

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

Assistance Office:
704-481-9119

Counseling Center:
704-472-1437

Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

THE BEACON

Volume 66, Issue 11

December 2024

The GCCBA exists to build (and rebuild) healthy churches

BY

uniting congregations in effective missions and ministry!

In order for the GCCBA to achieve this amended mission, we have adopted 6 missional values.

Pastoral Health, Congregational Health, Leadership Development, Ministry Support, Community Engagement, and Mission Partnership.

It's beginning to look a lot like...WAIT!!! I'm not going to say it! Every year it seems we arrive at this time of year, and we rush to Christmas. We barely get the Halloween candy brushed out of our teeth, and we are already putting out the Christmas decorations, putting on our ugly Christmas sweater, and writing out our Christmas list while trying figure out if we are on the naughty or nice list. If we are not careful, we can completely miss Thanksgiving.

Before I step into the Christmas season, I want to pause long enough to give thanks.

Thank you, Lord, for leading us through this year. We have seen amid many challenges, whether it was through Hurricane Helene, through the many outreaches of our churches as they served the community, or through transitions in leadership among our churches, God is forever before us. He knows the steps that we must take and the journey to where he longs to lead us. I can truly say after 2 ½ years of serving here at the GCCBA, I am excited to see all that God is going to do, because I am truly excited to have been a part of all he has done.

Thank you, Lord, for comforting us when we have been sick or in need. This year did come with its challenges. We have experienced sickness. We have experienced loss. We have grieved. Through it all, God has been by our side when we wept and when we were in pain. Sometimes we struggle to understand why God allows such pain, but thankfully, He never leaves us to experience it alone. I personally am thankful for all those who stood by me and my family this year as we navigated surgeries and recoveries.

Thoughts from our Staff

Thank you, Lord, for uniting us on the common ground of the gospel. This year I have been reminded of the value of co-laborers in the gospel whether it is my daily work with your associational dream team of Katie and Nicole, my frequent fellowship with the pastors of the GCCBA or our joint labor as churches uniting for effective missions and ministry (here in Cleveland County, in Baltimore, in Hungary, or around the world!) God loves working with a team and so do I.

Thank you, Lord, for continuing your work and inviting us to join you. We have seen you as the churches of the GCCBA do great and many things that have blessed Cleveland County and nurtured the bond between us. I have watched our association rethink and reconstruct our ministry as we pursue our missional values and our vision of building and rebuilding healthy churches. In a world where we see more people divided than united, I can only credit this amazing spirit in our churches to the God we serve. Let's keep joining Him in the work of the gospel.

Thank you, Lord, for the journey...here we are, send us!

Jason Ballard

Several weeks ago we held a VBS Think Tank with area children's ministers and children's ministry workers. It was wonderful hearing from each other about new ideas and common struggles dealing with Vacation Bible School. One thing I learned from that event was that our churches need each other. We are better when we work together for God's glory. Our churches may look different, have different programs, or have different size budgets but we all have the same mission, and that is to reach our communities for Christ. If you or your church is not connected to other churches in your area I encourage you to reach out to others to share ideas, talk through plans, and find a way that you can minister together. Next year we will be planning some more of these Think Tanks where churches can gather together and discuss different topics. If you have a particular topic you would like to meet about please let me know. I am looking forward to seeing what God will do through the churches of the GCCBA as we minister together throughout the rest of this year. Please read through this newsletter to see the many opportunities you can be involved in.

Serving together,
Katie



Christmas

Christmas is the LIGHT that burns eternally. It is a glow that warms the hearts of people wherever the message of "peace on earth to those of good will" is believed.

Christmas is PEACE in a world where people have been alienated from each other by hatred and jealousy.

Christmas is JOY of fellowship, of giving, of sharing of lifting, of caring and of being what Christ wants us to be.

Christmas is FORGIVENESS, the time for fresh beginnings, a time to right the wrongs of yesterday.

Christmas is GIVING to those who cannot give to us. It is visiting the neglected, lifting the fallen, giving hope to the hopeless, assuring victory to the defeated, living the spirit of good will to all humankind.

Christmas is SURRENDER of one's life to Christ in renewed dedication, which makes Christ the Lord of our Lives.

Share Christ the season!



Office will be
closed
Thursday,
December
23rd—Monday,
January 1st



Pastoral Health



Ministers Conference

Monday, December 2, 2024
6:30 pm
Christmas Dinner

KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship

will meet at the
Carolina Crossing Restaurant on Thursday,
December 5, at 8:30 am.

