



CALHOUN FIRST BAPTIST

news & views



October 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 **FAITH**
FIRST BAPTIST
FORWARD

LIVING IN PURSUIT

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Dr. John Barber

SENIOR PASTOR



Last Wednesday evening, the church unanimously approved the Nominating Committee's report. Many thanks to this committee (Laura French, Eric Jackson, Terri Robbins, Anita Russell, Larry Vickery, and Jonathan Wallin) for enlisting and aligning our leadership structure for the upcoming church year. Their report included all church officers, Sunday school faculty, and standing committees. Thanks to everyone who actively serves the Lord and our First Family in so many different ways.

I want to say a special word of thanks to Lisa Edwards, who concludes her service as Vice Treasurer after 12 years of serving in this role. In this same time, we have had four different Treasurers, but only one Vice Treasurer. Lisa, thank you for giving your time and expertise to help our First Family steward our resources and advance our Kingdom work. Thanks to Tricia Waters, who will be stepping into this role for the new church year.

I hope you have noticed the demolition work taking place at the church. Demolition of our old preschool building should be completed by the end of this week. Ecclesiastes 3:3 says there is "a time to break down and a time to build up." In about 12 months, we will have a new preschool building to house all of our "little ones." Doxology.

We have scheduled a "Groundbreaking" service to celebrate the beginning of the actual construction phase of our project for Sunday, October 18th. I hope you will prioritize this day as we celebrate the opportunity we have to move forward in faith toward greater Kingdom work.

First Family, we are off to a strong start with our Faith Forward giving that will underwrite our facilities project. Thus far in 2026, we have received more than \$696,000 in Faith Forward gifts. Remember, these are gifts that are over and above our regular tithes. Doxology!

I am teaching a verse-by-verse Bible Study of Ecclesiastes on Wednesday nights (6:45 PM in the Worship Center). This has been a rewarding study thus far. I would encourage you to consider being present if you do not already have another place of involvement on Wednesday nights.

I look forward to sharing a message from Luke 15 entitled, "How Should We Relate to the Lost?" this Sunday. I hope you will be present with your First Family as we, together, "live in pursuit of the Great Commandment and the Great Commission."

Blessings!
Pastor John

Dr. Lance Cole

MUSIC MINISTRY

Summer Fun & Jittery Jams

Our Worship Choir recently wrapped up a wonderful summer schedule and is now diving headfirst into Christmas preparations! Inspired by the success of our student and children's Squad Wars, the Worship Choir launched its own summer competition called Jittery Jams. Throughout the summer, we enjoyed trivia night, a rehearsal that ended at Dairy Queen, an ongoing attendance competition, and a mission project that collected over 800 pounds of food for the Blewer Food Bank. Congratulations to theAmericano team, led by Will Engel, for winning the overall competition—and for having the joy of putting pies in my face! Thank you to everyone who competed hard, and special thanks to Liz Brown for keeping score and promoting all things Jittery Jams!

Upcoming Christmas Musical: A Joyful Christmas

Mark your calendars! Our Christmas musical, A Joyful Christmas, will be presented on Sunday, December 13th at 6:00 PM. The performance will feature our Worship Choir, Instrumentalists, and Children's Choir.

We have just begun rehearsing in earnest, and new members are always welcome! There is also plenty of time for your children or grandchildren to join the Children's Choir for the musical. Children rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM in the kids' area.

Looking Ahead: Building for the Future

As I look out my office window today, I can see exciting progress being made on our new preschool facility. How blessed we are to belong to a church that looks to both the Lord and the future as we expand our facilities. One of the new spaces being constructed is a choir suite that connects directly to our current sanctuary.

I am so grateful that CFBC values music ministry and recognizes the vital role of the choir in leading worship—a principle supported throughout Scripture. As we watch the construction of our choir suite, please join me in praying that God will continue to send singers our way and use our choir to proclaim His praises as we worship together.

