



CALHOUN

FIRST BAPTIST

news & views



August
2026



411 College
Street



706-629-7714



calhounfbc.org



[FirstBaptistChurchCalhoun](https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchCalhoun)

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 **FAITH**
FIRST BAPTIST

FORWARD

LIVING IN PURSUIT

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Dr. John Barber **SENIOR PASTOR**

Summer is quickly concluding as teachers and students are headed back to school this month. I am grateful for all the ministry events and kingdom work that have taken place these last two months. We have been blessed to celebrate professions of faith and see new families engaging with us because of all that has happened this Summer. Doxology!

We are still awaiting final pricing and permitting approval for our Facilities Project. As soon as all these details are determined, our Facilities Team will report back to the church in a Called Conference for final approval of our project. Thank you for your continued support of this project through our Faith Forward giving. Because of your giving to Faith Forward, we will be in a strong financial position to start this project.

Later this month (the week of August 10th), you should receive a letter of information concerning the start of our Deacon Election process. Please give careful attention to the information and instructions in this letter. Every member of the church who is at least 16 years old will be eligible to submit a nomination form by September 1st. Once the nomination process is concluded, a final ballot will be determined with the election taking place on Sunday, September 20th.

I encourage our leadership (Deacons, Sunday School leaders, Student and Children's Ministry leaders, etc.) to be part of the SPARK training event scheduled for August 23rd. Our Georgia Baptist Mission Board is organizing this training event at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Cartersville. There will more than forty different breakout sessions focusing on various areas of ministry and service. You will need to register to attend this event. **You can follow the link on the right to do so.**



**Scan
or
CLICK
HERE**

Looking ahead to next month, our annual Friend Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 13th. We are planning for our best attendance of the year (outside of Easter) and will culminate the day with a cookout/picnic that evening at the City Park. Our Sunday school classes will lead the way in a high attendance emphasis. This day is a wonderful opportunity to invite a neighbor, friend, or family member who does not have a strong connection with a church.

These are good days for our First Family. I hope you will continue being connected and committed to your First Family as we live in pursuit of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission!

Blessings!
Pastor John

Dr. Lance Cole MUSIC MINISTRY

Mark Your Calendars for Fall Music & Ministry!

The Jittery Jamboree

As we wrap up our Worship Summer Choir and the Jittery Jams Competition, save this date for a special evening!

- **Date:** Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:45 PM
- **Who's Invited:** Past choir members, current singers, and anyone interested in joining us in the future!

Join us for an end-of-summer and fall kick-off celebration all in one great night! We'll enjoy group singing, a little trivia, coffee and refreshments, and the grand finale of our Blewer Food Drive. It's going to be an incredible evening!

Children's & Preschool Choirs Resume

- **Date:** Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00 PM

Our preschool and children's choirs are back! Our beloved Puppets will return for ages birth through kindergarten, and those friendly furry creatures are eager to see the kiddos again. The Children's Choir will dive right in to singing and playing games as the kids enjoy time with their friends. Get ready for another fantastic year of music!

Church-wide Picnic and Cookout at the City Park

- **Date:** Sunday, September 13th

This year our Worship Choir will be presenting some of the songs we've learned this summer along with several of our favorites. Plan to enjoy a great meal, fellowship, and music!

Christmas Music will be here before you know it!

- **Date:** Sunday, December 13th at 6:00 PM

Our annual Christmas musical will take place in the sanctuary, including our Worship Choir, Children's Choir, and Instrumentalists. This event always includes our Churchwide Christmas Fellowship in the CLC following the musical. Plan to be there, or even better, join the choir and sing in the musical!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Adult Worship Choir

Wednesday Rehearsal
6:45 PM in the Choir Room

IMPORTANT DATES

Rome Emperors National Anthem

August 19

SPARK Conference

August 23

Choir "Jamboree" / Fall Kickoff

September 2

CONTACT INFORMATION

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*Joyfully,
Lance*

IMPORTANT DATES

Senior Trip
August 13

Deacons & Finance Meeting
August 17

C.R.O.S.S. Team Meeting
August 18

SPARK Conference
August 23

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Dr. Steven Waters

MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & ADMINISTRATION

Serving Where Gifted—and Where Asked

In the coming weeks, members of our church will begin receiving invitations to serve on committees for the coming year. For some, the invitation will be an obvious fit. It may align perfectly with your experience, interests, and spiritual gifts. For others, the opportunity may feel unexpected.

Scripture teaches that every believer has been gifted by God for the good of the church. 1 Peter 4:10 says, “Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.” God has not called us merely to attend church; He has called us to participate in the life and mission of His church.

We should seek to serve where God has gifted us. Some are gifted in teaching, leadership, encouragement, hospitality, administration, mercy, or service. The church is healthiest when members recognize their gifts and faithfully use them.

