

Allen Memorial
 Battleground
 Beaver Dam
 Betania 1ra Iglesia
 Bethany
 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
 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

Assistance Office:
704-481-9119



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

THE BEACON

Volume 68, Issue 10

October 2026

Every year the GCCBA gathers in October for our annual meeting. I know what you're thinking – "Not a meeting! Well, that's one event I can avoid!" But I promise you if you miss it, you will miss a blessing. Our associational meetings are a time of celebration, and this year will be no different as we gather to hear from our newest mission partner, Chuck Morrow, Director of Missions from the Upper Ohio Valley Baptist Association (UOVBA) in West Virginia. We sent a mission team this summer to work with the churches of the UOVBA and they returned with great stories of all they were able to partner and do. Please come and hear how your church can partner with the UOVBA in coming years through trips, connections, and collections. Chuck will be our featured speaker in the meeting that will include worship, a meal and an opportunity to hear from our leadership as we chart a course forward to "Unite congregations in effective mission and ministry" here in Cleveland County and throughout the world.

Gardner-Webb University has agreed to graciously host our meeting this year and we will be meeting in the Tucker Student Center, so you don't want to miss this special night of celebration and worship as we look at all that God has done and will do through your partnership in the gospel. The meeting will begin at 4 PM with a meal to follow.

On Saturday, October 24, the GCCBA will host our Next Up! Concert event with Consumed By Fire! This is a free event for students and student ministries. The event will begin at 7 PM and conclude by 9 PM. Youth pastors, parents, pastors, ANYONE! Is welcome and this a great opportunity for you students to hear a Christian message and participate in powerful worship. The concert will be held in the Brinkley Amphitheater on Gardner-Webb's campus. Boiling Springs Baptist Church has graciously agreed to serve as our weather back-up plan. We look forward to a great weekend and hope you will make plans to join us!

Jason Ballard

*please
join us*



Community Engagement



Christmas Toy Store

Toy Store Applications will be November 19th 9-11 am & 2:00 - 4:00 pm at the GCCBA office. The Toy Store will be open on December 8th at the Shelby Mission Camp. We are in need of volunteers to help during the Toy Store in December. Please contact Katie Harris if you would like to volunteer. Toy Donations can be brought to the Shelby Mission Camp on December 7th or to our office by Dec. 3rd.



Toy Store Applications

Thursday November 19th
9 am-11 am
& 2 pm-4 pm
GCCBA Office
1175 Wyke Rd Shelby

Parents may apply for children ages 2-12. Children must live with parents and reside in Cleveland County. In order to apply the parent must bring the child's birth certificate or other official identification with their age or birthdate.

In order to receive assistance children must not be registered for help through another agency. (Ex. Salvation Army, Toys for Tots, School, etc)



GCCBA FOOD PANTRY NEEDED

ITEMS:

Spaghetti sauce
 spaghetti noodles
 peanut butter
 jelly
 crackers
 cereal
 macaroni and cheese
 Canned Meat
 Toiletries: toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste,
 clothes
 detergent



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

Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: August 2026

Food	18
Power	16
Other	<u>1</u>
Total Assisted Units:	35

LAUNDRY POD Collection



Help us collect 2,000 laundry pods for the Hope & Love Rescue Mission

Pods are due to our office by November 12th

Questions? Please contact Katie Harris



DENTAL CLINIC

Calvary Baptist Church
 November 7th, 2026

****By appointment only****

We will be accepting applications for the bus from September 1st-October 29th.

