CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST

news & views | November 2026 | 411 College Street | 706-629-7714 | calhounfbc.org

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	4
Discipleship & Administration Article	5
Youth Ministry Article	6
Children's & Preschool Ministry Article	7
Sunday School Information	8
Monthly Church Information	9
Prayer List & Updates	10
Wednesday Activities	11
Upcoming Events	12
Shoebox Information	13
Faith Forward Information	14



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SENIOR PASTOR



Sunday was a special day for our First Family as we “broke ground” on our Faith Forward Facilities project. We have finished the “demolition” stage of the project, and the next phase of the project will involve setting the foundations for the new Preschool Building and the new Choir Suite. Thank you, First Family, for your strong support of this project. While buildings are not the church, they are important ministry tools and meeting places for our church.

Our next big event for families is our Operation Christmas Child Packing Party on Sunday, November 15th. The event will take place in our CLC, starting at 6 PM. Our plan is to pack at least a 1000 boxes, so we will need a lot of hands to help make this happen. If you have taken a box to fill yourself, please return it to the church no later than November 15th and be sure to include your $10 for shipping. And if you or your Sunday school class would like to make a donation to help with the shipping costs (at $10 per box we will need over $10,000 in funds to cover shipping costs), you are welcome to do so. Just make sure your check or envelope is clearly marked “Operation Christmas Child.”

The Annual Meeting of our Georgia Baptist Mission Board will be taking place next week, November 8 - 10th, at Second Baptist Warner Robins. We will have a brief Called Conference on Sunday, November 8th, to elect messengers, as I plan to attend as a voting messenger from our church. Our partnership with some 3,300 other Georgia Baptist churches is a very important part of our Great Commission work in our state and around the world.

As the holiday season is just a few weeks away, let me highlight some important upcoming events in the life of our church:

- Week of Prayer for International Missions, November 29th through December 6th
- Children’s Walk through Bethlehem/Live Nativity, December 6th, 6 PM
- Christmas Musical and Church Wide Christmas Party, December 13th, 6 PM
- Senior Adult Christmas Party, December 17th, 6 PM
- College Student Christmas Breakfast, December 20th, 9:45 AM
- Christmas Even Candlelight Communion Service, December 24th, 5 PM

I look forward to sharing a message this Sunday morning entitled, “Family Ties,” that highlights one of our most important ministry relationships: our partnership with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board. I hope you will be present with your First Family as we give thanks to our Heavenly Father!

Blessings!

Pastor John

Dr. Lance Cole

MUSIC MINISTRY



A Note From Lance...

As we approach the Christmas season, please mark your calendar for the evening of December 13th at 6 PM. Our Worship Choir, Instrumentalists, and Children's Choir will be presenting "A Joyful Christmas." This will be followed by our annual church-wide fellowship in the CLC. This should be a great evening celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ through music with your family and friends.

One of the many things I love about our church is the way that our congregation sings. Our choir and instrumentalists work diligently each week to prepare to lead out in worship, but these groups do not exist to perform while the congregation observes. Our church body is faithful to sing out each Sunday morning, even when it is a newer song that we are learning together. Well done, Church!

Perhaps my favorite holiday of the year is Thanksgiving. It's not been over-commercialized as other holidays have, and I enjoy the relaxed day with my family and enjoying a great meal (I am fully aware that the relaxed day does not extend to those preparing that meal!). I like having a day that encourages gratefulness to God for his incredible blessings.

Pastor John told us in staff meeting last week that he is preparing three sermons for Thanksgiving this year, and I was happy to find a great Thanksgiving song that we could learn and sing together for those Sundays. Do you know how few Thanksgiving songs exist? By the end of November, Christmas songs have taken over the airways. One Christian artist even recorded a comical song based on the fact that there are no Thanksgiving songs.

With that in mind, we will be stepping back to the early 2000s and learning a song written by Don Moen and Paul Baloche simply entitled, "Thank You, Lord." Moen writes that he asked God for "a simple song of thanks," and that is what this song is. I pray that it will encourage each of us to not only be grateful, but to focus that gratefulness towards the one who gives us those gifts.

Again, mark your calendars for December 13th as we celebrate "A Joyful Christmas."

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

IMPORTANT DATES

"A Joyful Christmas" Musical
December 13

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Dr. Steven Waters

DISCIPLESHIP & ADMINISTRATION



Faith Forward Building Update

Exciting progress continues on our Faith Forward building project! Demolition of the old preschool building is now complete, and work has begun on the demolition of the racquetball room. The next phase will involve grading and site preparation, including bringing in approximately 1,000 cubic yards of dirt to prepare the site for construction. At the same time, the city's stormwater improvement project continues to move forward. We are pleased to share that the parking areas surrounding the stormwater work remain available for use.