At the same time, there are occasions when we may be asked to serve in an area that is not our first choice. That does not necessarily mean it is the wrong place for us. Sometimes God reveals gifts through an opportunity we did not seek. Sometimes He stretches us by placing us in a role that requires dependence on Him. And sometimes the greatest need is simply for a faithful person who is willing to say, “Here I am. Use me.”

Serving on a committee is more than filling a position on a list. It is an opportunity to help the church make wise decisions, care for people, support ministry, and advance the gospel. Every committee has a role in helping our church fulfill its mission to Gather, Grow, Serve, and Share.

As you are contacted, prayerfully consider the opportunity. Ask God, “Have You gifted me for this?” but also ask, “Are You asking me to serve here?” Not every request must receive a yes, but every request deserves prayer.

May we be a church filled with members who are willing to serve where gifted, serve where needed, and serve wherever God leads.

***Blessings,
Steven***

GENERAL INFORMATION

Youth Activities

Wednesdays
6:15 - 8:00 PM

Sunday School

9:45 AM on the 3rd Floor

IMPORTANT DATES

Back to School Bash

August 30

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

andrew.crawford
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Rev. Andrew Crawford

YOUTH MINISTRY

Church family, thank you for the incredible support and faithful prayers you have given our student ministry this summer. We are so grateful for the way you encourage, invest in, and care for our students. Your generosity and prayers have helped make this an incredible summer of growth!

We wrapped up our summer last week with a great trip to Six Flags, and it was a fun way to celebrate all that God has done among our students over the past several months. We have seen the Lord at work in meaningful ways.

Pray for the New School Year

As students begin a new school year, we ask our church family to pray for them. Pray that they would be the hands and feet of Jesus in the hallway, at practice, and in all their activities as students. Pray that they would remember who they are in Christ and that they would be a light to their friends, teammates, and classmates.

Please also pray for the teachers, administrators, and support staff who serve our students each day. Ask the Lord to give them strength, patience, wisdom, and encouragement as they lead, teach, protect, and care for the students in Gordon County.

Important: New Wednesday Night Schedule

We are excited to kick off the fall semester of student ministry on August 12th. As we begin this new season, we are making a small schedule adjustment to better serve students who are coming straight from practices and after-school activities. Everything will be bumped back 30 minutes.

- **Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for hangout time.**
- **Youth service begins at 6:45 p.m.**
- **We will finish at 8:00 p.m.**

We are looking forward to all God has in store for our students this fall. Thank you again for all of your prayers and support!

*God bless,
Andrew*



Travis & Emily Hurd

CHILDREN'S & PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Parents,

The new school year is always an exciting time for the kids and our children's ministry. We look forward to a wonderful year together.

Your children will meet in their new Sunday School classes on Sunday, August 9th. We are excited to welcome our 1st graders to the children's department! Please keep in mind that there will be some adjustments as we begin to share space with our weekday preschool.

Mark your calendars for our annual Back to School Bash on August 30th in the CLC parking lot. More details will be shared closer to that time.

We continue to pray for you and your children. If you ever need anything please let me know!

*May God bless,
Travis*

Parents,

I hope everyone is excited to start a new school year. We are praying for a safe and healthy school year for all of our families.

Our children and preschoolers will "promote" to their new Sunday School classes this weekend. While our campus is under construction, our preschool classes will be housed in the Christian Life Center with our nursery and 2s and 3s being on the 1st floor and our prek/kindergarten on the 2nd floor. Watch your GroupMe account for more details.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, August 30th, as we will hold our annual Back to School Bash in the CLC parking lot! This is always a fun night for our families and hope to see you there.

*God bless,
Emily*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kids Activities

Wednesdays
6:00 - 7:30 PM

Children's Sunday School

9:45 AM on the 2nd Floor

Nursery & Preschool - Kindergarten Sunday School

9:45 AM in the CLC

IMPORTANT DATES

Back to School Bash

August 30

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

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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!

Deacon of the Day

Aug	2	Gary Owen
	9	Jeff Ruddell
	16	Tom Shanahan
	23	Will Engel
	30	Jason Holland

Usher Group of the Day

Aug	2	Group V: David Repp
	9	Group VI: Jason Hawkins
	16	Group I: Craig Mashburn
	23	Group II: Harry Harwell
	30	Group III: Wes Alexander

Building 'B' Greeters

Aug	2	Tom & Carol Shanahan
	9	Harry & Jean Russell
	16	Mary Ann Berryman
	23	Laura & Stephen Ralston
	30	Bill & Teresa Bishop

CLC Greeters

Aug	2	Dena Wright
	9	Kim Hall
	16	Clint & Jenny Hayes
	23	Logan & Wes Alexander
	30	Sharon & Dennis Alexander

