak Grove Rd., Kings Mountain  
6:00-6:45 pm Fellowship Meal*

## ATTENTION all PASTORS and TEACHERS!

Lamplighters Ministries will give a **free** copy of one of these books to your class or prayer group if you will have a class session to study it for at least four weeks! Every member in the class or group gets a free copy!

Contact us while supplies last. Any of these books can transform a life and a church. We are thankful to be able to make this offer due to the generosity of our donors.



Go to [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) to see the table of contents for each book plus a sample of each book. Contact Dr. Cullinan if you are interested in obtaining copies for your class or church prayer group. Allow three weeks for us to order them.



# Missions Opportunities



**Have all food and gift cards dropped off at the GCCBA Office by April 28th!**

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

We can use all size cans. Some locations prefer #10 cans (family size).

Please check for expired food dates.

Please help our volunteer truck drivers by packing your church's donations in small, sturdy boxes.

Contact Alan Williams at 336-474-1277.

## ***Shelby Mission Camp***

We want to welcome the new directors of the Shelby Mission Camp, Robbie and Christie Alexander. The Shelby Mission Camp is in great need of volunteers to help build wheelchair ramps and do minor home repairs. They are able to provide the supplies and their tool trailer to any groups that are able to help.

Right now they have over 100 projects on the list. These projects are in different locations throughout the county. If you have a group that is willing to help, please contact Katie or Nicole so that we can let them know you are available.





# Missions Opportunities



## Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We still have a few summer dates open for this wonderful outreach mission. The summer is a great time for youth and children's groups to be involved. Groups that are interested in serving will be in charge of providing sandwiches, chips, and cookies for 75 people.



"That they may see and know, and consider and understand together, that the hand of the Lord has done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it."

ISAIAH 41:20



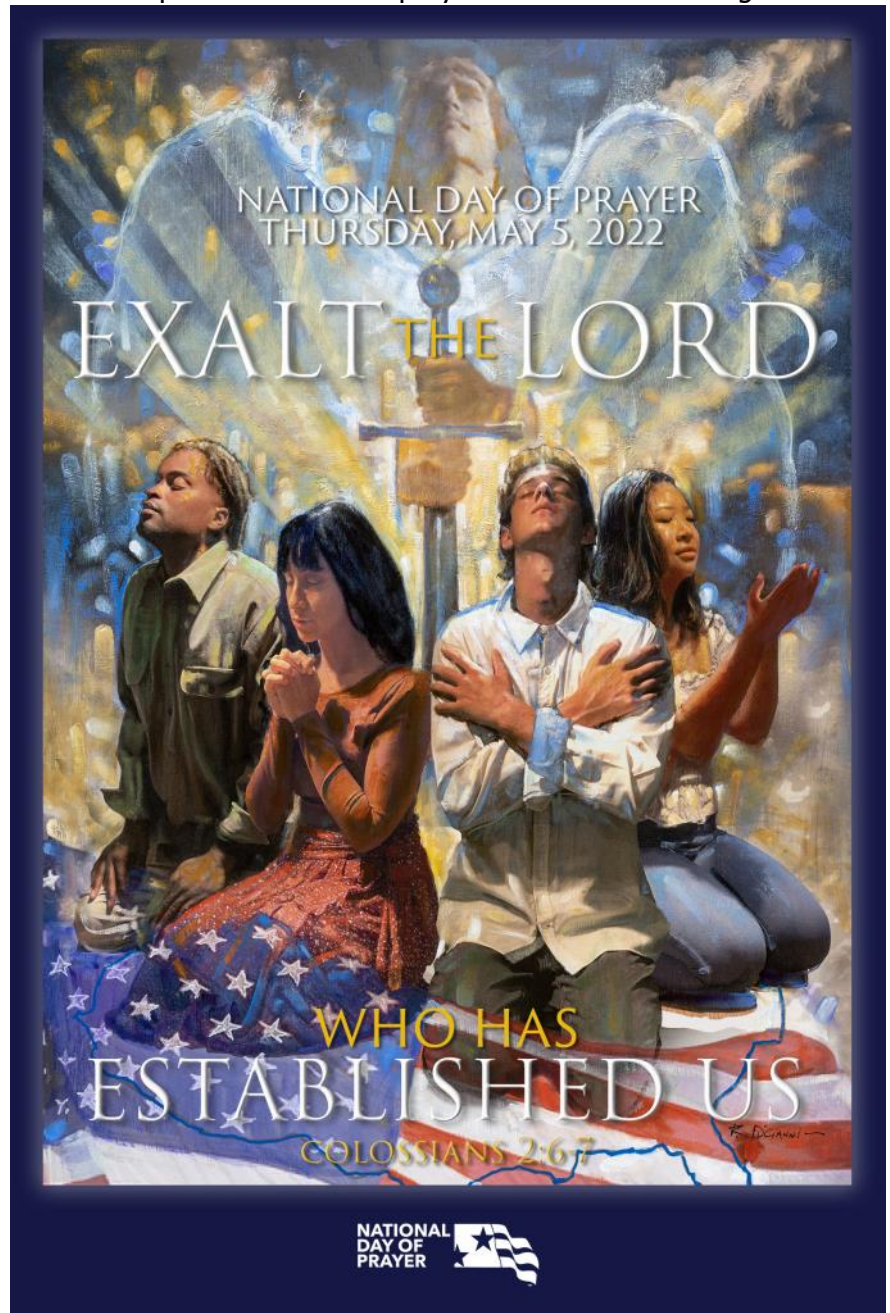
Scan this code or visit [mothersdayoffering.org](https://mothersdayoffering.org) to learn more.



**2022 MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING**  
[mothersdayoffering.org](https://mothersdayoffering.org)

STATEWIDE GOAL: \$650,000 OUR GOAL:

Join other Christians in praying at their City Hall, or at your local municipality on May 5, 2022, to pray for our nation, state, and county, rendering our hearts before God! Should your City Hall not be opened feel free to pray outside of the building!



## Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: **February 2022**

Food	8
Power	25
Medicine	1
Other	2
Total Assisted Units:	36

## GCCBA FOOD PANTRY NEEDED ITEMS:

**\*\* DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED \*\***

Spaghetti sauce  
spaghetti noodles  
peanut butter  
cereal  
macaroni and cheese  
Canned Meat



Toiletries: toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, clothes detergent

The pantry always needs everything, but the items listed are what we go through the fastest!

# GCCBA Bulletin Board

## **Pastors Anniversaries for May**

Washington Missionary:  
Melvin Clark, 13 years  
New Camp Creek:  
Tim Smith, 1 year



Wishing you the  
very best this  
Mother's Day!

*Sunday May 8*

## **Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.**

Boiling Springs ~ Carpenter's Grove ~  
Double Springs ~ Emmanuel ~  
Fallston ~ Lattimore ~ Lawndale ~  
Patterson Grove ~ Pleasant Hill ~  
Pleasant Ridge ~ Sandy Plains ~ Zoar

## **Pray for these couples on their special day in May:**

Northside – Neal and Carolyn Efird - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Eastside, Shelby – Dale and Linda Byrd- 25<sup>th</sup>

*Happy  
Anniversary*

## **Block Party Trailer**

The schedule for the trailer fills up fast for the Spring and Summer, so please remember to call soon to reserve your date. The cost of the trailer is \$100 and includes all supplies needed to use the popcorn, snow cone, and cotton candy machines. After your event, we would love to know the impact on the community you served, so please share your stories with us.



## **Wanted**

- Bibles (all kinds in any condition); Christian Literature (Sunday School, church training, tracts, devotionals, magazines from Christian publishers, etc.);
- Christian Books of all kinds (hymns, Bible Study, concordances, Bible dictionaries and regular dictionaries, commentaries, children and adult Christian books and paperbacks, etc.);
- Christian CDs, DVDs, & Blu-Ray. , etc.
- Spanish: Bibles, Sunday School literature, and Devotional books.

Literature can be new or used. All material is sorted, boxed and sent to another Ministry, where it is sent to our brothers and sisters in poor Third World Countries. If you or your church would like to join "Harvest Seeds Ministry", please contact Pat Hamrick from Mt. Sinai Baptist Church 704-487-7518 or for Churches in Upper Cleveland County, New Bethel Baptist Church in Lawndale is now a collection site for "Harvest Seeds." Please contact Tony Fogleman at 704-538-0223 or you can bring them by the GCCBA Office.

**Please do not send: RA, GA, Acteens, & Mission Friends material; No Mission Mosaics, Mature Living, Guide Posts, & Angels on Earth magazines; No cassette or VHS tapes.**



Friday June 10, 2022  
10:00 am –2:00 pm  
at GCCBA

Bring your old files, it is  
time to shred!!



# Church Needs.....



## **Calvary:**

Calvary Baptist Church of Shelby is seeking an **Administrative Assistant** that will perform general office work, under the supervision of the Pastor, Deacons, and the Personnel Committee. This is a hourly "Non-Exempt" Position that pays \$15 an hour and is 20 hours week. Interested Candidates can either mail resumes to Calvary Baptist Church, 320 Old Boiling Springs rd. Shelby, NC 28152 or email resumes to Pastor Rob at robert@visitcalvaryonline.com

## **Elizabeth:**

Elizabeth Baptist is seeking a **fulltime Minister to Students**. Application will be accepted until March 31. Go to gccba.org to get the QR code to apply.

