CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST news & views

April 2026

411 College Street | 706-629-7714 | calhounfbc.org | FirstBaptistCalhoun

Calhoun First Baptist Church

is a *multigenerational* family of faith **living in pursuit** of the Great Commandment & the Great Commission.





Gather • Grow

Serve • Share

CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST **FAITH FORWARD**

LIVING IN PURSUIT

CONTENTS

Pastor's Article	3
Music Ministry Article	5
Discipleship & Administration Article	6
Youth Ministry Article	7
Children's & Preschool Ministry Article	8
Sunday School Information	9
Monthly Church Information	10
Wednesday Activities	11
Prayer List & Updates	12
Upcoming Events	13
Faith Forward Information	14



CHURCH STAFF

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Mrs. Emily Hurd
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Dr. John Barber
SENIOR PASTOR

I hope you and your family had a wonderful Easter Sunday. Despite stormy weather and many of our families traveling for Spring Break, we had strong attendance between the two services (375 in the 8:30 AM service and 410 in the 11 AM service). Many thanks to our choir and musicians, our greeters and ushers and other volunteers who did “double duty” to make sure we had room for everyone.

I am pleased to say we have already exceeded our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering of $14,500 with $19,874 of gifts received as of last Sunday. This offering is such an important part of the missions we support in North America as the AAEO provides almost half of our NAMB’s operational funds. If you would like more information about the AAEO or the ongoing work of our North American Mission Board, you can visit their website at *www.namb.net*. And if you and your family have not yet made a gift to the AAEO, I encourage you to do so.

I plan to give an overview and an update on our Facilities Project on Wednesday, April 22nd, at 6:45 PM in the worship center. This will be a good opportunity for those who were not able to be here for the January 25th presentation. We will be able to share some new details that were not available to us in the first presentation.

Our Faith Forward Stewardship campaign will be taking place over the next several weeks. Yes, our Faith Forward Stewardship Campaign is designed to help us underwrite a major facilities project. But it is much more than dollars and cents, or bricks and mortar. Faith Forward is an opportunity for our church to seek God and to trust him concerning His will for our church. It is about meeting the ministry needs of today and preparing for the ministry opportunities of tomorrow. As our campaign theme verse from Hebrews 11:1 says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

[continued on next page...]



Dr. John Barber
SENIOR PASTOR

[Continued from previous page...] Throughout this journey, we will focus on the Word of God, the Call of God, the Awe of God, and the Response of God's people. On Sunday evening, April 26th, our First Family will come together for our Celebration Banquet to thank God in advance for His many blessings as we move forward in faith. On Sunday morning, May 3rd, we will have opportunity to honor the Lord and support our church by making our individual Faith Forward commitments above and beyond our regular tithes. Remember all our Faith Forward commitments will be confidential and will be for three years.

Will you commit to pray about what the Lord would have you do to help our congregation realize His vision for our church? I have no doubt God will bless us beyond measure as we move forward in faith. Remember, "But without faith it is impossible to please God... He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6).

Pastor John



[Faith Forward Lead Partner Team]

Dr. Lance Cole

MUSIC MINISTRY

Many thanks to our Worship Choir and Instrumentalists for all they've done this past month! I believe the presentation of "Eyes on Calvary" was a beautiful expression of love to Christ as we observed a few of the events of the final week of Jesus' earthly life through music. In addition to the people you saw on the platform, there were many behind-the-scenes individuals working in the areas of technology, office support, and hospitality. To each of them and those who attended, thank you! Many of those same people showed up in force early on Easter morning to lead us in two worship services as we celebrated the risen Christ! I am thankful for the dedication of these worship leaders.

It has been interesting to observe the way our church calendar has grown busier and busier each year during the months of April and May. Our Preschool and Children's Choirs will be busy this month preparing for their spring musical presentation on the evening of Wednesday, May 6th. This program will be a little different this year as we get to enjoy a few minutes observing our preschoolers interacting with our puppet team before our children present their musical. Watching these kids play and sing is such a joy!

As we approach our Faith Forward Celebration Banquet on April 26th in the CLC, I am reminded of the months that our church spent worshiping in that room roughly ten years ago as the sanctuary was undergoing renovations. While those months in the CLC were somewhat uncomfortable and at times difficult, what incredible benefits we've been able to enjoy since! What a gorgeous place of worship we are blessed with! To God be the glory!