As construction activity increases, we ask that those who are able continue to take advantage of our shuttle parking at the Government Plaza building. This helps us preserve convenient parking spaces for our senior adults, families with young children, and those with mobility challenges.

Thank you for your continued patience, flexibility, prayers, and support as we move forward together. It is exciting to see the progress taking place, and we look forward to all that God has in store for First Baptist Calhoun through this project!

First Steps Class Begins This Sunday!

Our next First Steps class for new members begins this Sunday and will continue for four weeks. This class is a wonderful opportunity for our newest church family members to learn more about First Baptist Calhoun, what we believe, and the many opportunities available to grow in their faith and become involved in the life and ministry of our church.

I have reached out to all of our new members with information about the class. However, if for some reason I missed you, please contact the church office so we can make sure you are included.

We will meet in the **conference room in the main office building during the Sunday School hour** each of the four weeks.

We are excited to welcome our new members and help them take their next steps in becoming connected, growing, and serving as part of our church family!

Blessings,
Steven

IMPORTANT DATES

Senior Adult Game Night
November 5

OCC Shoebox Packing Party
November 15

Deacons & Finance Meeting
November 16

C.R.O.S.S. Team Meeting
November 17

Senior Adult Birthday Night
November 19

Senior Adult Breakfast
November 30

OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Office Closes @ Noon
November 25

Office Closed
November 26-27

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Rev. Andrew Crawford

YOUTH MINISTRY



Student Ministry Update

There is much to look forward to in our student ministry! From time together around the bonfire to preparing for our Vancouver mission trip, we are grateful for opportunities to build friendships, grow in faith, and serve.

COMING UP

Annual Bonfire Night, November 11

Our annual Bonfire Night is next Wednesday, November 11th! We will leave the church at 5:45 p.m. and expect to return around 8:30 PM. Join us for food, capture the flag, a devotion, and a great evening with friends. We are looking forward to simply enjoying time together!

Students, invite your friends to come along. This is a great opportunity to welcome someone new and share a fun evening with our student ministry.

ON MISSION

Vancouver Mission Team Selected

Our team for the Vancouver mission trip has been selected! The trip will take place May 31st – June 7th. As we begin preparations, please pray for the team, for unity, hearts ready to serve, and opportunities to share the love of Christ. We are thankful for our church family's prayerful support as we prepare for this opportunity.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Thank You, Walker Hurd

We are grateful for Walker Hurd, who has served as our student ministry intern this semester. His time with our ministry has included connecting with students, mentoring them, and preaching a couple of times on Wednesday nights. He also had the opportunity to preach at Dalton State's Baptist Collegiate Ministries worship night!

Thank you, Walker, for investing in our students and sharing in the life of our ministry. Church family, thank you for continuing to encourage and pray for our students and those serving alongside them!

God bless,
Andrew

GENERAL INFORMATION

Youth Activities
Wednesdays
6:15 - 8:00 PM

Sunday School
9:45 AM on the
3rd Floor

IMPORTANT DATES

Bonfire Night
November 11

OCC Shoebox Packing Party
November 15

Vancouver Mission Trip
May 31 - June 7

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Travis & Emily Hurd



CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Children's Activities + Teamkids
Wednesdays / 2nd Floor
6:00 - 7:30 PM

Preschool Activities + Mission Friends
Wednesdays / CLC
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

OCC Shoebox Packing Party
November 15

Walk Through Bethlehem
December 6

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Parents,

First of all I want to say "thank you" to all of those that participated in our Trunk or Treat. We felt like it was a huge success and we literally could not have done it without you. We also appreciate all of those that provided the candy. It is always a blessing to know that our church is so supportive of our children's ministry.

Our next exciting event is our annual Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party. This will be on November 15th at 6pm. If you have never been to one of these events, I strongly encourage you to participate this year. It is always fun and amazing to see every generation in our church come together and do ministry.

May God bless,
Travis

Parents,

We have so many exciting things going on in our church right now. Don't forget our shoebox packing party coming up on Sunday, November 15th, and our Walk Through Bethlehem event on Sunday, December 6th. These will be fun nights of fellowship for the entire family!

The past several weeks I have begun a special prayer emphasis with our older preschoolers. We talk about how to pray, all the different things you can pray about, and the importance of having some quiet time where God may speak to them! This has been a blessing to watch these young children learn how to take this seriously and make this a special time. I would encourage you to continue this teaching at home! Show your children how to pray. Let them pray together with you. Show them that praying isn't just "God is great, God is good" before a meal. Let's take the month of November and make it a month of Thanksgiving. Show your children how to give thanks to God for all He has done.

I hope you have a great week!

God bless,
Emily



Sunday School Information

GROW WITH US

We 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		
Nov.	8	Brice Baker
	15	Mike Hall
	22	Ron Hammontree
	29	Will Engel

Usher Group of the Day		
Nov.	8	Group I: Craig Mashburn
	15	Group II: Harry Harwell
	22	Group III: Wesley Alexander
	29	Group IV: Brad Brown

Building 'B' Greeters		
Nov.	8	Laura & Stephen Ralston
	15	Bill & Teresa Bishop
	22	Mary Sterling
	29	Tom & Carol Shanahan

CLC Greeters		
Nov.	8	Sharon & Dennis Alexander
	15	Camille & Mike Hall
	22	Dena Wright
	29	Clint & Jenny Hayes

Children's Ministry Hall Greeters		
Nov.	8	Logan & Wes Alexander
	15	Sharon & Dennis Alexander
	22	Laura & Stephen Ralston
	29	Gina & Robbie McCorkle

Golf Cart Drivers		
Nov.	8	Tyron Johnson / Brandon Dillard
	15	Alan Krudzlo / Mike Hall
	22	Joe Jones / Greg Green
	29	Russ Edwards / Chad Crawford

Shuttle Bus Drivers		
Nov.	8	Stephanie Brown
	15	Tommy Holden
	22	Michael Schutz
	29	Brian Nation

OFFERING UPDATES

Offerings for October 2026		
Budget Requirement Monthly	$	109,163.00
Budget Offering	$	111,293.00
Faith Forward Giving	$	37,390.00
Other Designated	$	12,738.00
Total	$	161,421.00

Year-To-Date		
Budget Requirement thru 10/31/26	$	1,091,630.00
Budget Offering Given as of 10/31/26	$	1,361,922.00
Faith Forward giving since 5/17/26	$	673,458.00

OCTOBER WORSHIP AVERAGE: 392
OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE: 278

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Prayer List & Updates

FOR CHURCH FAMILY

Selena Wilson, Chris Smallwood, Chuck Faulkner, Tony Chester, Ford Alexander, Tammy Cowart, Dana McBurnett, Brenda Hughes, Hazel Moss, Russell Cochran, Martha Worley, Jean Warren, Sylvia Brumbelow, Harry Russell, Charlotte Beard, Yvonne Elrod, Max Mashburn, Donald Gallman, 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, Truett & Peggy Grogan

FROM CHURCH FAMILY

Charlene Henderson, Lydia Coker, Finley Wright, Tim Tidwell, Randall Townsend, Amy & Angelia, Adam, Elizabeth, & Daisy Offutt, Thomas & Jennifer Pass, Regina Kinnie, 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, Evan Koen, Turner Rogers

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 God's Word!
All are welcome to attend.

[***More information about Wednesday activities on PAGE 11***]

Current Wednesday Bible Study: Ecclesiastes





Wednesday Activities

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

Youth Hangout
6:15 PM / 3rd Floor

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

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

Worship Choir Rehearsal
6:45 PM / Choir Room

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
6:45 PM / Sanctuary



Upcoming Events & Meetings

NOVEMBER

Senior Adult Game Night

November 5th, 4:00 PM

Senior Adult Game Night will be Thursday, November 5th at 4:00 PM.

Deacons & Finance

November 16th

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

C.R.O.S.S. Team

November 17th, 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

Senior Adult

November 19th, 5:30 PM

Senior Adult Birthday Night is Thursday, November 19th at 5:30 PM in the back room of Big John's Treat Shoppe.

Wednesday Fellowship Meals

Next supper date:

Wednesday, November 18th

Sign-up closes at NOON on the Tuesday before the corresponding meal

Senior Adult Breakfast

November 30th , 9:00 AM

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

SHOEBOX packing party

Sunday, November 15th

Samaritan's Purse OPERATION Christmas Child

[Shoebox event info on PAGE 13]

HOLIDAY HOURS

The church office will have the following holiday hours this month for Thanksgiving:

November 25th - office closes @ noon
(no Wednesday night activities this week)
November 26th - 27th - office closed

LOOKING AHEAD

A Joyful Christmas

Our annual church Christmas musical will be **December 13th** at **6:00 PM**, followed immediately by our Christmas Party in the CLC! Mark your calendars!

Walk Through Bethlehem

December 6th, 6 - 7 PM

Walk Through Bethlehem will be a re-enactment of a Biblical-times Bethlehem market culminating with a live nativity. **Visitors will enter on the people street covered entry and exit into the CLC parking lot.**

SHOEBOX
packing party
Sunday, November 15th

Samaritan's Purse
OPERATION Christmas Child



It's Shoebox Season!

Share the joy of Jesus with children around the world! Here's how you can help:

- **PACK** – Fill a shoebox (or two!) and return it by **Nov. 15**. Boxes and labels are available in the CLC and at the Sanctuary entrances. Don't forget to include $10 per box to cover shipping.
- **JOIN** – Our Packing Party on Sunday, **Nov. 15th, at 6 PM**. Enjoy food, fellowship, and fun for all ages. Packing supplies will be provided.
- **GIVE** – Monetary donations for shipping costs and box fillers for our Packing Party are greatly appreciated. Items such as school supplies, small toys, and toiletries are also welcome. Please drop off all donations at the Church Office.
- **PRAY** – Lift up the children who will receive your gifts.



For more information, contact **Jill Repp** at 770-548-2926 or repp.jill@gmail.com.

Thank you for being part of this mission and making a difference in a child's life!

CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST

FAITH FORWARD

LIVING IN PURSUIT

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]

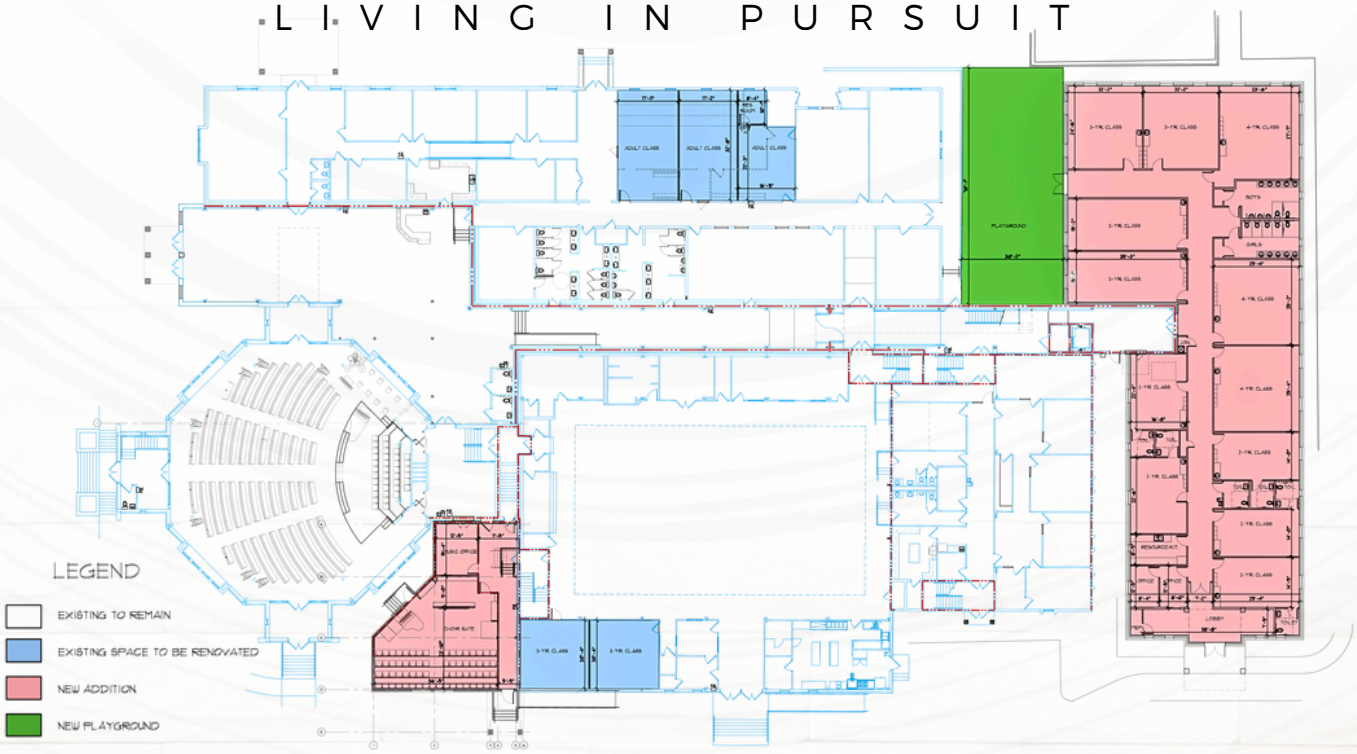
[Middle right: choir suite rendering]

[Lower left: preschool playground rendering]

CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST

FAITH FORWARD

LIVING IN PURSUIT





CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST

FAITH FORWARD

LIVING IN PURSUIT

GROUNDBREAKING

Sunday, November 1st











