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

Gethsemane

Green Bethel

Hope Community

Grover First

Immanuel

Lawndale

Lily Memorial

Mulls Memorial

New Covenant

New Jerusalem New Prospect

Norman's Grove

Patterson Grove

Patterson Springs Peach Street Peoples

New Camp Creek

Living Hope

Macedonia

New Bethel

New Hope

Northside

Oak Grove Oak View

Plains View

Polkville

Pleasant City Pleasant Grove Pleasant Hill

Pleasant Ridge

Poplar Springs Ross Grove

Sandy Plains

Shelby First Sunrise Temple

Washington Missionary

Westwood Heights

Trinity

Union

Victory

Westover Westview

Waco **Wallace Grove**

Zion **Zion Hill** 7_{oar}

Pathway

Mt. Sinai

Joy Christian

Kings Mountain

Kings Mtn. First

Kings Mtn. Second **Lattimore**

Fallston Flint Hill Office: 704-482-3472 Website: gccba.org



Assistance Office: 704-481-9119

Counseling Center: 704-472-1437

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

THE BEACON

Volume 67, Issue 10

October 2025

175th Annual Meeting

Theme: Together Today, Building Tomorrow—Philippians 3:13-14 October 19, 2025 - Mt Sinai, Shelby Sunday Evening

3:50 Special Music 4:00 Call to Order Welcome By Host Pastor Scripture/Prayer Order of Business Report Recognition of Agencies/Breakout Leaders Congregation Hymn 4:20 Welcome to New Pastors/Staff Memorial Tribute & Dedication of Minutes Resolution Associational Mission Strategist Report **Bylaws Revision** Clerk-Treasurer's Report **Budget Team Report Enlistment Team Report** 4:50 Congregational Song Introduction of Speaker Special Music

Senior Choir Rev. Will Davis Rev. Tim Trexler Rev. Andrew Bowen Rev. Will Davis Rev. Jason Ballard Rev. Jason Ballard Rev. Jason Ballard Rev. Will Davis Rev. Jason Ballard Rev. Jon Jones Debby Wease Rev. Jon Jones

> Rev. Jason Ballard Senior Choir

Rev. Jon Jones

Dr. Josh Parrott, Vice President and University Chaplain for Christian Life and Service of Gardner- Webb University

Closing Comments 5:25 5:30 Benediction

Rev. Jason Ballard Rev. Jon Jones

Location:

Mt Sinai Baptist Church

1227 Mt Sinai Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152

This year, the leadership team is presenting a revised set of bylaws for the GCCBA.

For the revisions to pass, a majority vote will be required at the annual meeting. Please consider these changes that have been carefully crafted to strengthen our association.

Go to this link to see full revision: www.gccba.org/bylaws/



Annual Meeting Messengers

By-Law II Meetings, Section 3: Each church shall elect annually, in addition to the pastor, two (2) messengers to the meetings of the Association for each fifty (50) members of the church, provided each church shall not have fewer than three (3) nor more than ten (10) messengers. THESE ALONG WITH ALL ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, shall constitute the voting body of the Association. The names of the messengers printed in the minutes shall include only those in attendance and registering at the Associational Meetings.

By-Law II Meetings, Section 4: Items of Business to be presented from the floor must be submitted in writing to the Associational Office at least 30 days prior to the first session of the Biannual Meeting.

Thoughts from Staff

The GCCBA exists to build (and rebuild) healthy churches

<u>BY</u>

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.

Last month, I informed you of our new schedule for our Fall Annual meeting that will be held on Sunday, October 19th, at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church at 4:00 PM. Yes, that means the meeting is not on a Monday night! All of this has been made possible by what many consider the most mundane of acts – the changing of the GCCBA bylaws! I know that does not sound exciting, but I must be honest for me it is.

