



# CALHOUN

## FIRST BAPTIST

news & views



February  
2026



411 College  
Street



706-629-7714



[calhounfbc.org](http://calhounfbc.org)



FirstBaptistCalhoun

# Calhoun First Baptist Church

is a *multigenerational*  
family of faith

## living in pursuit

of the Great Commandment  
& the Great Commission.



We work together to

## Gather & Grow

so that we can

## Serve & Share



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## CHURCH STAFF

### **Dr. John Barber**

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### **Rev. Andrew Crawford**

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# *Dr. John Barber* **SENIOR PASTOR**

As we begin the month of February, I am looking forward to Sundays that are free of inclement weather. On weekends like this, we communicate our service alterations and cancellations through our website, church-wide email, and our Facebook page. We do the best we can to balance the importance of gathering for worship and the wellbeing of our congregation.

Our Facilities Team made their report and recommendations to the church on Sunday night, January 25th. The church approved their recommendations for developing the presented concept into a fully developed construction plan. The total project cost estimate is 6.143 million dollars. This figure includes architectural and engineering costs, construction and demolition costs, a contingency and furnishings budget. On the next few pages of this newsletter, you will find more detailed information (visuals, descriptions and next steps) about the proposed project approved by the church on January 25th. Please note, once these next steps are completed, the Facilities Team will report back to the church with exact numbers and terms for the project. At this time (late May to early June), the church will have the opportunity to approve the proposed project.

With a project of this nature, we need to make spiritual and financial preparations to underwrite it. Therefore, we will conduct a stewardship emphasis beginning this Spring. Many of you will remember the Faith Forward Stewardship process we experienced in the Fall of 2015. In less than 10 years, through our Faith Forward emphasis, we were able to pay for our 2016 facilities project. Our Faith Forward 2026 journey will be very much like our Faith Forward 2015 experience. I will share more details about this in days to come.

In 2023, I first shared with you our mission statement: CFBC is a multigenerational family of faith, living in pursuit of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. Throughout the month of February, we will be revisiting this statement as it articulates our identity and our mission. I hope you will be present with your First Family as we continue to move forward in faith and live in pursuit!

Pastor John



# *Dr. Lance Cole* **MUSIC MINISTRY**

These last two Sunday mornings have been unusual as we have tried to predict the weather situation and then gather for worship. I am grateful that we have been able to join together to sing, pray, and hear God's Word preached in spite of the threats of ice and snow. I want to say a special word of thanks to our singers and instrumentalists who have been so faithful to make it to your places on time and lead so effectively. I am blessed to lead such a dedicated group of musical worship leaders!

Our Easter music will come early this year on Sunday morning, March 22nd. This will be a time of worship through song and will conclude with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. I encourage you to mark your calendar for this special service.

Our Children's Choir has begun work on a spring presentation that will take place on Wednesday evening, May 6th, at 6:45 in the sanctuary. The program will include puppets, preschoolers, and our children's choir, of course! You won't want to miss this night!

This past Sunday the congregation was asked to join the singers and instrumentalists in singing, "The King is in the Room." This song is based on the scripture where Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am with them." Mt 18:20. Most all of our people jumped in and sang and it was an encouragement to my spirit. As a multi-generational church that enjoys singing a variety of styles, it is great to see our people embrace new songs. Well done!

I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday!

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

### **Preschool Choirs**

Wednesday Rehearsal  
6:00 PM in the CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

### **Easter Music Special**

Sunday, March 22

### **Children's Choir Special**

Wednesday, May 6

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## IMPORTANT DATES

**Night to Shine**  
February 13

**Mission Trip**  
May 31 - June 5

**Children's Camp**  
June 8-12

**VBS**  
June 22-26

**FUGE Camp**  
July 6-10

## JANUARY BAPTISMS

Emily Franklin  
Luci Petterson

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# *Dr. Steven Waters* **MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & ADMINISTRATION**

## **Faith in the Calling**

Before Jesus ever sent the disciples out to preach, heal, or lead, He first withdrew to pray. **Luke 6:12–16** tells us that Jesus spent the entire night in prayer before choosing the Twelve. This moment reminds us that ministry decisions are never merely practical—they are profoundly spiritual.

Jesus was surrounded by growing crowds and increasing opposition, yet He did not rush His decision. Instead, He sought private time with His Father. Even the Son of God modeled dependence on prayer. For us as believers and as a church family, this is a powerful reminder: spiritual clarity is born out of time with God, not urgency or pressure.