May the Lord bless you richly as we celebrate the risen Christ each and every day!

Joyfully,
Lance

GENERAL INFORMATION

Adult Worship Choir
Wednesday Rehearsal
6:45 PM in the Choir Room

Children's Choirs
Wednesday Rehearsal
6:00 PM on the 2nd Floor

Preschool Choirs
Wednesday Rehearsal
6:00 PM in the CLC 2nd Floor

IMPORTANT DATES

Children's Choir Special
Wednesday, May 6

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

lance.cole@calhounfbc.org



Dr. Steven Waters

MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & ADMINISTRATION

Faith Forward

This Sunday Pastor John will start his Faith Forward emphasis from the pulpit. As we enter this season together, I want to encourage our church family to see this as much more than a conversation about a building project. While a new building or expanded space may be the visible focus, stewardship is ultimately a spiritual matter before it is ever a financial one. At its heart, stewardship is about recognizing that God is the owner of all things, and we are called to faithfully manage what He has entrusted to us for His glory and for the advancement of His kingdom.

Over these next four weeks, we will be guided by four important themes: **The Word of God**, **The Call of God**, **The Awe of God**, and **The Response of God's People**. We begin with **The Word of God** because everything must start there. Our plans, priorities, and vision for the future must be anchored in Scripture, not simply in human ideas or practical needs. We then turn to **The Call of God**, remembering that the Lord does not call His people to comfort or convenience, but to faith, obedience, and trust. As we consider **The Awe of God**, we are reminded that stewardship is not merely duty—it is worship. When we truly see God in His greatness, holiness, and faithfulness, our hearts are moved to honor Him with every part of our lives. Finally, we will focus on **The Response of God's People**, because when God speaks and calls, His people are to answer with willing hearts, generous spirits, and a readiness to move forward in faith.

As we begin **Faith Forward**, my prayer is that this will be a season of spiritual renewal, unity, and joyful obedience in the life of our church. May the Lord help us listen carefully, trust Him fully, and step forward together for the sake of future ministry, future discipleship, and future gospel impact.

Please set aside the evening of April 26th as we celebrate God's work here at CFBC and as we prepare ourselves for our collective response to His leading. We will start our Celebration Banquet at 6:00 PM, and we hope to see all of you here!

Blessings,
Steven

IMPORTANT DATES

Mission Trip
May 31 - June 5

Children's Camp
June 8-12

VBS
June 22 - 26

FUGE Camp
July 6 - 10

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

steven.waters
@calhounfbc.org



Rev. Andrew Crawford

YOUTH MINISTRY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Youth Activities
Wednesdays
5:45 PM on the 3rd Floor

Sunday School
9:45 AM on the 3rd Floor

IMPORTANT DATES

Senior Sunday
May 3

Mission Trip
May 31 - June 5

FUGE Camp
July 6 - 10

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

andrew.crawford
@calhounfbc.org



Student Ministry Update

Spring is always a meaningful season in the life of our church, and our student ministry has several important moments ahead that we want to celebrate and prepare for together.

Celebrating Our Seniors

On Sunday, May 3, we will honor our graduating seniors during the morning service. These students have worked hard, grown in their faith, and have been great leaders not only on their sports teams and at school, but also in our student ministry! We are so proud of who they are becoming and love seeing God use this class in such big ways. We can't wait to honor them on Senior Sunday.

If you have a senior in your home, **please make sure they are registered by April 19**. You can register your senior using the link below or by scanning the code on the right:
https://forms.gle/ucNETDVvXG6PmJvQA

Youth Camp at Centrifuge

Summer camp is coming quickly. Our students will be heading to Centrifuge at WordSong Camp in Birmingham, Alabama from July 6 to July 10. Camp is always a powerful week of worship, discipleship, and community. A one-hundred-dollar deposit is now due, so please take care of that as soon as you are able.

Churchwide Mission Trip

We are also excited about our churchwide mission trip to Fayetteville, West Virginia, from May 31 to June 5. This trip is open to adults and students, and it is a wonderful opportunity to serve together as a church family. If you would like more information or if you need the application, please email me at andrew.crawford@calhounfbc.org. I would love to help you take the next step.

Travis & Emily Hurd

CHILDREN'S & PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Parents,

Don't forget to register for camp. All 3rd through 5th graders are eligible to participate. The dates are June 8th through the 12th. Cost is $350. There is a registration link on our GroupMe app.