Lattimore Pastors Fellowship

will meet at the
Bulldog Quik Snak, Thursday,
December 19, at 8:30 am.

Pastors Anniversaries for December:

Eastside KM:
Ron Caulder, 14 years
New Prospect:
Chris Devine, 7 years
Pleasant Grove:
Toby Bird, 3 years
Oak View:
Wayne Brazzell, 5 years



Pray for these couples on their special day in November:

Mt. Sinai – Tim and Lisa Trexler - 19th



RESTORE

GCCBA MINISTER'S & SPOUSES RETREAT

February 28 - March 2, 2025

RIDGECREST CONFERENCE CENTER

GUEST SPEAKER: DR JEFF IORG

Cost: \$450

Deadline to sign up: November 15th, 2024

TO SIGN UP: CONTACT KATIE
(704) 482-3472 katie@gccba.org

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
GREATER CLEVELAND COUNTY BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
MINISTER & SPOUSE
CHRISTMAS DINNER

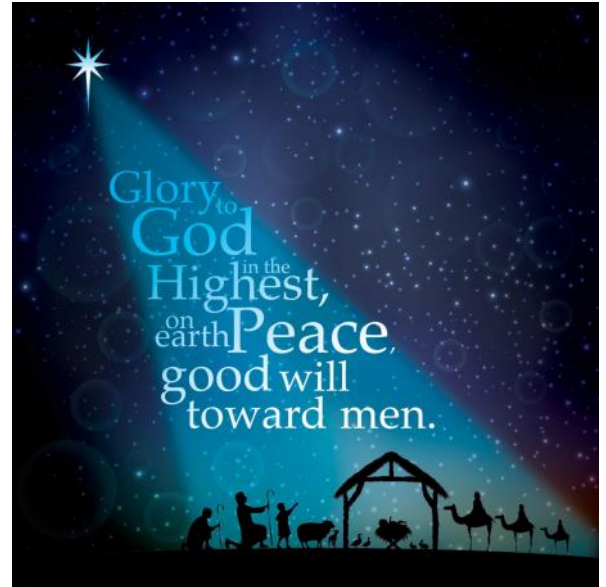
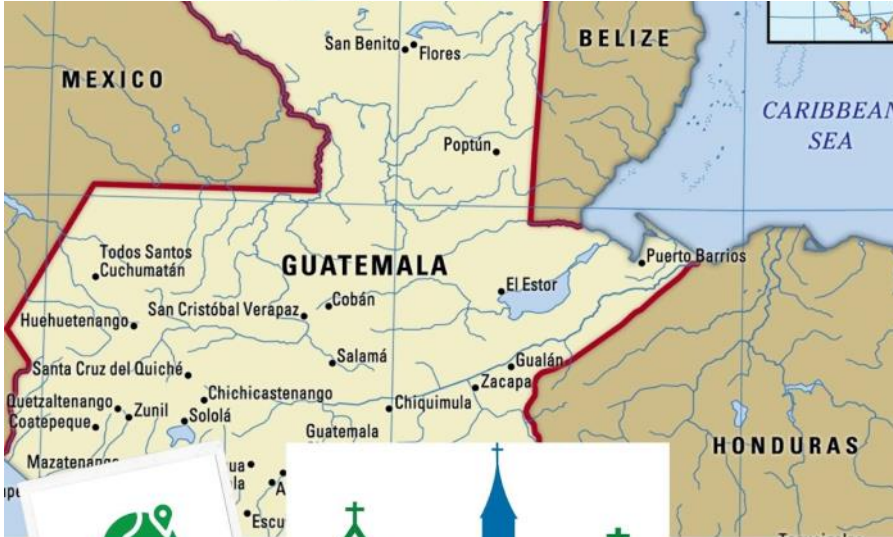
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2ND
6:30 PM

THE SIMPSON FARM & VENUE
121 THORNHILL LANE,
SHELBY, NC

PLEASE RSVP TO KATIE OR NICOLE BY NOVEMBER 25TH



Missions Partnerships




*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!*

*"I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you, always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."
Philippians 1:3-5*

Partners are important. No, they're essential! We're thankful for your partnership in many different ways. Your prayers and financial contributions are important!

Thank you for your 2024 contributions



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

Youth Mission Trip

GUATEMALA

JUNE 21ST-28TH, 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION: | katie@gccba.org or 704-482-3472

100% of your gift to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® supports and sustains missionary presence.