Typically, in the churches I have served, Bylaws fall somewhere just underneath the stone tablets of Moses in their degree of importance and permanence, but in all actuality, the Bylaws of any church should remain flexible enough to enable a church to accomplish ministry, rather than hinder it. This year, at our annual meeting on October 19th, the Leadership Team of the GCCBA will be presenting a full revision of our Bylaws for vote and adoption.

The purpose of this revision was to perform some necessary maintenance on our core documents by clarifying language that was antiquated and needed updating, and to change functional instructions to match the way in which we function today. However, the major function of this revision was to reorient the bylaws around the missional values adopted by the association in the Spring 2024 meeting. These Missional Values have shaped all that we plan on our calendar. They have shaped all that we do in our ministry efforts. They have even shaped our budget and our communications. Therefore, it is only natural that they become the center of our bylaws as well.

These Missional Value Teams have not only been included in the bylaws, but they are now central to the leadership team structure and the overall direction of the GCCBA. You can review the new bylaws by following the QR code on the front of this newsletter.

You will note that the bylaws now include a clear definition of a cooperating church as a church that EITHER gives financially to the GCCBA, sends a messenger to the annual meeting, OR has a member or staff member serve on an associational team all during a rolling three-year period. This was done in an attempt to offer every church an opportunity to participate and maintain their identity in the GCCBA, but also to allow our leadership a method and means to remove churches who no longer participate in any of our functions.

It is the heartfelt desire of the Leadership Team and the Bylaw Revision sub-team that these new Bylaws will establish a new expectation of cooperation among our churches as we unite congregations in effective missions and ministry all across the county and around the world.

Jason Ballard

I am always encouraged when I see our churches come together to serve our community—whether through prayer, outreach events, or mission projects. This year's *Church Without Walls* weekend was truly a blessing. From babies to senior adults, we spent time learning, eating, and serving side by side. I am grateful for everyone who participated and look forward to our 2026 *Church Without Walls* (details will be coming soon!). I was also excited to see so many of our churches host Back to School Prayer Walks. This year every school in Cleveland County was covered in prayer, what an incredible testimony of God's people working together! This newsletter highlights opportunities where our churches can gather, learn from one another, and engage in outreach together. I encourage you to look through what's happening and consider how your church can be involved. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. As Hebrews 10 reminds us, "*Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.*" What a joy it is to serve the Lord together.

Katie Harris



Pastoral Health



Ministers Conference

October 6, 2025 11:00 am—1:00 pm Hangtime Golf

KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship

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

Lattimore Pastors Fellowship

will meet at the Bulldog Quik Snak, Thursday, October 15, at 8:30 am.





Pastors Anniversaries for October:

Allen Memorial:

Reese English, 4 years

City of God:

Michael Moore, 6 years

Casar:

Doug Pruett, 14 years

Peoples:

John Houze, 35 years

Plains View:

Wayne Key, 4 years

Sandy Plains:

Elisabeth Cothran, 3 years

Victory:

Dennis Wells, 32 years

Westwood Heights:

David Costner, 19 years

Pray for these couples on their special day in October:

Polkville—Will and Michelle Davis—9th
Elizabeth—Rit and Shannon Varriale—10th
Oak Grove - Jason and Krista Allen 14th

Otherwise

LEADERSHIP & DEACON TRAINING

Step Up: Your Leadership
Pipeline



MONDAY NOVEMBER 17TH, 2025 GUEST SPEAKER:

SUPPER: 6:00 PM TRAINING: 6:45 PM

Bethlehem Baptist Church

1017 Bethlehern Ch Rd, Kings Mtn

PLEASE RSVP BY NOVEMBER 10 14 TO KATIE OR NICOLE (704) 482-3472 OR NICOLE@GCCBA.ORG



Community Engagement





Greatest Treat Festival

Our annual Greatest Treat Festival will be held on **Sunday, October 26th from 4-6 pm** at the Shelby City Park. There are many different ways your church can be involved in the festival through volunteering in different areas, setting up ministry booths, etc. Please contact Katie or Nicole for more information.



Cleveland County Fair Ministry

We will once again be hosting a lunch for the Fair workers during the set up day and breakfast for the workers on the Wednesday of the Fair. We will provide food bags during lunch and toiletry bags during breakfast. We hope to make 100 of each bags, if you would like to sign up to provide bags please contact Katie.

Christmas Toy Store

Toy Store Applications will be November 19th from 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm at the GCCBA office. The Toy Store will be open on December 10th at the Shelby Mission Camp. We are in need of volunteers to help those 2 days. Please contact Katie Harris if you would like to volunteer. Toy Donations can be brought to the Shelby Mission Camp on December 4th or to our office by December 5th.



Bags are due to the GCCBA office by September 22nd



Fair. We want to provide food bags during the lunch and

toiletry bags during the breakfast. Please scan the QR

Code below to sign up to provide bags or email

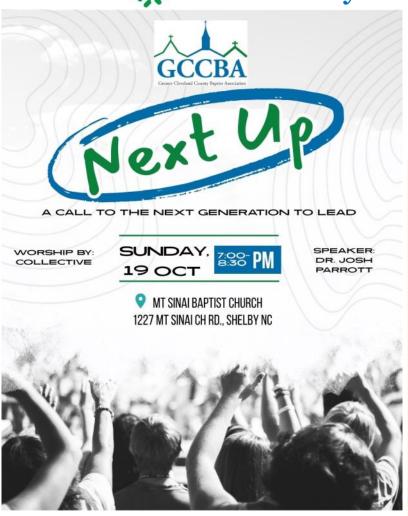
katie@gccba.org





Ministry Support





Fair Ministry Food Box/Bag:

Each box/bag should include the following:
-l box of crackers
-l jar of peanut butter
-l jar of jelly
-l box of poptarts
-2 cans of canned chicken
-2 cans of Vienna sausages
-2 cans of mixed fruit
-2 cans of chunky soup
-2 cans of Spaghettios/ or other type of pasta

Please only put these items in the food boxes/bags so they are all the same

Fair Ministry Toiletry Bag:

Gallon ziplock bag
I full bottle of shampoo
I tube of toothpaste
I bar of soap
I toothbrush
I washcloth
Deodorant (men's or women's)
Hand lotion
Bandaids
Chapstick

GCCBA Annual Meeting:

We are excited about the changes to our upcoming Annual Meeting. We have planned a time of worship, fellowship, business, learning through breakouts, and a youth conference in hopes to reach out to everyone in the churches in our association. Make plans to join us on Sunday October 19th!



GCCBA Annual Meeting Sunday October 19th, 2025 Mt Sinai Baptist Church Shelby

4:00 pm Call to Order 5:30 pm Dimiss to Dinner 6:30-7:00 pm Mission Breakouts 7:00 pm Next Up Youth Conference

Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: August 2025

Food 18
Power 29
Total Assisted Units: 47



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!

macaroni and cheese

Canned Meat

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



Congregational Health



Friday Feed the Hungry & Gathering Lunch Program

We still need volunteers to help with our feeding program on the following 2024 dates: Oct. 31st & November 28th. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Katie Harris.



Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.

Bethany ~ Christian Freedom ~ Crestview ~ Dover ~ Fallston ~ Lily Memorial ~ Norman's Grove ~ Pleasant Hill ~ Trinity ~ Union ~ Waco ~ Zion



Bethany:

Bethany Baptist Church, located in the peaceful community of Grover, North Carolina, is prayerfully seeking the pastor that God has chosen to lead and serve our congregation. We are a small but faithful and loving church family, with an average attendance of 30-45 members. We have the best praise team a church could ask for with live music and instruments that is an amazing experience to praise with. We desire a pastor that is not only committed to preaching the Word of God but also walking alongside us in worship, fellowship, and life. We believe that being a pastor is more than delivering a sermon on Sunday — it's about being part of a family. At Bethany Baptist, we strive to love one another, serve our community, and grow in Christ together. We gather each Wednesday for a time of fellowship, a short message, and a shared hot meal — a cherished tradition that brings us closer together. We are open to both full- time and bivocational candidates, depending on the best fit for our church and the calling God has placed on the pastor's life. Our desire is for someone who feels led to shepherd, encourage, and grow with us — someone who values the church, and the youth, as well as the community as much as the pulpit. If you feel called to a close-knit church that is hungry for God's Word, rooted in love, and ready to support a pastor who will lead with humility and heart, we would love to hear from you. To express interest or request more information, please contact our pulpit committee via phone call/Text for information on where to send a resume 980-522-1403. We are praying for you even now, that God would lead the right shepherd to our church. Bethany Baptist Church 723 Cleveland Avenue Grover, North Carolina 28073

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 passionate and dedicated **Director of Children and Youth Ministry** to nurture the spiritual growth, engagement, and discipleship of our children, youth, and their families. For more information and to apply, please contact Pastor Rob at robert@visitcalvaryonline.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 in Shelby, NC is seeking a **pastor**. We are a member of the Southern Baptist Convention reaching out to our community with the love of Jesus Christ. We value all ages and generations of our congregation and strive to serve each other with kindness and good will. There is a great opportunity for growth in our church that we are looking forward to developing with the right

leadership. Our ideal candidate should be skilled in teaching/preaching God's word in a manner that challenges membership to grow in their faith. The candidate should be a good leader and roll model as described in I Timothy 3, be available and approachable, and be willing to serve the membership and community in a way that brings honor and glory to our Lord, Jesus Christ. Crestview 704.487.7485 - 1090 Old Boiling Springs Rd., Shelby 28152 https://www.crestviewbaptistshelby.com/

Double Springs:

Double Springs Baptist Church is currently accepting applications for the position of a Children and Youth Ministry Leader. This is a fulltime position of 35 hours per week. Weekends, evenings, and some holiday responsibilities required. Below is a brief description of needed qualifications for the position. Additional information can be obtained from the Personnel Committee, including a complete job description. Contact information: Double Springs Baptist Church 1130 Double Springs Church Road, Shelby NC Attention: Personnel Committee

Dover:

Dover Baptist Church is seeking an experienced, **part-time pianist**. Responsibilities include Sunday morning worship service and Sunday evening choir practice. The pianist will also play for specially scheduled activities and funerals/ weddings when needed. Dover offers competitive pay and paid vacation/sick time. Resumes may be sent to Dover Baptist Church, Attention Ashley Smith: 1501 Shelby Rd. Shelby, NC, 28150. Applicants may also contact Ashley Smith @ 704-472-9730 or email at doverbaptistshelby@gmail.com.

Elizabeth:

Elizabeth Baptist Church in Shelby, NC is searching for a **Student Pastor** to continue our growing ministry. We are searching for the right man to come alongside our families to nurture our students and partner with their families as they grow in the Lord. This is a full -time position with a salary plus benefits. Our current Student Pastor is still at the church and will be moving into a supervisory Family/Next Gen Pastor role when this position is filled. Our student ministry is currently growing, and this is an exciting time in our ministry.

Flint Hill:

Flint Hill Baptist Church (2207 Flint Hill Church Rd, Shelby, NC 28152) is currently looking for a **part time Audio Engineer**. This individual should possess clear competencies in audio, media, IT, and lighting technologies. Resumes should be emailed to parkersdad117@yahoo.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 nbbclawndale@gmail.com.

Northside:

Northside Baptist is in need of a **pianist** for Sunday morning and Wednesday nights. Please call Gary Barnett for more details 704-466-6734



Congregational Health



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: oqbc1022@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 City:

We are seeking a passionate and dedicated Connect Pastor to join our team. With an average weekly attendance of 1,200 and a vibrant Connect Group ministry involving over 48 Connect groups and 121 Connect group leaders, this position plays a vital role in leading our church to love God, connect with others, and reach the world. We encourage all applicants to explore our website to learn more about our vision, beliefs, and church culture. A full job description and application instructions are available below. FULL-TIME POSITION To Apply:- Review Job Description, - Please send your cover letter and resume to eryan@pccshelby.com by October 13th. ,- Include in your resume a brief bio detailing information on your family, testimony, call to ministry, and your church history. If you desire to ensure receipt of resume submission, you may contact the church office at (704-487-6415).

Pleasant Grove:

Pleasant Grove Baptist— **Part time Office Administrator**. 18 hours per week. Interest or questions, please email toby@pqbcshelby.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

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 d 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.

Pleasant RIdge:

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in Shelby, NC is prayerfully seeking a **full-time Minister of Youth and Children**. Those interested should be called by God and equipped with a heart to help grow our ministry to both age groups. This person shall also work to strengthen relationships with parents by offering opportunities for families to engage in ministry and worship together. To request a detailed job description, you can email pleasant.ridge@att.net. To submit your resume you can mail it to 198 Pleasant Ridge Church Rd., Shelby, NC 28152, or you can email it to pleasant.ridge@att.net.

Ross Grove

Ross Grove is seeking an individual for the **Church Instrumentalist** (Pianist) position. The ability to play organ would be fantastic, but it is not required. This position is a part-time, competitive pay for the area, salaried position. Position includes playing music for Sunday morning worship, choir rehearsals, and any special planned events (the odd evening service, cantata, revival, etc.) Funerals and Weddings are not required but are paid over and above salary. Any qualified candidates should be proficient in their skill level, such as sight-reading standard arrangements and accompaniment pieces. The candidate must be flexible in rare changes to the service, possess an all-important Christ-like manner, and have a good attitude. They will need to be self-motivated, have strong interpersonal skills, work well with others, and be flexible during the Christmas and Easter seasons. For additional information, please email personnel@rossgrove.org to submit your resume, 2 references, and, if possible, a video/audio sample of your playing. Our church is a great place to serve the Lord!

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

Job Posting: **Administrative Communications Coordinator** Location: First Baptist Church, Shelby, NC Reports To: Associate Pastor Classification: Full-Time Compensation: Negotiable based on experience About First Baptist Church is a welcoming, Christ-centered congregation located in Shelby, North Carolina. Join us in our mission to love God, love people, and make disciples of Jesus Christ − reaching our community with hope and equipping families to grow in faith. □ Position Summary We're looking for a confident, organized, and creative Administrative Communications Coordinator to help us share the story of what God is doing in and through our church. In this role, you will drive digital engagement, manage essential administrative operations, and ensure our communications are clear, excellent, and inspiring. Your work will be vital to our vision of attracting, engaging, and retaining young families while fostering meaningful connections across generations.

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

Trinity Baptist Church of Mooresboro is seeking a **fulltime pastor**. We are seeking a compassionate and visionary pastor to lead our congregation. Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and a statement of faith by email or mail. Email: trinitybaptistnc@gmail.com or 746 Trinity Church Road, Mooresboro, NC 28114.

Zion:

Zion Baptist Church of Shelby, NC is seeking a **pastor**. We are a congregation of approximately 250 members with an average attendance of 100. We are looking for a Pastor who shares our commitment to Jesus Christ and our concern and compassion for one another, our community, and the world. The church supports CBF and SBC mission causes, has men and women who serve as deacons, and values the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message. To request our congregational and pastor profile, or to submit inquiries, resumes, or other expressions of interest, please contact us at zionbaptistchurchpsc@gmail.com.

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



- 1—Cleveland County Fair Breakfast, 10:00 am
- **2–** Grover/KM Minister's Fellowship at Carolina Crossing, 8:30 am Leadership and Business Affairs, GCCBA, 11:45 am
- 6- Minister's Conference, GCCBA, 11:30 am
- 16-Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
- 19— GCCBA Annual Meeting, Mt Sinai, 4:00 pm
- **20**—GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED
- 26—Greatest Treat Festival, Shelby City Park, 4:00 pm