To fill out an application, please call the church office at 704-482-8302 between the hours of 8am-1pm





Pastoral Health



Ministers Conference

Monday, October 5
11:00 am—1:00 pm
Hangtime Golf, Shelby

Lattimore Pastors Fellowship

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

Pray for these couples on their special day in October:

Polkville—Will and Michelle Davis—9th
Union—David and Cindy White—9th
Elizabeth—Rit and Shannon Varriale—10th
Temple – Scott and Linda Carpenter - 14th

Happy Anniversary

Pastors Anniversaries for October:

Allen Memorial:

Reese English, 5 years

Battleground:

Stephen Littlejohn, 12 years

Betania 1ra Iglesia:

David Trejos, 1 year

Carpenter's Grove:

Joey Hamrick, 1 year

Casar:

Doug Pruett, 15 years

City of God:

Michael Moore, 7 years

Plains View:

Wayne Key, 5 years

Sandy Plains:

Elisabeth Cothran, 4 years

Victory:

Dennis Wells, 33 years

Westwood Heights:

David Costner, 20 years



RESTORE

GCCBA MINISTER &
SPOUSE RETREAT

FEBRUARY 5TH-7TH, 2027
RIDGECREST
CONFERENCE CENTER

GUEST SPEAKER:
DR CHUCK LAWLESS

COST: \$475 PER COUPLE

TO SIGN UP CALL GCCBA OR
EMAIL [KATIE@GCCBA.ORG](mailto:katie@gccba.org)



JOIN US FOR OCTOBER'S
PASTORS CONFERENCE AT

HANG TIME GOLF IN SHELBY

October 5th, 2026
from 11 am-1 pm
1650 N POST RD SHELBY

We will eat lunch from Round Square Food Truck, hit golf balls, and enjoy some time of fellowship. Please RSVP by emailing katie@gccba.org





Ministry Support



2027 GCCBA Marriage Conference

Save the Date: April 9th & 10th at the Legrand Center. To help keep the cost low for those who attend we are asking for churches to help sponsor the conference. Please see the flyer and let us know if you have any questions.



Led by Dr Tate & Wendy Cockrell

April 9 & 10th, 2027
Legrand Center Shelby NC

- ☒ Friday Supper & Session
- ☒ Saturday Breakfast & Session
- ☒ Ends before lunch on Saturday

Join us as a Sponsoring Church:

- ☒ Sponsorship Levels:
 - \$100 (includes 2 conference tickets)
 - \$500 (includes 4 conference tickets)
 - \$1,000 (includes 10 conference tickets)
- ☒ For more information on how your church can help sponsor this event contact Jason Ballard or Katie Harris




Next Up

A CALL TO THE NEXT GENERATION TO LEAD
FEATURING THE HIGHER PLACES TOUR

SATURDAY: 7:00-9:00 PM
24 OCT

SPEAKER:
ANDY CHRISMAN OF 4HIM

WORSHIP BY:
CONSUMED BY FIRE, V-ROSE, &
CHURCH FOR THE CITY WORSHIP

BRINKLEY AMPHITHEATER
ON THE CAMPUS OF GARDNER WEBB UNIVERSITY



All men are invited to an evening of fellowship that will include supper, followed by a time of worship, testimony, a spiritual challenge, and prayer. We'll highlight mission opportunities, as well as some men's ministry resources

that can be used in the local church. Join others from the region as we pursue being the men God created us to be! Meal begins at 6:15 pm. Program is from 7:00-8:30 pm. Cost is \$5 per man, and helps cover the cost of the meal. Every man and his pastor is encouraged to attend! Registration is required.

HIS WORKMANSHIP

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."
- Ephesians 2:10

Region 8
Thursday, November 19
Shelby Mission Camp
Shelby, NC

Meal at 6:15 pm
Program at 7:00 pm
\$5 Per Person

MEN'S WORSHIP RALLY

BAPTISTS ON MISSION

All men are invited to an evening of fellowship that will include **supper**, followed by **worship**, **testimony**, a **spiritual challenge**, and **prayer**. Join others from the region as we pursue being the men God created us to be! These rallies provide a time of meaningful worship and great fellowship, as well as missions information and inspiration to strengthen ministry to men in the local church. **Every man and his pastor is invited and encouraged to attend!**



www.baptistsonmission.org/mwr

FOR MORE INFO - OR -
TO REGISTER

mabernathy@ncbaptist.org



REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Register and pay online by following the link above - or - call Tina Holder at (919-459-5596) and provide a credit card.