Week of Prayer
December 1-8, 2024

lottiemoon.com

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Community Engagement



Thanksgiving Meal Delivery From the Shelby Mission Camp

On November 28th, Thanksgiving Day, the Shelby Mission Camp will be partnering with Local Churches in order to deliver Thanksgiving meals to our neighbors in need. We need faithful volunteers of all ages on the morning of November 28th to assist in the preparation and delivery of these meals! The cooking and packing of meals will be at the Shelby Mission Camp. The address for the camp is: 302 Sharpton Drive, Shelby, NC 28152.

How do I get involved?

1. Cooking Team – Cooking will begin at 6:30am at the Mission Camp, Kitchen volunteers will be needed to help open cans, cook menu items, package meals, and clean. Activities for the cook team volunteers will be complete by 1:00pm.
2. Delivery Teams – If you have a vehicle, and would like to help deliver meals, this is the team for you! Delivery drivers will meet at the Shelby Mission Camp at 11:00am to receive their route sheets and get their cars loaded with meals.

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.

Christmas Toy Store

Volunteers are needed to help during the Toy Store on December 11th 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.

Toy Donations can be brought to the Shelby Mission Camp on December 10th from 6-8 pm. If you need to bring them at another time please contact Katie.



Suggestions for toy donations to the GCCBA toy store:

For younger children (0-4): picture books, pull toys, squeeze toys, riding toys, educational toys

For boys and girls (5-7): trucks & cars, model car kits, throw games, bats & gloves, storybooks, remote cars, baseballs, board games, dolls, tea set, storybooks, board games, puzzles, purses, writing/drawing pads, riding toys, dress up clothes, barbie dolls

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, fishing gear, diaries/journals, clips/barrettes, hats, skateboards, photo albums, mp3 players

Cost of gifts should be around \$15-20 (up to \$25 for older children). Please no toys that promote violence

Compassion Ministry Report

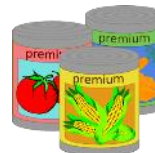
Assistance Type: October 2024	
Food	20
Other	2
Counseling	40
Power	16
Total Assisted Units:	78

GCCBA FOOD PANTRY NEEDED ITEMS:

**** DIAPERS**

ALWAYS NEEDED **

- Spaghetti sauce
- spaghetti noodles
- peanut butter
- jelly
- crackers
- cereal



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



Ministry Support



Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We still need volunteers to help with our feeding program. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Katie Harris.



Block Party Trailer

The schedule for the trailer fills up fast so please remember to call 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.



Congregational Health



Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.



Carpenter's Grove ~ Crestview ~
Dover ~ Eastside, Shelby ~ New Camp
Creek ~ Northside ~ Pleasant Hill ~
Trinity ~ Waco ~ Zion

Boiling Springs:

Boiling Springs Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time organist/accompanist**. Please send resume and inquiries bsbcsearch2024@gmail.com

Calvary:

Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a **Children and Youth Ministry Intern** to aid in the growth, development, and engagement of their Children and Youth ministry. The internship will last 10 weeks and the total pay will be \$3000. For more information and to apply, please contact Pastor Rob at robert@visitcalvaryonline.com.

Camps Creek :

Camps Creek Baptist Church located at 2318 Camps Creek Church Road in Mooresboro NC is accepting applications for the position of **part-time administrative assistant**. This position is a 16-hour work week with days and times flexible. For additional information and a detailed job description, please contact Camps Creek Baptist Church at 704 434 2354 or via email at: campscreek@yahoo.com

Canaan Baptist::

Canaan Baptist Church 438 Pruitt Road Casar is seeking a **new pastor**, preferably bi-vocational. Contact information – Phillip Dellinger 704-470-5968

Crestview:

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

Flint Hill:

Flint Hill Baptist Church (2207 Flint Hill Church Rd, Shelby, NC 28152) is currently looking to fill the role of **Church Administrative Assistant**. The Church is looking for an individual filled with the spirit, eager to serve the body of Christ and preferably with a familiarity with QuickBooks, Publisher and Word. Please email inquiries and resumes to ctd1213@gmail.com

Flint Hill Baptist Church (2207 Flint Hill Church Rd, Shelby, NC 28152) is currently looking for a **full time Student Minister**. The individual should be a confessing Christian with a clear call to ministry that is either in the process of obtaining (already enrolled), or possessing a degree from an accredited university in ministry. The position's responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, Youth Ministry, College and Career Ministry and also serving as the social media coordinator for the church at large. Resumes should be emailed to ctd1213@gmail.com

Second Baptist Church, Kings Mountain:

