

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 66, Issue 2

February 2024

Assistance Office:  
704-481-9119

Counseling Center:  
704-472-1437

I can't believe 2024 is off and running so quickly and it's already February! This reminds how fast time can fly. If you aren't paying attention some important things will creep up on you, so I wanted to take a moment to tell you about one event coming our way soon.

By now you might have heard or seen something recently about an upcoming event called ServeNC. This is an emphasis that our partner, the Baptist State Convention of NC, is promoting for August of 2024. The intention is to recruit as many NC Baptist churches as possible to commit to serving their community during the week of August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>.

We here at the GCCBA are excited to partner with our churches in planning this week of service to our community. I'm not just excited because we will have the opportunity to engage your church in a mission service project. I'm excited because I already know how much the churches of the GCCBA love to serve their community. In fact, we have a track record of doing so recently with our Love Where You Live effort in 2022 and our Church Without Walls Missions Experience in May of 2023. So, what will ServeNC look like for the GCCBA?

I am working alongside Robbie Alexander of the Shelby Mission Camp to begin putting together project opportunities for churches across the county. This may include constructing handicap ramps or helping a homeowner put some much-needed paint on their home. It might even involve putting a literal roof over someone's head (or at least fixing the leaks already over their head.)

In addition, we here at the GCCBA are encouraging all our churches to reach out to their local partner school. If you don't have a school you are regularly partnering with, this would be a great time to build a relationship with one. Since ServeNC will fall just before the start of school in 2024, this will be a great time to volunteer with helping the school get ready for the new year. Doing a little grounds keeping or maybe helping the custodial staff with cleaning or painting will go a long way to serve your community. You might even consider working with the school's social worker to put on a school supply drive or back to school event. The ideas are endless!

## Thoughts from our Staff

There are however, many of your churches who are already serving the community through food assistance and service programs. THAT'S GREAT! We are not asking you to add anything to your schedule for 2024, just plan a food distribution, a workday for the pantry or any service project you regularly do to be a part of this special week of emphasis on service!

You might say – “This is just a gimmick! I don’t like gimmicks! I’m not doing it!” – and to that I would say, “Yes it is a gimmick,” and if a gimmick is something out of the ordinary that you do to encourage people to give something a try, then call it a gimmick. The important thing is that we all realize the importance of serving our community, so why not join together and ServeNC by serving CC (Cleveland County)! Thanks for joining us!

Jason Ballard

A graphic for a training event. It features a large title 'SPRING DEACON & CHURCH LEADERSHIP' in bold black letters, with 'Training' written in a cursive font below it. To the right is a silhouette of a church with a cross on top. Below the church is a cluster of small crosses. The background of the graphic is a photograph of a church interior with pews and a window. Overlaid on the photo is a white box containing the text 'Guest speaker: DR. JEFF IORG PRESIDENT GATEWAY SEMINARY' and the GCCBA logo (Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association).

# SPRING DEACON & CHURCH LEADERSHIP

*Training*

Guest speaker:  
**DR. JEFF IORG**  
PRESIDENT GATEWAY SEMINARY

**GCCBA**  
Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

Patterson Grove Baptist 301 Oak Grove Rd  
Kings Mountain NC 28086

**APRIL** | **8<sup>th</sup>** | **2024**

6:30 pm

✝ ✝ ✝  
✝ ✝ ✝  
✝ ✝ ✝  
Please RSVP to Katie or Nicole by April 1st.  
704-482-3472 or [nicole@gccba.org](mailto:nicole@gccba.org)

# Education and Network Opportunities

## **GCCBA Minister's & Spouse Retreat**

Ridgecrest Retreat Center  
February 16th-18th, 2024

We have a few remaining rooms available for Ministers & Spouses that are wanting to attend. Sessions led Dr. Danny Akin



## **Ministers Conference**

Monday, February 5, 2024  
Lunch 11:30am, Program 12:00pm.

## **KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship**

will meet at the  
Carolina Crossing Restaurant on Thursday,  
February 1, at 8:30 am.

## **Youth Pastors Fellowship**

will meet at the  
Ken and Mary's on Thursday,  
February 8, at 8:30 am.

## **Lattimore Pastors Fellowship**

will meet at the  
Snack Shop, Thursday,  
February 15, at 8:30 am.

## **Shelby/ Waco Pastors Fellowship**

will meet at the  
Shelby Cafe, Monday,  
February 19, at 8:30 am.

## **Upper Cleveland Pastors Fellowship**

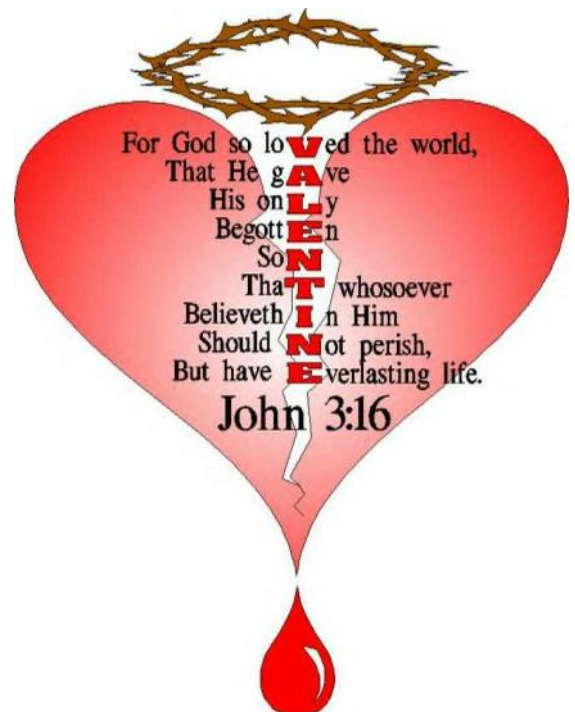
will meet at the  
Christie's Kitchen, Thursday,  
February 22, at 8:30 am.