Missions Partnerships



The theme for 2026 is "Living Sent," and the offering goal is \$2.8 million.

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you.' John 20:21 (CSB)



North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO) brings relief to those in need through disaster response, church planting and mobilizing of N.C. Baptists for missions. Generous donations through NCMO fund the mission throughout the year. Please pray about giving to NCMO for Baptist on Mission.

NC BAPTISTS
Coats FOR THE City

Collection Dates
July 1st-October 28th, 2026

Men's, women's & children's coats (preferred sizes are S, M, L, & XL)
New or gently used heavy coats that can withstand a New York City winter
No holes, tears or stains, Zippers should work and all buttons should be present.
Monetary donations can be given to help purchase new coats.

Drop off location:
GCCBA Office 1175 Wyke Rd Shelby

More Information: www.gccba.org/coatsforthecity

Friday Feed the Hungry

We are excited that in 2026 First Baptist Church, Shelby will be managing the Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch program which they will call The Gathering. If you would like to help provide food for the ministry, please contact the church office at 704-482-3467 or click this link

<https://grasshoppersignup.com/s/x1wkdu>

Block Party Trailer



The schedule for the trailer fills up fast for the 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.

The trailer will not be available during November, December, & January due to repairs.

Please visit our website, www.gccba.org and other social media sites for information, training, and mission opportunities. Join one of our Facebook groups for your area!



October 26th





Congregational Health



Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.



Beaver Dam ~ Buffalo ~ Christian
Freedom ~ Crestview ~ Faith ~ Fallston ~
Lattimore ~ New Bethel ~ Oak Grove ~ Waco

Buffalo:

Buffalo Baptist in Shelby, NC is seeking a **full time pastor** who God is calling to serve our church and community. We are a conservative Southern Baptist congregation who is seeking a dedicated, energetic, and caring pastor who will preach the true word of God. The pastor will lead 3 services each week (Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night). Our pastor will be a man of the highest Godly character with God guided leadership and vision. He will have a minimum of 5 years of ministry experience with a seminary degree. Please submit resumes including details of spiritual journey and calling by God to be a pastor to: Pastor Search Committee c/o Buffalo Baptist 108 Buffalo Church Rd, Shelby NC 28150.

Calvary:

Calvary Baptist Church of Shelby, NC is looking for a **part-time Minister of Music (M.o.M)**. The M.o.M will work with the Pastor to follow the Holy Spirit's lead in developing and implementing God's vision for worship at Calvary. The person must have a knowledge and appreciation for both "traditional" and "contemporary" worship music but must not be bound by either. For more information, please contact Pastor Rob (robert@visitcalvaryonline.com)

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/>

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.

Eastside:

Eastside Baptist Church is seeking a full time, dependable, organized, and friendly **Church Secretary** to serve as an important part of our church staff. This position combines daily

office administration with financial responsibilities and requires someone who is detail-oriented, trustworthy, and able to work independently while providing a warm and welcoming presence to our congregation and community. Resumes with cover letters may be submitted at Eastside Baptist Church 1165 Wyke Road, Shelby, NC 28150 or via email to office@eastsidebaptistshelby.org through Friday, Oct. 2, 2026.