I hope you will continue to make it a priority for your kids to participate in our Wednesday night activities. Children's choir starts at 6:00 PM and Teamkids start at 6:45 PM.

May God Bless,
Travis

Hello parents,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter! We are entering a busy season in the life of our church. Please make sure you are part of all of our emails / GroupMe messaging groups.

A couple of dates to put on your calendar now.

On Wednesday, May 6th, our preschool and children's choirs, including our Teeny Tykes group will have a special night of music. This is going to be such a fun night. I hope everyone will make plans to be there.

Also, baby dedication will be held on Mother's Day, May 10th. If you plan to participate in this please let the church office know. I am praying for each of you and hope you will join me in praying for our church and God's blessings on all that we do.

God bless,
Emily





GENERAL INFORMATION

Children's Choirs
Wednesday Rehearsal
6:00 PM on the 2nd Floor

Teamkids
Wednesdays
6:45 PM on the 2nd Floor

Preschool Choirs
Wednesday Rehearsal
6:00 PM in the CLC 2nd Floor

Mission Friends
Wednesdays
6:45 PM in the Preschool

Children's Sunday School
9:45 AM on the 2nd Floor

Nursery & Preschool - Kindergarten Sunday School
9:45 AM in the Preschool

IMPORTANT DATES

Children's Choir Special
Wednesday, May 6

Children's Camp
June 8 - 12

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

emily.hurd@calhounfbc.org
travis.hurd@calhounfbc.org



Sunday School Information

GROW WITH US

We also offer Sunday School classes for every age group!

Children / Youth

- Babies
- Toddlers and 2's
- 3's and Pre-K
- Kindergarten
- First Grade
- Second Grade
- Third Grade
- Fourth Grade
- Fifth Grade
- Sixth - Eighth Grade Girls
- Sixth - Eighth Grade Boys
- Ninth - Twelfth Grade Girls
- Ninth - Twelfth Grade Boys

College / Adult

- College & Careers
  - Young Single Adults
- Young Married Adults
  - Young Adults Co-ed
- Fish Finders
  - Median Adult Co-ed
- Vine and Branches
  - Median Adult Co-ed
- Genesis
  - Median Adult Co-ed
- Cornerstone
  - Median Adult Co-ed
- Joy
  - Median Adult Ladies

Senior Adult

- Fishers of Men
  - Senior Men
- Mary-Martha
  - Senior Ladies
- Becomers Co-ed
  - Senior Co-ed
- New Men
  - Senior Men
- Faithseekers
  - Senior Co-Ed
- Mattie Lou Strain
  - Senior Ladies
- Becomers Ladies
  - Senior Ladies

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sunday School begins at 9:45 AM on Sundays and will dismiss just before the Worship Service starts at 11:00 AM.

We have classes for every age – from babies to our wisest of senior adults, there is a small group that is perfect for you!

We also have a nursery service for our youngest members and visitors.
See the welcome desk for more information!



Monthly Church Information

Deacon of the Day

April	5	Ron Hammontree
	12	Mike Hall
	19	Craig French
	26	Eric Jackson

Usher Group of the Day

April	5	Group VI: Jason Hawkins
	12	Group I: Craig Mashburn
	19	Group II: Harry Harwell
	26	Group III: Wes Alexander

Building 'B' Greeters

April	5	Harry & Jean Russell
	12	Mary Ann Berryman
	19	Laura & Stephen Ralston
	26	Bill & Teresa Bishop

CLC Greeters

April	5	Kim Hall
	12	Logan & Wes Alexander
	19	Clint & Jenny Hayes
	26	Sharon & Dennis Alexander

Children's Ministry Hall Greeters

April	5	Sharon & Dennis Alexander
	12	Kim Hall
	19	Gina & Robbie McCorkle
	26	Laura & Stephen Ralston

Golf Cart Drivers

April	5	Ken Hollaran / Ron Lee (Early)
		Michael Renfro / Tommy Holden (Regular)
	12	Greg Green / Billy Brindle
	19	Russ Edwards / Ritchie Harris
	26	Michael Engel / Eric Dykes

Shuttle Bus Drivers

April	5	Jonathan Wallin
	12	Will Harper
	19	Tommy Holden
	26	Robbie McCorkle

OFFERING UPDATES

Offerings for March 2026

Budget Requirement Monthly	$ 109,163.00
Budget Offering	$ 323,301.38
Faith Forward Giving	$ 12,595.00
Other Designated	$ 26,184.00
Total	$ 362,080.38