Director of Student Ministries

We are looking to hire an exemplary individual with outstanding leadership abilities to guide our Church's various ministries to students. This individual will strive to encourage all students in their spiritual growth, teaching them to expand their knowledge of God, and support them to develop their love for Him and others. The Director of Student Ministries will attend student functions at schools, grow relationships with the education community, and provide students and their families with Biblical counselling. To be successful in this position means providing students with a place to belong that gives them the courage to stand for Christ among unhealthy peer pressure. Ideal candidates should have insight and understanding of the challenges facing students and a compassionate response to their situations. Second Baptist Church, 120 Linwood Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086, 704-739-4216

Lattimore:

Lattimore Baptist Church is seeking a **pastor** that is called by God, lead by and inspired by the Holy Spirit. He must be a man with the heart that

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



Congregational Health



loves his people of the church and the community. He must be well versed in scripture and able to teach others to grow in their faith . If you feel called please respond to lattimorebaptistchurch1@gmail.com

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 nbclawndale@gmail.com.

Oak Grove:

Oak Grove Baptist Church is prayerfully looking to add to its existing staff. We are in need of 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.

Patterson Grove:

Patterson Grove Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, NC, is seeking a **Part-Time "Director Of Youth"**. Responsibilities include (but are not limited to) serving as the primary support person for the Youth. The "Director Of Youth" will come alongside the Pastor in equipping the ministry of the Church with an emphasis upon the spiritual growth of the youth. He/She should demonstrate a love for God and people that is expressed in a passion for evangelism, outreach, and missions. He/She shall have a passion for God's Word and a willingness to lead the youth and congregation as a whole to serve our community, plan and promote Bible study and activities to prompt spiritual growth for the youth, develop programs to enlist and retain the youth, etc. A complete job description can be viewed @ PGBCKM.org. The Pastor will be the supervisor of "The Director Of Youth", and all duties will be performed with and under his supervision. This is a contract position for a duration of 12 months with an option for renewal, for an average of 20 hours per week, and at an annual salary of \$20,800. If interested, please email questions or resumes to personnel@pgbckm.org or mail to Patterson Grove Baptist Church Personnel, 301 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Pleasant Grove:

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Shelby, North Carolina is seeking a **part time Youth Leader**. This person must be a born-again Christian who is called to student ministry and adheres to the Baptist Faith & Message 2000. This position will require 5-10 hours per week which includes leading weekly youth worship/Bible studies, coordinating activities for youth, including camps and retreats, and engaging middle and high school students outside of the church. The position will require a high school diploma at minimum and a

willingness to attend conferences and continuing education for ministry. The Youth Leader will not engage in the use of any age-restricted products. This position reports to the Pastor. Please Email resumes or questions to toby.bird5@gmail.com.

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

Polkville:

Polkville Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **Minster 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. Resumes will be accepted by email, 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.

First Baptist Church of Shelby

Location: 120 N. Lafayette St., Shelby, NC 28150. Do you have a passion for cooking? Are you seeking a rewarding job in a safe, Christian environment with a long-standing commitment to childcare? First Baptist Church of Shelby Weekday Ministries is currently hiring a Food Service Coordinator. Position Details: Role: **Food Service Coordinator**, Experience: Preferred, but we are willing to train the right candidate. Environment: Safe, Christian setting with a rich history of nurturing Children. If you are interested, please reach out to Penny Corn at: Phone: 704-482-3460, Email: childcare3460@fbcshelby.org

Trinity Baptist:

Trinity Baptist Church of Mooresboro North Carolina is seeking a **qualified Church Organist**. Job would require Playing for Sunday morning worship and Wednesday night choir practice. If anyone is interested or know someone who is interested leave a message on the church office phone. 704-434-6012 or email trinitybaptistchurchnc@gmail.com

Zion:

Zion Baptist Church, Shelby Zion Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time Minister of Children**. The primary responsibilities are planning, coordinating, and implementing age appropriate Bible Study and fellowship activities for children ages 3 years old- 5th grade. 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: Minister of Children Position) or hard copies may be mailed to: Minister of Youth Committee 525 West Zion Church Road Shelby, NC 28150

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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

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jason@gccbba.org

Missions & Ministry Team Leader:
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katie@gccbba.org

Office Administrator:
Nicole Mosley
nicole@gccbba.org



2—Minister's Christmas Dinner, Simpson Venue, 6:30 pm
5— Grover/KM Minister's Fellowship at Carolina Crossing, 8:30 am
11- Christmas Toy Store
19—Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
23– 31—GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED
24—Christmas Eve
25— Merry Christmas
31— New Year's Eve