First Baptist Church of Kings Mountain:

First Baptist Church of Kings Mountain, a conservative SBC church, is seeking a **Children's Pastor** to lead and shepherd children and their families. Candidates must demonstrate a clear calling to children's ministry, a passion for the gospel, and hold (or be nearing) a master's degree in ministry. Ordination (or pursuit of it) is preferred. A minimum of three years of church staff experience in children's or family ministry is required. The ideal candidate will have strengths in leadership, teaching, discipleship, and volunteer development, and be committed to inclusive ministry (including special needs) and strong child safety practices. This role requires a lifestyle of Christian integrity and servant leadership. Background checks will be conducted. Compensation is commensurate with experience and includes salary, bonuses, housing allowance, insurance, retirement, and professional development. Resumes sent employment@fbckm.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

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. Responsibilities include Sunday mornings and other times as needed, collaborating with the pastor and selecting music for weekly services and special occasions. There is an opportunity here to grow the worship experience by forming a choir or praise team. Please send resumes to Oak Grove Baptist Church 1022 Oak Grove Road Kings Mtn., NC 28086 or ogbc1022@gmail.com (Atten: Worship Ministry Team)

Oak Grove Baptist Church, located in the Oak Grove community of Kings Mountain, NC is seeking a **pastor**. This is a Southern Baptist Church, established in 1897, with a rich history of ministry. We are excited to welcome the one God is calling to grow and continue this ministry. While we are not putting restrictions on God's choice for us, we believe his choice will have some theological training, believe the Bible to be the infallible and inerrant word of God, and will share the love of Christ with others. He will work with the current staff and any new staff that is added and lay people to strengthen our commitment to God and His teachings in this community and the world. Oak Grove Baptist Church abides by the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. Interested applicants may send resumes to Oak Grove Baptist Church 1022 Oak Grove Road Kings Mtn., NC 28086 or ogbc1022@gmail.com (Atten: Pastor Church Committee)

Patterson Grove:

Patterson Grove Baptist Church is seeking a **Part-time Children's Ministry Director**. If interested, send resume to personnel@pgbckm.org

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



Congregational Health



Pleasant Hill:

Pleasant Hill Baptist is in need of a **pianist/choir accompanist** for Sunday morning worship and Wednesday night choir rehearsal. Music is traditional/blended style. Contact Amanda Lowery alowery52@gmail.com

Poplar Springs:

Poplar Springs Baptist Church is seeking an experienced **part time organist**. Responsibilities include playing all regularly scheduled Sunday Services, practice with choir on Wednesday night, playing for any specially scheduled church activities, funerals and weddings as needed. Resumes may be mailed to Personnel Committee, Poplar Springs Baptist Church, 1106 Poplar Springs Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152.

Sunset Forest:

Sunset Forest Baptist Church in Gastonia NC is looking for a **music ministry leader**. We are open to all styles and genres of music and any musical talent is a plus. This is a part-time position. We are also open to current music ministry students. Interested applicants please contact Pastor Jeff Hicks @ 704-913-2390 or email @ ranlochief@att.net

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

Westwood Heights:

Westwood Heights Baptist Church at 650 Dellinger Rd/Shelby, NC is seeking a **part-time secretary, organist, and pianist**. For more information, please send a letter of interest to the following email: whbc.churchoffice@gmail.com

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 704-477-2025 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.



GCCBA Annual Meeting
Sunday October 25th, 2026

Gardner Webb University
Tucker Student Center

4:00 pm Call to Order

Guest Speaker: Chuck Morrow, Director of Mission
Upper Ohio Valley Baptist Association

5:30 pm Dismiss to Dinner

During dinner, we invite you to visit the various agencies that will be set up to share information & valuable resources. We hope you'll take a few moments to stop by, connect, and learn more!



Annual Meeting Messengers

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.
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 Annual Meeting.

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@gccbba.org

Missions & Ministry Team Leader:

Katie Harris

katie@gccbba.org

Office Administrator:

Nicole Mosley

nicole@gccbba.org

- 1**— Leadership and Business Affairs, GCCBA, 11:45 am
- 5**— Minister's Conference, GCCBA, 11:30 am
- 7**—Cleveland County Fair Breakfast, 10:00 am
- 15**—Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
- 24**— Next Up Youth Rally at GWU, 7:00 pm
- 25**— GCCBA Annual Meeting, GWU Tucker Center, 4:00 pm
- 26**—GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED

