

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
 Green Bethel
 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 65, Issue 11

November 2023

Assistance Office:
704-481-9119

Counseling Center:
704-472-1437

*You are invited to attend the 173rd Fall Biannual Meeting;
 Monday, October 23 at Pleasant City Church, Shelby
 1146 County Home Road, Shelby 28152
 Catered Meal served at 6:00 pm ~ Meeting will begin at 6:50 pm*

It is clear to me that the mission statement of the GCCBA is not only accurate but followed very well. We exist to "Unite Congregations in Effective Missions and Ministry." However, in the 15 months that I have served with our churches I have been asking, myself the question, "If 'uniting our congregations in effective missions and ministry' is what we do – then why do we do it?" and even more, "if we did the best job possible at this, what would it look like?"

These two questions fueled the formation of the Revisioning Committee that began discussing this back last February. We explored the historical impact of the association. We looked into the current community composition surrounding the county and our churches. We took the time to evaluate our current operations. We dug into the question of the health of our churches. And, we also looked into what new methods and programs exist to help our churches. I am deeply grateful for those who served on this team and their insight into the nature of our association.

At the end of these discussions, one reality has become clear to me – we here at the GCCBA want to help our churches. More importantly, we want to help our churches stand on their own and be effective in the calling that God has placed on them as a New Testament congregation. We do not want to build up our name or our fame because at the end of the day the GCCBA is not a church, and we do not exist to promote our own identity. Furthermore, the GCCBA is not a governing body that directs our churches – we do not exist to promote our own agenda. And lastly, the GCCBA is not a parachurch ministry – we do not exist to minister in places where the church has failed or from which the church has withdrawn its influence.

Instead, the GCCBA is an intra-church ministry – a ministry born from the relationship between our churches. We are here because our churches have chosen to make that possible and they desire to see strong churches working together for the Gospel. In a world where 90% of our evangelical churches are in plateau or decline, this is a serious

Thoughts from our Staff

task. When it came to defining our vision of the future for this ministry “between our churches”, the vision became clear –

**“The GCCBA exists to build (and rebuild) healthy churches
BY
uniting congregations in effective missions and ministry!”**

Furthermore, we have identified 6 key areas of missions and ministry for which the GCCBA must champion in order to build healthier churches:

Pastoral health, Congregational health, Leadership development, Ministry support, Community engagement, and Mission partnership.

In the coming months, I look forward to sharing the impact of this renewed vision for our association as we seek to build healthy churches and unpacking these key areas under which we must unite. For now, please know that the GCCBA is here to assist and encourage all of our churches as we seek to fulfill God’s calling for each of us on the mission field, He has placed us; and, thank you for making it possible for us to join together in this calling for the Gospel.

Jason Ballard

***So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.
1 Corinthians 10:31***

This verse has always challenged me because it says do it all for the glory of God. Not some, not most, but all. Sometimes I wonder if God really cares about what I eat or what I wear (or don't wear). Does He care about what I drive, what TV shows I watch, or what books I read? But then I am reminded that it's not all about me and what I am doing, but it's also about how the things I do help or hurt others. God wants our life to reflect Him and the only way to do this is to do everything for His glory. We should all take an opportunity and examine ourselves to see what parts of our life are not being done for the glory of God. Maybe there is something you need to start doing or maybe there is something you need to stop doing, if not for yourself at least so that others can see God's glory through you.

Katie Harris



Education and Network Opportunities

Ministers Conference

Thursday, November 2nd, 11:30 am at
GCCBA

Pathwright: Your Church's Pathway to
Deeper Discipleship

Please note the change in date!

KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship

will meet at the
Carolina Crossing Restaurant on Thursday,
November 2, at 8:30 am.

Lattimore Pastors Fellowship

will meet at the
Snack Shop, Thursday,
November 16, at 8:30 am.



Love. Grow. Serve.

GCCBA Minister's & Spouses Retreat

February 16th-18th, 2024

Ridgecrest Conference Center
Black Mountain, North Carolina

Sessions Led by:
Dr. Danny Akin

For More information please contact the GCCBA Office

Please join us for the
Greater Cleveland County Baptist
Association

Minister & Spouse Christmas Dinner

You're invited for some holiday cheer to
celebrate this special time of year!

Monday, December 4th
6:30 pm

The Simpson Farm & Venue
121 Thornhill Lane, Shelby, NC

Please RSVP to Katie or Nicole
by November 27th

Please join us for our Fall Biannual Meeting

Monday October 23, 2023

Pleasant City Church
1146 County Home Rd
Shelby, NC 28152

Meal: 6:00 pm
Meeting: 6:50 pm



Thursday,
November
23 for
Thanksgiving

Missions Opportunities

Thanksgiving is back at the Shelby Mission Camp! On November 23rd, families all across our county will gather for a Thanksgiving meal. This meal gives us an opportunity to enjoy home cooked food, spend time with friends and family, and thank God for the many blessings that he has given to us. Unfortunately, not everyone in our community will have the opportunity to enjoy a meal like this, and for many seniors and families, a traditional Thanksgiving meal is both physically and financially out of reach.

On Thanksgiving Day, the Shelby Mission Camp will be partnering with local churches in order to deliver Thanksgiving meals to our neighbors in need. We will need faithful volunteers on the morning of November 23rd to assist in the preparation and delivery of these meals. Two different volunteer opportunities will be available that morning. First, starting at 6:30, kitchen volunteers will be needed to help cook and package the meals. Then, starting at 11:30, delivery volunteers will be needed to carry the meals out into the community. All activities will be complete by 1:00 pm.

If you or your church would like to volunteer to help on Thanksgiving Day, please contact Robbie or Christie at the Shelby Mission Camp by calling (704) 472-0104.

20th GREATEST TREAT FESTIVAL

Free food, inflatables, candy, games, hayride, ride the train & carousel

29th
Oct
2023

SHELBY CITY PARK
850 W SUMTER ST
SHELBY

4-6
PM

JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT THE GREATEST
TREAT YOU COULD EVER RECEIVE



Sponsored by:
Baptist Churches of
Cleveland County



www.gccba.org/gtf

Greatest Treat Festival

It's not too late to sign up to help with the Greatest Treat Festival. If you are interested in helping, please contact Katie or Nicole.



Give thanks
to the Lord,
for he is good;
his love endures
forever.

1 CHRONICLES 16:34



Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We still need volunteers to provide food for our feeding program on the following 2023 dates: November 24th, December 1st, December 8th, December 22nd, December 29th. Groups that sign up bring sandwiches, chips, and cookies for 75 people. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Katie Harris.

Missions Opportunities

Christmas Toy Store

Applications will be taken Nov 27th from 2 pm- 4pm at the GCCBA Office.

Toy Donations can be brought to the Shelby Mission Camp on Monday December 11th from 1 pm-3 pm or from 5:30-7:00 pm.

Volunteers are needed to help during the Toy Store on December 12th at the Shelby Mission Camp. We will need volunteers to help pray with and encourage the parents that attend and help pick out and pack up the toys. In order to volunteer, please contact Katie.



Suggestions for toy

donations to the GCCBA toy store:

For younger children (2-4): picture books, pull toys, squeeze toys, riding toys, educational toys

For girls (5-7): dolls, tea set, storybooks, board games, puzzles, coloring books/crayons, radios, purses, writing/drawing pads, riding toys, dress up clothes

For boys (5-7): trucks & cars, model car kits, throw games, bats & gloves, storybooks, remote cars, baseballs, board games

For boys & girls (8-10): board games, DVD's, electronic games, books, cd players, bats, gloves, baseballs, football, basketballs

For older boys and girls (11-12):

jewelry, jewelry boxes, makeup, perfume, vanity cases, curling irons, hair dryers, craft kits, jewelry making kits, watches, board games, card games, DVD games, basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, cameras, tackle box, fishing gear, diaries/journals, clips/barrettes, hats, skateboards, photo albums, mp3 players

- Cost of gifts should be around \$15 (up to \$20 for older children)
- Please no toys that promote violence



Baptist Children's Homes Annual
Offering and Week of Prayer
November 5 - 12, 2023

Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: August **2023**

Food	12
Medicine	2
Power	<u>27</u>
Total Assisted Units:	41

GCCBA FOOD PANTRY NEEDED ITEMS:

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

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



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

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

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries for November

David:

Brian Taule, 9 years

Double Shoals:

Brian Johnson, 16 years

Eastside Shelby:

Dale Byrd, 9 years

Joy Christian:

DeNorris Byers, 14 years

Kings Mountain Second:

Dennis Pruitt, 8 years

Patterson Springs:

Steve Waters - 32 years

Peach Street:

Bobby Steen - 11 years



Pray for these couples on their special day in November:

Hope Community - Skip and Jena Allen - 6th
Mulls Memorial- Jimmy & Amy Black - 18th
Crestview - Artie & Ginger Hubbard - 27th



Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.

Boiling Springs ~ Carpenter's Grove ~
Double Springs ~ Pleasant Hill ~
Shelby First ~ Zion



Help us collect 1200 laundry detergent pods for the Cleveland County Rescue Mission

ITEMS ARE DUE INTO OUR OFFICE BY OCTOBER 30TH



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

✉ katie@gccba.org



Church Needs.....

Eastside, Shelby:

Eastside Baptist Church of Shelby, NC, is seeking a **full-time Youth Minister**. Preferred qualifications are experience in student ministry, seminary education and ordination. Please send a cover letter and resume to office @eastsidebaptistshelby.org or to Attn Personnel Committee, Eastside Baptist Church 1165 Wyke Rd. Shelby NC 28150. Resumes are being accepted.

Elizabeth:

Elizabeth Baptist Church in Shelby NC is hiring. We are near the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. EBC has traditionally had a long tenured staff and is a strong church. Our pastor has been here over 18 years. Due to two retirements and a vacancy, we are hiring for multiple positions. Please check out our church website for detailed information about our church, the job descriptions, and to apply. Our website is www.elizabethchurch.org

Minister of Music- We are currently looking for a Minister of Music to help EBC grow our music ministry. This is a full-time position with benefits. You can find detailed information about this position on our website.

Childrens Minister-This is a full-time position with benefits. We currently have two great part time Co-Childrens Ministers. Due to retirement, we are hiring for this position and a part time Children's Ministry Assistant. Currently we have a strong children's ministry that we would like to maintain and grow even more. You can find detailed information about this position on our website.

Childrens Ministry Assistant- This is a part time position of 20 hours a week created to assist the Children's Minister in maintaining and growing our current ministry. You can find detailed information about this position on our website.

Church Needs.....

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

Lafayette Street Church:

Youth/Children's Minister

Lafayette Street Church in Shelby, N.C. is seeking a Part-time Minister to Youth/Children. We are seeking a person who senses a call from God to be a part of a growing church in building a comprehensive ministry for the spiritual development and discipleship of Youth and Children. You would start out with 6-10 hrs. per week at \$15 per hour. This would include Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights and preparation time. You must pass a background check and obtain a Child-safety Certification, which would be provided by the church. To receive more information about the church and a more detailed job description, contact the church office at 704-487-8333 or send your resume' to office@lafayettestreetchurch.org

New Bethel Baptist Church:

Minister of Music Position

New Bethel Baptist Church (Lawndale, NC) is in search of a Minister of Music who will serve the congregation in a part-time capacity by encouraging spiritual growth of the community through leadership in the gift of music. It will be this minister's responsibility to create and provide leadership for a ministry that contributes to a worshipful environment that both utilizes and develops the musical gifts of volunteers. In order to best serve the needs of the congregation, this minister will seek to blend traditional styles of music with new and emerging styles of worship. Further, the minister will use her/his musical gifts in vocal and instrumental performance to lead the congregation in worship. In the pursuit of these goals, the minister will work alongside, and under the supervision of, the senior pastor in order to fulfill the mission of the congregation – "Knowing Christ and making Him known". Interested candidates should send a resume or CV, statement of faith, and cover letter as an attached document to nbbclawndale@gmail.com.