*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

First Family of Faith,

Over the last couple of weeks, the activity around our church has been exciting! We've had lots of children settling into new spaces for our preschool, improvements being made to the city's stormwater area on the south side of our parking lot, and, of course, the demolition of our old two-story preschool building. There have been lots and lots of happenings—and plenty of noise!

I have to admit, watching an excavator pull down the old preschool building in preparation for the beautiful new building that will soon stand in its place is pretty captivating. It's exciting to see years of planning beginning to take shape right before our eyes. But I'll also admit—it can be a little distracting!

Through all the noise, activity, and excitement, I've found myself thinking about 1 Kings 19. Elijah had experienced some overwhelming circumstances, and in that passage he was reminded that the Lord was not in the powerful wind, the earthquake, or the fire. Instead, Scripture tells us that after all the noise came a gentle whisper—the still, small voice of God.

What a wonderful reminder for us.

There will always be noise around us. There will always be something demanding our attention. Our schedules, responsibilities, worries, plans, phones, jobs, families—and yes, even building projects—can pull us in a thousand different directions.

But above all the noise, our walk with the Lord remains most important.

God continues to speak through His Word. He continues to guide us through His Spirit. He continues to remind us that He will never leave us nor forsake us. Even during our busiest seasons and most challenging moments, He remains faithful.

As we watch walls come down and, before long, new walls begin to rise, I pray we will remember that the most important building taking place at First Baptist is not made of brick, steel, or concrete. It is what God is building in the lives of His people.

So in the midst of all the activity, excitement, construction—and noise—let's make sure we are still listening.

Because God is still speaking.

And sometimes we simply need to quiet the noise long enough to hear His voice.

**Blessings,
Steven**



IMPORTANT DATES

Quilters Giving Back Meeting
October 8

Senior Adult Birthday Night
October 15

Deacons & Finance Meeting
October 19

C.R.O.S.S. Team Meeting
October 20

Trunk-or-Treat
October 31

Senior Adult Game Night
November 5

OCC Shoebox Packing Party
November 15

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Rev. Andrew Crawford

YOUTH MINISTRY

Student Ministry Update

Church family, thank you for praying for Fields of Faith, which will take place this Wednesday, October 7th, at Sonoraville High School. As I write this on Tuesday, the event has not happened yet, but I am fully expectant for God to move as around 700 teenagers from across our county meet, fellowship, and worship Jesus together. What an incredible opportunity for students to see that they are part of something bigger than one school, one team, or one church. Thank you for faithfully praying for every student, leader, speaker, and volunteer involved.

We are also excited to begin preparing for our student ministry mission trip to **Vancouver, Canada, May 31 through June 7**. We held our first trip meeting this past Sunday. The trip is open to students in ninth grade through college who have either attended a previous mission trip or served on our Student Ministry Leaders Team. If you are interested, please contact me for an application. **The deadline for application submissions is October 14th**. Church family, please pray for our students and leaders as we begin preparing to serve, share the gospel, and grow together through this opportunity.

Finally, there will be no Wednesday evening student ministry activities next Wednesday, October 14, because of fall break. We hope families will use the evening to slow down, rest, and enjoy meaningful time together. We look forward to gathering again after the break!

*God bless,
Andrew*



GENERAL INFORMATION

Youth Activities

Wednesdays
6:15 - 8:00 PM

Sunday School

9:45 AM on the
3rd Floor

IMPORTANT DATES

Mission Trip Application Deadline

October 14

Trunk-or-Treat

October 31

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

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multigenerational
family of faith
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Travis & Emily Hurd

CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL MINISTRY



GENERAL INFORMATION

**Children's Activities
+ Teamkids**
Wednesdays
6:00 - 7:30 PM

**Preschool Activities
+ Mission Friends**
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

Trunk-or-Treat
October 31

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: 706-629-7714

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Parents,

Trunk-or-Treat is always a great opportunity for our community to be on our campus. It's a fun time for those that participate as well. If you would like to host a trunk, please reach out to me or Emily. Trunk-or-Treat is scheduled for October 31st at 6:00 PM.