When morning came, Jesus called His disciples to Himself and chose twelve from among them—ordinary men with very different backgrounds; Fishermen, a tax collector, a zealot, and even Judas Iscariot, who would later betray Him. This list underscores a central gospel truth: God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called. The authority and effectiveness of the apostles did not come from who they were, but from who Jesus is and His purpose for them.

It is also striking that Jesus named them apostles—“sent ones.” Following Christ is not only about learning; it is about being sent. Every believer is called to live on mission, shaped by prayer, obedience, and trust in God’s sovereign plan.

As a church, Luke 6:12–16 challenges us to ask important questions: Are we grounding our decisions in prayer? Do we trust God to work through ordinary people for extraordinary purposes? Are we willing to be sent wherever He leads? May we, like Jesus, prioritize prayer. And may we, like the apostles, faithfully follow the call of Christ—trusting that God’s purposes are always accomplished through those who submit to Him.

Blessings,  
Steven

# Rev. Andrew Crawford YOUTH MINISTRY

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### **Youth Activities**

Wednesdays  
5:45 PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

### **Sunday School**

9:45 AM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

## IMPORTANT DATES

### **NERF War**

February 25

### **DNOW Weekend**

March 13-15

### **Mission Trip**

May 31 - June 5

### **FUGE Camp**

July 6-10

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

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## **Student Ministry Spring & Summer Preview**

The next few months are shaping up to be a big stretch for our student ministry, and I want to make sure families have the important dates on their radar! Stay up to date and sign up for all of the events below at [linktr.ee/calhounfbcstudents](https://linktr.ee/calhounfbcstudents)

### **Big Night: NERF War- February 25**

Bring your blaster, Bible, and a friend! A full-on Nerf night always brings out the energy, and it's one of the easiest events for students to invite a friend to. It's amazing how quickly a simple game can help break the ice and open the door for new relationships. We will cap off our series on how to be a Difference Maker that night. You won't want to miss it.

### **DNOW Weekend- March 13-15**

DNOW has become one of the most important weekends of the year for our group. Students spend time in Scripture, worship with their friends from churches in our county, and talk honestly in small groups about what following Jesus looks like in real life. The conversations that happen often end up being the moments students remember most. If your teenager needs a reset or a chance to reconnect, this weekend is a great opportunity. Sign up via our linktree by 2/13. The cost for the event is \$55 and covers the whole weekend.

### **FUGE Camp- July 6-10**

We'll head to WorldSong Missions Center in Cook Springs, Alabama for summer camp. It's a week filled with worship, Bible study, recreation, and the kind of late-night conversations that only seem to happen at camp. Getting away from normal routines gives students space to hear from God in a fresh way, and every year we see meaningful decisions come out of this trip. Your student will not want to miss Fuge camp. Space is limited so sign up soon!

### **Why These Events Matter**

Each of these gatherings, whether it's a Nerf war or a week at camp, helps build community and gives students a place to grow. They create shared experiences, deepen friendships, and give our leaders more chances to walk alongside students in their faith. Thank you for trusting us with your teenagers and for making space in your family's calendar for these moments. Parents, we are cheering for you and here to partner with your family to make disciples of Jesus Christ!



# Travis & Emily Hurd

## CHILDREN'S & PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Parents,

Believe it or not, it is time to register for Camp Fort Bluff. If you have a child that is in 3rd through 5th grade, they are eligible to register. Please be on the lookout for the registration form that will be sent out this week through our GroupMe app. If you are not on our GroupMe contact list, please feel free to contact me so we can add you to our list.

We are very excited about what God is going to do in the lives of our kids this year.

May God Bless,  
Travis

Hello, parents!

We made it through January, which seems like the longest month of the year! I have a challenge for you this month. Sometimes we're in a position where we want to be doing more and we're just not sure how to jump in and do it. Sometimes God starts working on our hearts to change some things up. This month I challenge you in your prayer time to ask God how you can do more. Is it a service position in the church? Are you ready to teach the next generation of believers? Is it time to commit to a regular tithe to the church? Where in your life is God calling you to do more?

As we begin the work toward a new building project, it is a great time to strengthen your prayer life. Pray for our leaders, our church, pray for how you can commit to help with this building project, and pray for how you can help us through this transition period. God is always there to listen! Are you there listening to Him? I pray for you and your families. I am always here if there's anything I can do for you.