Children's Ministry Hall Greeters

Aug	2	Laura & Stephen Ralston
	9	Gina & Robbie McCorkle
	16	Logan & Wes Alexander
	23	Sharon & Dennis Alexander
	30	Laura & Stephen Ralston

Golf Cart Drivers

Aug	2	Tommy Holden / Michael Renfro
	9	Ron Lee / Ken Hollaran
	16	Stephen Ralston / Ricky Boswell
	23	Brandon Dillard / Tyron Johnson
	30	Seth Smith / Michael Engel

Shuttle Bus Drivers

Aug	2	Stephanie Brown
	9	Jonathan Wallin
	16	Will Harper
	23	Tommy Holden
	30	Robbie McCorkle

Monthly Church Information

OFFERING UPDATES

Offerings for July 2026

Budget Requirement Monthly	\$ 109,163.00
Budget Offering	\$ 113,581.99
Faith Forward Giving	\$ 30,831.33
Other Designated	\$ 11,443.69
Total	\$ 155,857.01

Year-To-Date

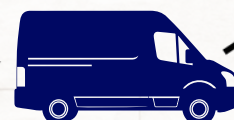
Budget Requirement thru 7/31/26.....	\$ 764,141.00
Budget Offering Given as of 7/31/26.....	\$ 997,743.00
Faith Forward giving since 5/17/26.....	\$ 291,763.25

SENIOR ADULT TRIP

The Senior Adults are traveling to the Colonnade in Ringgold, GA, on August 13th.

There are no more available slots for this trip.

All who have signed up to travel with this group should be prepared to leave the church by no later than 4:00 PM on Thursday, August 13th.



JULY WORSHIP AVERAGE: 402

JULY SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE: 290

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Prayer List & Updates

FOR CHURCH FAMILY

Dana McBurnett, Brenda Hughes, Hazel Moss, Jeanette Burch, William White, Charlie Williams, Russell Cochran, Martha Worley, Jean Warren, Rebecca Brown, Sylvia Brumbelow, 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, Pat Autry, Carolyn Holbert, Madeline Erwin, Ron Hayes, Grant Glaze, Milton Kean, Kayanne Walraven, Wesley Daniel, Kyle Holbert Brown, Truett and Peggy Grogan

FROM CHURCH FAMILY

Frances & Felix Payne, Barry Page, Brandon Johnson, Finley Wright, Tim Tidwell, David Smith, Randall Townsend, Amy & Angelia, Adam, Elizabeth, & Daisy Offutt, Thomas & Jennifer Pass, Regina Kinnie, Scott Weaver, Charlene Henderson, Nicole Carter, Tony Crunkelton, Chris Mulkey, Marlin Sullivan, Tammi Faulkner, Cody Henderson, Daryl Goble, Monica Perkins, Bill Bryson, Julia Stansell, Drew Walraven, Herman Westbrook, Lisa McDonald Braden, Lou Helen Warren, Miller Creel, Darrell Goble, Randy McCorkle, Lisa Holden, 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

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, calls, visits, and concern for my family and me during the passing of my mother, Betty Whitfield.

I really appreciate the love and support you all have shown during this difficult time. I feel very blessed to be a member of such a caring church family.

*In Christian love,
Diane Robbins*

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

Every **Wednesday at 6:45 PM** we have a prayer meeting and Bible study where we discuss church prayer needs and spend time in the Word! All are welcome to attend.

Upcoming Events

AUGUST EVENTS

Senior Adult **Game Night**

August 6th, 4:00 PM

Senior Adult Game Night will be Thursday, August 6th at 4:00 PM. Make plans to attend!

Quilters GIVING BACK

August 6th, 10 AM - 2 PM

The quilting ministry will be meeting in the CLC, and all are invited to join!

Deacons & Finance

August 17th



Finance Committee - 6:45 PM
Deacons Meeting - 7:30 PM

C.R.O.S.S. Team

August 18th, 11 AM

C.R.O.S.S. Team will meet in the back room of Big John's Treat Shoppe. Anyone interested in this ministry may attend!

BIRTHDAY Night

August 20th, 5:30 PM

Senior Adult Birthday Night is Thursday, August 20th at 5:30 PM in the back room of Big John's Treat Shoppe.

Back to School Bash

August 30th



Date: Sunday, August 23, 2026

Time: 3:45 PM - 8:15 PM

Location: Tabernacle Baptist Church

**Address: 31 Douglas St,
Cartersville, GA 30120**

SCAN CODE TO REGISTER



Senior Adult **BREAKFAST**

August 31st, 9:00 AM

For information about any of these ministry opportunities and events, please contact the church office at 706-629-7714.

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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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L I V I N G I N P U R S U I T