## **Flint Hill:**

Flint Hill Baptist Church is seeking a **Pianist** to play for worship services, choir rehearsals, and other occasions in support of the music ministry of the church. Anyone interested in this position please send a resume electronically to: personnel@flinthillbaptist.org

Flint Hill Baptist Church has a position for a **sign language interpreter** for Sunday Morning Worship services. ASL certification is not required but the individual must be fluent in sign language. Anyone interested in this position please send a resume electronically to: personnel@flinthillbaptist.org

## **Lawndale:**

Lawndale Baptist Church in Lawndale, NC is seeking a **full-time pastor** to shepherd and grow the church. To provide Spirit led, bible-based preaching and teaching. We support the SBC, NC Baptist State Convention, and our local association (The Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association). If the Spirit is leading you to serve our church, please send resumes to: LBC Pastor Search Team, PO Box 55, Lawndale, NC 28090, Or email: lawndalechurch@gmail.com, Sermon samples are welcome.

## **Lily Memorial:**

Lily Memorial Baptist Church is in need of a **pianist/choir accompanist**. Music is traditional. Responsibilities would include Sunday morning service at 11:00, Sunday afternoon choir practice at 4:30, Sunday evening service at 6:00 and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:00. Resumes may be mailed to Lily Memorial Baptist Church, 406 Whitener St. Shelby, NC 28152.

## **Mount Sinai:**

Mount Sinai Baptist Church of the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association is prayerfully seeking a **part-time Media Team Leader**. The media team leader will be responsible for the overall media programs of the church, working with the staff and the media team for an effective ministry. Successful candidate should be self-motivated with strong typing, proofreading, organization, leadership and communication skills. Please send resume to: Mount Sinai Baptist Church, Attn. Search Committee, 1227 Mt. Sinai Church Rd. Shelby, NC 28152 or email: msbcsoundbooth1@gmail.com

## **New Hope:**

New Hope Baptist Church is seeking a **part time Preschool Director** to restart the New Hope Kids' Preschool for 3 and 4 year old children. If interested, please email: spence29743@gmail.com by April 22nd.

## **Oak Grove:**

Oak Grove Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **permanent part-time pianist** that can read music and play traditional hymns and contemporary music. Responsibilities include Sunday morning & evening Worship Serve and choir practice. If interested, and more information, please mail resume to: Oak Grove Baptist Church 1022 Oak Grove Rd. Kings Mountain, NC 28086 Attn: Josh Hamrick. You may email to ogbc1022@gmail.com.

## **Patterson Grove:**

Kings Mountain, NC Patterson Grove Baptist church seeking a **Full Time Associate Pastor/Youth** to serve as the primary support person for the Youth. Responsibilities include serving as the direct support person for the senior pastor, plan and promote Bible study and activities to prompt spiritual growth for the youth, develop programs to enlist and retain the youth, etc. If interested, please email questions or resumes by mail to Patterson Grove Baptist Church, 301 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or email personnel@pgbckm.org

## **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.

## **Ross Grove:**

Ross Grove Baptist Church is seeking an **instrumentalist – (piano and/or organ)**. This position is a part-time, salaried position and includes providing instrumental solo and accompaniment for Sunday morning worship services, accompaniment for the choir when it resumes, and providing music for special services, weddings and funerals as needed. The person would work with the pastor and minister of music to enhance the worship services through music. Resumes are being accepted through May 21 at rossgrovebaptistchurch@gmail.com. For additional information you may call the church office at 704-482-6051 on Tuesdays or Thursdays or email the church office. You may mail resumes to Ross Grove Baptist Church at 1225 Fallston Road, Shelby, NC 28150.

## **Westview:**

Westview Baptist Church of Shelby, NC is seeking a **Youth Minister**. The part-time position will include Sundays, Wednesday evenings, Special Events, and summer activities. Time involved is approximately 10 hours per week. This position will be charged with teaching, discipling, planning, and implementing activities for the youth. In addition, this position has the potential for growth. Are you sensing God's call? If so, please respond to mallory@wbcshelby.org with your resume by February 28, 2022.

## **Zoar:**

Zoar Baptist Church, Shelby, NC, is seeking a **full-time Pastor**, servant-leader, and a gifted teacher with a vision for growth and outreach to our community and grow disciples while staying true to our conservative roots and statement of beliefs (BFM 1963). Developing prayer warriors, leading blended worship for all ages, missions and Bible study are all important. Applicants should have an accredited seminary degree and prayerfully consider the opportunity to apply. Please mail your résumé and at least two sermon CD/DVD/online link to: 1740 S. Lafayette Street, Shelby, NC 28152.

**If any of these positions have been filled, please let me know at [nicole@gccba.org](mailto:nicole@gccba.org)**

Go to our website to see all job listings:  
<http://gccba.org/available-positions/>

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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 & EMAIL***

Associational Missionary:  
Jason Ballard  
jason@gccbba.org

Missions & Ministry Team Leader:  
Katie Harris  
katie@gccbba.org

Office Administrator:  
Nicole Mosley  
nicole@gccbba.org

Please visit our website, [www.gccbba.org](http://www.gccbba.org) and other social media sites for information, training, and mission opportunities. Join one of our Facebook groups for your area!



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