God bless,  
Emily

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **Children's Choirs**

Wednesday Rehearsal  
6:00 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### **Teamkids**

Wednesdays  
6:45 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### **Preschool Choirs**

Wednesday Rehearsal  
6:00 PM in the CLC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

#### **Mission Friends**

Wednesdays  
6:45 PM in the Preschool

#### **Children's Sunday School**

9:45 AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### **Children's Camp**

June 8-12

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# 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

|      |    |               |
|------|----|---------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Larry Vickery |
|      | 8  | Wes Alexander |
|      | 15 | Bill Dillard  |
|      | 22 | Chad Crawford |

## Usher Group of the Day

|      |    |                          |
|------|----|--------------------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Group III: Wes Alexander |
|      | 8  | Group IV: Brad Brown     |
|      | 15 | Group V: David Repp      |
|      | 22 | Group VI: Jason Hawkins  |

## Building 'B' Greeters

|      |    |                      |
|------|----|----------------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Bill & Teresa Bishop |
|      | 8  | Mary Sterling        |
|      | 15 | Tom & Carol Shanahan |
|      | 22 | Harry & Jean Russell |

## CLC Greeters

|      |    |                           |
|------|----|---------------------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Sharon & Dennis Alexander |
|      | 8  | Camille & Mike Hall       |
|      | 15 | Dena Wright               |
|      | 22 | Kim Hall                  |

## Children's Ministry Hall Greeters

|      |    |                         |
|------|----|-------------------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Kim Hall                |
|      | 8  | Laura & Stephen Ralston |
|      | 15 | Gina & Robbie McCorkle  |
|      | 22 | Logan & Wes Alexander   |

## Golf Cart Drivers

|      |    |                                 |
|------|----|---------------------------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Ron Lee / Ken Hollaran          |
|      | 8  | Stephen Ralston / Ricky Boswell |
|      | 15 | Billy Brindle / Greg Green      |
|      | 22 | Russ Edwards / Ritchie Harris   |

## Shuttle Bus Drivers

|      |    |                 |
|------|----|-----------------|
| Feb. | 1  | Jonathan Wallin |
|      | 8  | Will Harper     |
|      | 15 | Tommy Holden    |
|      | 22 | Robbie McCorkle |

## OFFERING UPDATES

### Offerings for January 2026

|                                  |    |            |
|----------------------------------|----|------------|
| Budget Requirement Monthly ..... | \$ | 109,163.00 |
| Budget Offering .....            | \$ | 101,428.50 |
| Faith Forward Giving .....       | \$ | 6,867.00   |
| Other Designated .....           | \$ | 11,509.20  |
| Total .....                      | \$ | 119,804.70 |

### Year-To-Date

|                                               |    |            |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|------------|
| Budget Requirement thru 1/31/26.....          | \$ | 109,163.00 |
| Budget Offering Given as of 1/31/26.....      | \$ | 101,428.50 |
| Faith Forward Fund Balance as of 1/31/26..... | \$ | 73,395.87  |

## SAVE THE DATE

# CHURCH-WIDE Fellowship Banquet

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

**JANUARY WORSHIP AVERAGE: 381**

**JANUARY SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE: 308**

## FIND US ONLINE



[www.calhounfbc.org](http://www.calhounfbc.org)



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# Prayer List

## FOR CHURCH FAMILY

Laura Payne, Russell Cochran, Twila Blankenship, Martha Worley, Emery Harwell, Hazel Moss, Sharon Black, Tanya Johnson, Jean Warren, Nicki Faulkner, Gary Reese, 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, Randy Mcentyre, Charlie Reeves, Jane Silvers, Harriett Koen, Dan & Pat Autry, Steve Warren, Carolyn Holbert, Norma Highfield, Madeline Erwin, Ron Hayes, Mike Miller, Grant Glaze, Ginger Worde, Milton Kean, Kayanne Walraven, Jim Lay, Ramona Reese, Wesley Daniel, Kyle Holbert Brown, Truett and Peggy Grogan

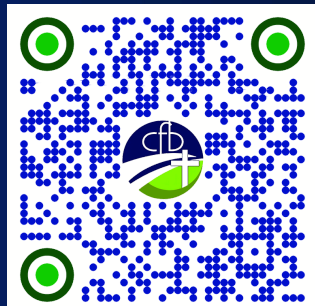
## FROM CHURCH FAMILY

David Smith, Randall Townsend, Amy & Angelia, Aaron Paradis, 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, Juanita Smith, Tim Smith, Cody Henderson, Marie Jarrett, Daryl Goble, Charles Avery, Monica Perkins, Bill Bryson, Julia Stansell, Drew Walraven, Herman Westbrook, Lisa McDonald Braden, Lou Helen Warren, Miller Creel, Darrell Goble, Penny Baker, Mike Earnest, Randy McCorkle, Lisa Holden, Tom Ramsey, Wesley Burgess, Robert McConnell, Lloyd Pack, Larry Garner, Kurt Cowell, Mark Waters, Zoey Adolphi, Carol Cross, Jane Bennett, Alice Ann Mullins, Shirley Willis, Ava Price, Aaron Jones, Margie Moss, Tricia Crump, Danny Elrod, Charlie Williams, Kaisley Miller, Elaine Powell, Evan Koen, Turner Rogers

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

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





# Events & Updates

Night to

# Shine™

TIM TEBOW FOUNDATION

*Night to Shine is an unforgettable worldwide celebration event, centered on God's love, honoring and valuing people with special needs.*

This fun-filled night is February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 9 PM, and we need your help to make this special evening a success!