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**CHILD**  
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Served to Date  
**814**

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# Mission Opportunities



## If your church didn't exist, would your community notice?

ServeNC is an opportunity for every NC Baptist church to love its community in Jesus' name through service projects.

Whether it's painting a school, cleaning up a yard, serving meals to those in need or building a wheelchair ramp, your church knows the specific needs that exist in your community and can choose the best project to make a difference through ServeNC.

Commit your church to one week of being on mission together and display the gospel to those in need, August 3-10, 2024.



**BATTLE OF THE CHURCHES**  
**RUN/WALK FOR A LOCAL CAUSE!**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 6 @10AM**  
Hanna Park • 1655 McBrayer-Springs Road • Shelby, NC 28150

**\$20 PER PERSON**

FOR REGISTRATION & MORE INFORMATION



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[www.ThriveMoreNC.org/Foundation](http://www.ThriveMoreNC.org/Foundation)

Sharing Hope  
ROMANS 15:13 (NIV)

Focus Week for Heck-Jones is Feb. 12th-18th, 2024

2024 HECK-JONES<sup>®</sup> Offering

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WMU NC  
GOAL: \$325,000  
[www.wmunc.org](http://www.wmunc.org)



# Missions Opportunities

## BALTIMORE MISSION TRIP JUNE 15TH-22ND

We would love to have you join us on our upcoming Baltimore Mission Trip. More details about cost and ministry opportunities will be available soon.



### Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We are in need of groups to help provide sandwiches, chips, and cookies for our Friday Feed the Hungry lunch program during 2024. You are welcome to make the food and drop it off or stay and help serve. To sign up contact Katie or visit our website or Facebook page.

**Save the Date:**  
2nd Annual Church Without Walls  
May 17th-19th  
More information will be available soon



### Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: December **2023**

Food	10
Other	2
Clothes	1
Power	<u>16</u>
Total Assisted Units:	29

### 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 February:**

Elizabeth:  
Rit Varriale, 19 years  
Lawndale:  
Randy Willis, 1 year  
KM First:  
Chip Sloan, 36 years  
New Bethel:  
Carson Putnam, 3 years  
Northside:  
Neal Efird, 25 years  
Pleasant City:  
Bryan Glisson, 25 years



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

Bethany – Richard and Elizabeth Smith—18<sup>th</sup>



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

Carpenter's Grove ~ Double Springs ~  
New Camp Creek ~ Pleasant Hill ~  
Shelby First ~ Waco ~ Zion



## **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 machine. 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.**

## **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](http://www.gccba.org) or Facebook page.

# Church Needs.....

## *Calvary:*

Calvary Baptist Church of Shelby is seeking a **part-time Administrative Assistant** that will perform general office work under the supervision of the Pastor, Deacons, and the Personnel Committee. The position is 20 hours per week at \$15 an hour. Those interested can email Pastor Rob at robert@visitcalvaryonline.com for a full job description.

Crestview Baptist Church of Shelby is searching for a musical accompanist (piano) to serve in a permanent part-time position. This will include Wednesday night choir practice and Sunday morning service, plus planning and practice time and special services as requested. Send resume to: Personnel Committee, Attn: Amy Wright/ Chairman, Crestview Baptist Church, 1090 Old Boiling Springs Road, Shelby, North Carolina 28152

## *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](http://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.

## *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](mailto:personnel@flinthillbaptist.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:alowery52@gmail.com)

## *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](mailto:employment@polkvillebaptist.com) Please include pianist in subject line.

Polkville Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **Minister to Students**. Those interested must have a call by God to vocational church ministry and a degree, or working towards, from an accredited college/university in religious studies. Those considered will show a desire to work with students of all ages from birth through college age; work with the pastor by providing a vision for students in the church and community; work with parents and families to establish discipleship programs for all student ages; and work with children and youth planning teams to organize and implement ministry to students of the church. For full job description please send an email request to [employment@polkvillebaptist.com](mailto:employment@polkvillebaptist.com). Resumes will be accepted by email, [employment@polkvillebaptist.com](mailto:employment@polkvillebaptist.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.

## *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](mailto:elisabethcothran25@gmail.com).

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

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.  
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Shelby, NC 28150

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# THE BEACON

## *STAFF & EMAIL*

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jason@gccba.org

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

Office Administrator:  
Nicole Mosley  
nicole@gccba.org

## FEBRUARY

- 1**— Grover/KM Minister's Fellowship at Carolina Crossing, 8:30 am
- 5**— Minister's Conference, GCCBA, 11:30 am
- 8**— Youth Minister's Breakfast, Ken and Mary, 8:00 am
- 15**— Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
- 16-18**— Ministers & Spouse Retreat, Ridgecrest
- 19**— Shelby/Waco Minister's Fellowship at Shelby Café, 8:30 am
- 22**— Upper Cleveland Minister's Fellowship at Christie's Kitchen, 8:30 am
- 29**— Church Health Check up, Polkville, 6:30 pm