Year-To-Date

Budget Requirement thru 3/31/26	$ 327,489.00
Budget Offering Given as of 3/31/26	$ 541,101.46
Faith Forward Giving as of 3/31/26	$ 28,122.00

AAEO GIVING

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

OUR CHURCH GOAL
$14,500

GIVEN TO DATE
$19,874

YOUR GENEROSITY IS
more than a gift

MARCH WORSHIP AVERAGE: 459
MARCH SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE: 326

FIND US ONLINE

www.calhounfbc.org
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@cfbcxstudents

Wednesday Activities







Fellowship Meal
(Every other Wednesday)
5:15 PM in the CLC

Youth Hangout
5:45 PM / 3rd Floor

Preschool Puppets, Choirs & Activities
6:00 PM / 2nd Floor CLC

Children's Choir & Activities
6:00 PM / 2nd Floor

Worship Choir Rehearsal
6:45 PM / Choir Room

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
6:45 PM / Sanctuary

Join us on WEDNESDAYS!

Gather • Grow
Serve • Share





Prayer List & Updates

FOR CHURCH FAMILY

Susan Boswell, Hazel Moss, Jane Lumbard, Laura Payne, Russell Cochran, Twila Blankenship, Martha Worley, Tanya Johnson, Jean Warren, Rebecca Brown, Sylvia Brumbelow, Martha Miller, Harry Russell, Charlotte Beard, Yvonne Elrod, Max Mashburn, Donald Gallman, Geneva Owens, Bob Bullard, Mary Ann Berryman, Judy Thomason, Annette Thomas, Charlie Reeves, Harriett Koen, Dan & Pat Autry, Carolyn Holbert, Madeline Erwin, Ron Hayes, Mike Miller, Grant Glaze, Milton Kean, Kayanne Walraven, Wesley Daniel, Kyle Holbert Brown, Truett and Peggy Grogan

FROM CHURCH FAMILY

Marie Jarrett, Tim Tidwell, David Smith, Randall Townsend, Amy & Angelia, Adam, Elizabeth, & Daisy Offutt, Randy Cone, Thomas & Jennifer Pass, Regina Kinnie, Larry Young, Scott Weaver, Harold Crump, Francis Payne, Charlene Henderson, Nicole Carter, Tony Crunkelton, Chris Mulkey, Marlin Sullivan, Tammi Faulkner, Cody Henderson, Daryl Goble, Charles Avery, Monica Perkins, Bill Bryson, Julia Stansell, Drew Walraven, Herman Westbrook, Lisa McDonald Braden, Lou Helen Warren, Miller Creel, Darrell Goble, Randy McCorkle, Lisa Holden, Robert McConnell, Lloyd Pack, Mark Waters, Zoey Adolphi, Carol Cross, Shirley Willis, Ava Price, Margie Moss, Tricia Crump, Danny Elrod, Charlie Williams, Evan Koen, Turner Rogers

NOTE OF THANKS

First Family,
I thank you for your love, concern, and support during my recent surgery and recovery.
Love, Laura Payne

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Please be in prayer for this family during their time of bereavement:
The family of Aaron Paradis

All previous digital newsletters can be accessed in the online library at *calhounfbc.org*.

(Under the **CONNECTIONS** tab, click **Newsletters**.)

You can also scan this code to access the library on your mobile device!



Upcoming Events

CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST

FAITH FORWARD

LIVING IN PURSUIT

Celebration Banquet

Sunday, April 26th
6:00 PM in the CLC



VBS: June 22nd - 26th

Want to help with VBS this year? There are still plenty of opportunities to volunteer!

Contact Kelly Brittain (706-625-1133) or the church office (706-629-7714) to volunteer!

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multigenerational family of faith living in pursuit of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.



Construct

- new 9,466 sf, single story Education & Preschool Facility following demolition of current Preschool building
- new 1800 sf Choir Suite

Renovate

- existing racquetball court into 4 adult classrooms (doubles as Wednesday Youth Breakout rooms)
- existing Choir Suite into 3 adult classrooms



Total of 7 new adult classrooms, 5 rooms on the ground floor.



Add

- approximately 60 paved parking spaces following demolition of pastorum and playground
- new playground area on Fain Street side of the new preschool building

[Top left: preschool building rendering]

[Middle right: choir suite rendering]

[Lower left: preschool playground rendering]

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