**Volunteer by scanning the code above or by going to our website to sign up!**



**Volunteer to be a Buddy today!**

SHINING A LIGHT ON  
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

# ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

## VBS: June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>

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

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



# 2026 FACILITIES Faith Forward PRESENTATION

*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]***

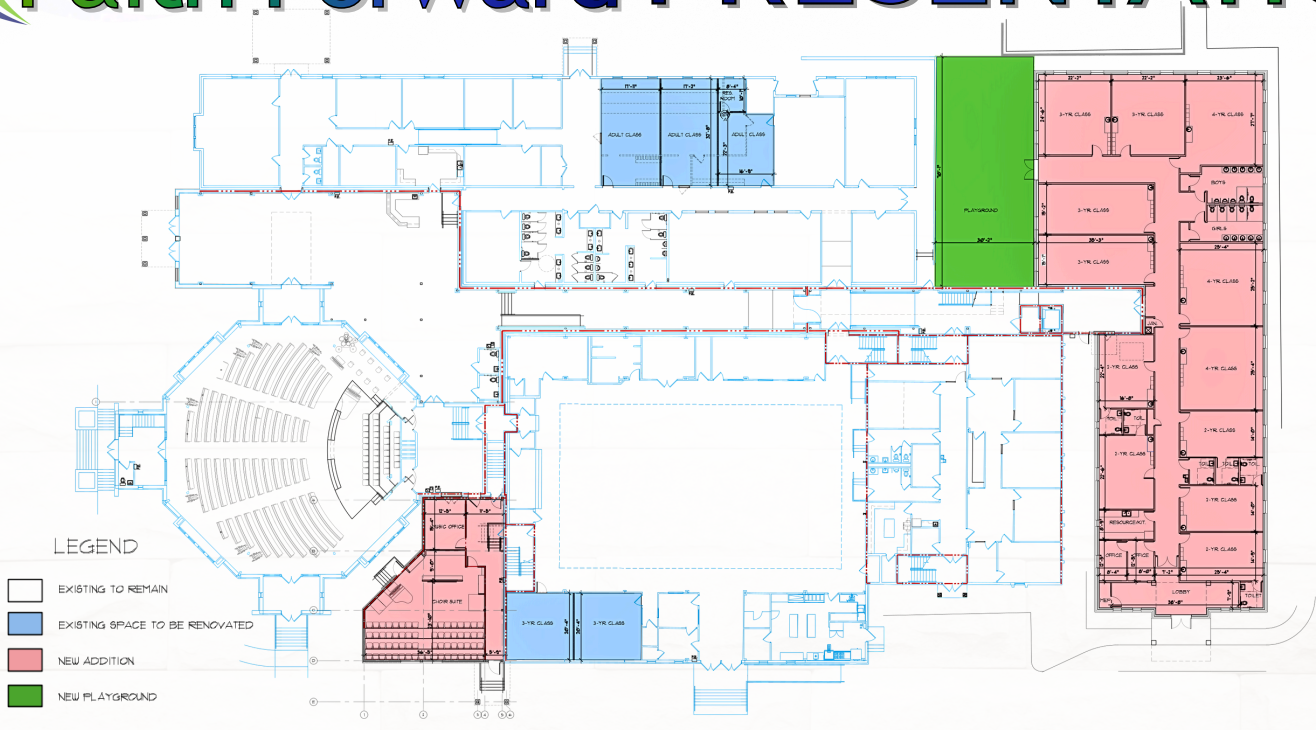
***[Lower left: preschool playground rendering]***





# 2026 FACILITIES

## Faith Forward PRESENTATION





# 2026 FACILITIES Faith Forward PRESENTATION

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

**Facilities team** to pursue next steps  
with architect and civil engineer.

**Church to engage** with Rethink  
Ministries to undergo Faith Forward  
Stewardship Campaign.

**Facilities team** to report back to church  
with final recommendations late  
May / early June.

**These steps were approved  
by church vote on  
January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**