If you do not want to host a trunk, we will always accept candy donations.

*May God bless,
Travis*

Hello Parents,

I want to take a moment to thank all of our parents and volunteers for helping our transition to our temporary home go smoothly. I think things are going well, and the kids are enjoying their new spaces.

Mark your calendars: October 31st will be our Trunk-or-Treat event. Let me know if you are interested in hosting a trunk.

*God bless,
Emily*

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

October 31st, 6:00 PM



Trunk-or-Treat will be held in the Fain Street Parking lots.

We are in need of **hosts** for trunks and bags of **individually wrapped candy!**

If you would like to host a trunk, please contact **Travis or Emily Hurd**. Candy donations may be brought to the church office!

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

Oct.	11	Craig French
	18	Tom Shanahan
	25	Wesley Alexander

Usher Group of the Day

Oct.	11	Group III: Wesley Alexander
	18	Group IV: Brad Brown
	25	Group V: David Repp

Building 'B' Greeters

Oct.	11	Bill & Teresa Bishop
	18	Mary Sterling
	25	Tom & Carol Shanahan

CLC Greeters

Oct.	11	Camille & Mike Hall
	18	Dena Wright
	25	Clint & Jenny Hayes

Children's Ministry Hall Greeters

Oct.	11	Logan & Wes Alexander
	18	Sharon & Dennis Alexander
	25	Laura & Stephen Ralston

Golf Cart Drivers

Oct.	11	Ken Hollaran / Stephen Ralston
	18	Ricky Boswell / Ron Lee
	25	Tyron Johnson / Brandon Dillard

Shuttle Bus Drivers

Oct.	11	Jonathan Wallin
	18	Will Harper
	25	Tommy Holden

OFFERING UPDATES

Offerings for September 2026

Budget Requirement Monthly	\$ 109,163.00
Budget Offering	\$ 96,352.00
Faith Forward Giving	\$ 284,378.00
Other Designated	\$ 182,332.00
Total	\$ 563,062.00

Year-To-Date

Budget Requirement thru 9/30/26	\$ 982,467.00
Budget Offering Given as of 9/30/26	\$ 1,249,730.00
Faith Forward giving since 5/17/26	\$ 636,068.00

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP AVERAGE: 418

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE: 298

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NEWSLETTERS

Prayer List & Updates

FOR CHURCH FAMILY

Chuck Faulkner, Tony Chester, Caitlyn Carpenter, 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, Kyle Holbert Brown, Truett and Peggy Grogan

FROM CHURCH FAMILY

Lydia Coker, Finley Wright, Tim Tidwell, 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, 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

OCTOBER



October 8th, 10 AM - 2 PM

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

Deacons & Finance

October 19th



Finance Committee - 6:45 PM

Deacons Meeting - 7:30 PM

C.R.O.S.S. Team

October 20th, 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!



Senior Trip

October 23rd, leaving @ 10 AM

The Senior Adult ministry is planning an apple trip this month!

Call the church office to sign up!

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

October 31st, 6:00 PM



Trunk-or-Treat will be held in the Fain Street Parking lots.

We are in need of **hosts** for trunks and bags of **individually wrapped candy!**

If you would like to host a trunk, please contact **Travis** or **Emily Hurd**. Candy donations may be brought to the church office!



October 15th, 5:30 PM

Senior Adult Birthday Night is Thursday, October 15th at 5:30 PM in the back room of Big John's Treat Shoppe.

LOOKING AHEAD



November 5th, 4:00 PM

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



SHOEBOX
packing party
Sunday, November 15th



Our annual church Christmas musical will be **December 13th** at **6:00 PM**. Mark your calendars and plan to invite your friends!

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

cfb CALHOUN **FAITH**
FIRST BAPTIST
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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]

CALHOUN **FAITH** FIRST BAPTIST **FORWARD**

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