Oak Grove:

Oak Grove Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **permanent part-time Music Minister**. The candidate should be comfortable leading contemporary and traditional music, working with other musicians and singers, while also assisting fellow staff members and lay leaders in ministry where needed. Experience is preferred. Also having the ability to play multiple instruments and being somewhat savvy with technology and online formats is helpful. If interested, and want more information, please email your resume to: ogbc1022@gmail.com (attn: Pastor Jason and the Worship Ministry Team) or send a hard copy resume to: 1022 Oak Grove Road Kings Mtn., NC 28086.

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

Pleasant Ridge:

Position: Minister to Youth

Talents Desired: Excellent leadership/shepherding skills; Effective organizational skills; Ability to motivate Middle School/High School aged youth and parents through effective communication, planning, and implementation of ministry ideas; Experience in ministering to and with Middle School/High School Youth with a heart for understanding their special needs and a desire to include these special groups in the overall ministry of the church. Job Overview: The Minister to Youth will demonstrate a strong commitment to Jesus Christ while developing and

implementing a ministry for Middle/High School Youth which enhances their spiritual lives and encourages them to participate in the whole ministry of the church family to worship, work, and enjoy recreation together. Send Resume 198 Pleasant Ridge Church Road Shelby, NC 28152-9022 pleasant.ridge@att.net

Polkville:

Polkville Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time pianist**. Responsibilities include worship service, rehearsals, and additional special services as needed. Interested applicants need to submit a cover letter, resume, and references to Polkville Baptist Church at: P.O. Box 245, Polkville, NC 28136 Or email to: employment@polkvillebaptist.com Please include pianist in subject line.

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.

Sandy Plains:

Sandy Plains Baptist Church is **seeking a Interim or Part-Time Music Minister**. The Music Minister will be commissioned to prayerfully select music and to create an atmosphere of worship. The Minister will also be tasked with coordinating and overseeing all involved in the Music Ministry of the church including the pianist, instrumentalists, and singers. The Music Minister will need to be available for one practice a week (the day and time can be flexible) and the sound check and Worship service on Sunday mornings. The Music Minister will work closely with the Pastor and other staff to implement the vision of the church which is "Loving God and Loving People." Those interested in learning more about the church and this position contact Elisabeth Cothran at elisabethcothran25@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church, Shelby:

FBC Shelby is seeking a Full-time Children/Youth Pastor

All questions and/or resumes can be emailed to Eli Wortman at newortman@gmail.com Summary: The Children/Youth Pastor is primarily responsible for engaging our families and their children/youth through small groups, classes, special events and other programs. The purpose of family ministry at FBC is to help develop disciple-making students who love Jesus and who engage their friends, neighbors, and classmates with the good news of Jesus.

Zion Baptist Church

Zion Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time Minister of Youth**. The primary responsibilities are planning, coordinating, and implementing Bible Study and fellowship activities for Grades 6 - 12. The position is allotted 20 hours per week with attendance required on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Cover letter and resume may be emailed to secretary@zbcshelby.org (subject: Youth Minister Position) or hard copies may be mailed to: Minister of Youth Committee 525 West Zion Church Road Shelby, NC 28150.

Go to our website to see all job listings:

<http://gccba.org/available-positions/>

Website/Social Media

In order to see the most up to date information about happenings with the GCCBA, please check our website www.gccba.org or Facebook page.

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

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.
1175 Wyke Road
Shelby, NC 28150

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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 Strategist:

Jason Ballard
jason@gccba.org

Missions & Ministry Team Leader:

Katie Harris
katie@gccba.org

Office Administrator:

Nicole Mosley
nicole@gccba.org

- 2**— Grover Minister's Fellowship at Carolina Crossing, 8:30 am
- 6**— Hungry program Trinity, Shelby First, 12:30 pm
- 9**— Youth ministers breakfast, Ken & Mary's, 8:00 am
- 10**— Hungry program with Buffalo, Shelby First, 12:30 pm
- 16**— Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
- 17**— Hungry program with Union, Shelby First, 12:30 pm
- 23**— GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED
- 27**— Toy Store Applications, GCCBA, 2-4 pm