

Hightower Baptist Association Newsletter

Volume 13: October-November 2025

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Please check the Hightower Baptist Association Website Calendar for upcoming events in our Association at [Calendar – Hightower Baptist Association](#). Reporters, please keep telling others about this newsletter. We want to glorify our Father with you for the many things He is doing through your churches. Let's make the next deadline for sending in the news to [November 28, 2025](#), for the December-January issue. Send your good news and announcements to Janice Tallant, janicetallant@yahoo.com PLEASE keep spreading the word about these newsletters!

190th Hightower Baptist Association Meeting at Hopewell Baptist Church, October 1, 2025



On a beautiful fall day, delegates, ministers, officers, and visitors gathered in a packed Hopewell Baptist Church on October 1, 2025, to conduct the 190th Session of the Hightower Baptist Association. Gary Hickman, Joey Wallace, Matthew Walker, and Scott Sorrells were busy all day. (Pictures above are delegates and Greg Moore giving the Youth Committee report and officers.) PLEASE watch the video of the meeting on Facebook. You will be blessed, challenged, and encouraged to serve. We thank Bro. Sid Bramblett for recording the event: [\(20+\) Facebook](#)

Rev. Matthew Walker brought meeting to order. **Rev. Dennis Bottoms** led the opening prayer. **Bro. Loren Sutton** led the congregational singing today and **Sis. Carolyn Avery** played the piano. There was beautiful singing throughout the meeting.

Rev. Lee Gaddis, Pastor of Hopewell, welcomed all and gave a devotion from 1 Peter 5:8, 2 Chronicles 7:14, and Titus 1:2. **Rev. Greg Hamilton** led prayer. The roll call of ordained ministers was called. Delegates were seated. Attendance was given: 173 messengers, 38 pastors/ordained ministers, 7 visitors for total of 218.

Officers were elected for the meeting: **Moderator: Rev. Matthew Walker; Vice Moderator: Rev. Scott Sorrells; Clerk: Rev. Joey Wallace; Assistant Clerk: Bro. Gary Hickmon; Treasurer: Sis. April Pruitt**. No queries to report. Roll call was made for Committee Chairmen. **Rev. Tyler Goode**, of Nominations Committee then reported all the officers, associational sermon leaders, chairman of all the committees and the location for the upcoming year 2025-26.

Rev. Jonathan Kirby announced the Special Adoption Committee Report. There is a First Time Adoptive Families Scholarship of \$4500 to all families who hold membership in our Hightower Association churches. He gave details about the scholarship. Rev. Joey Wallace will send out the full details and the application for this scholarship. This is to encourage Christian families to adopt a child who does not have a family. The committee will answer any questions that you have about this scholarship.

Rev. Ricky Byrd, Hightower Baptist Association representative on the Georgia Baptist Mission Board Executive Committee, reported. His full report follows these highlights of the Association meeting.

Rev. Andy Wallace gave the Introductory Sermon. Wow! What a convicting sermon to Hightower Association church members. “Love thy neighbor” Matthew 22:39 is a major focus of the sermon. Please watch this sermon on Facebook link given earlier. He begged us to love our neighbors and tell them about Jesus.

Rev. Tommy Weldy gave the Executive Committee Report. An 8X14 foot food trailer full kitchen has been purchased by the Association that can be moved around and supply hot meals to communities in disaster areas. You can see the trailer at the Food/Clothing distribution day, October 11. The HBA Food/Clothing Bank Children’s Christmas Fund account has a name change to Children’s Fund so money can be used for children other than at Christmas. The Web server has been updated. The DOT and county are widening Post Road at the New Light Property so funds will be coming into the Association from that.

Rev. Sam Castleberry gave the Evangelism and Church Growth Committee Report. The committee has made some templates available to all our churches to use as tracts or invitations to hand out to people inviting them to our churches. These will be available soon on the Hightower Association website.

Rev. Cody Thomas gave the Moral Issues Committee Report. No moral issues had been submitted to the committee. He spoke of reconciliation steps in Matthew 18:15-17. To love our neighbor, we have to forgive people who offend us. He ended with 2 Chronicles 7:14.

After a short break and a song, **Rev. Jamie Sanford gave the Doctrinal Sermon.** **Rev. Pete Martin** led a prayer. He spoke of Acts 5:20-32 and John 14:6. Jesus is the Only Way and Sure Way to the kingdom of God. He preached Jesus!!

Bro. Phil Cochran gave the Sunday School Committee Report. The Committee held a meeting and Sunday School Prayer Service at Hightower Baptist Church on August 20, 2025, for pastors, Sunday School directors and teachers. Representatives from 8 churches were in attendance.

Bro. Jared Parker gave the Vacation Bible School Committee Report. He thanked Longstreet Baptist Church for hosting the VBS clinics. The theme was “Rocket Racers on Track with our Powerful God”. He thanked all the workers on the committee and team. Souls were saved at VBS this summer.

Sister Peggy Pruitt gave the WMU Committee Report. Highlights of this report will be with the WMU news elsewhere in the newsletter.

Bro. William Walker gave the Discipleship Committee Report. He read Matthew 28:18-20, Deuteronomy 6:6-7, 2 Chronicles 7:14. Discipleship is a lifelong journey of transformation. It is a daily walk with Jesus and a call to invite others to walk with us.

Prayer was led by Rev. Greg Moore. The meeting adjourned for lunch. An offering was taken at the door as all went to lunch. Handshakes were given to Rev. Andy Wallace and Rev. Jamie Sanford at this time also. A delicious lunch was served of BBQ, green beans, slaw, baked beans, and a variety of desserts were served while great fellowship was held at the table during the meal.

After lunch, it was reported that the **door offering was \$7,847** which will be divided between the Georgia Baptist Children’s Home and the Georgia Retirement Home. The offering brought this morning from Hightower Association Churches for the **Georgia Baptist Children’s Home totaled \$27,610**.

Rev. J T Simonds brought the Missionary Sermon. He read John 12:32 and 2 Corinthians 4:1-7, “If our gospel be hid, it is hid to those who are lost.” Let our light shine for Jesus. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever more. We are a witness of the Light. The world is full of darkness, but the light of Jesus shines in the darkness. The greatest thing we can do is tell others about Jesus. We should be a walking billboard for Jesus Christ and shine our light of Jesus to others.

Rev. Butch Kirk gave the Benevolence Report. He spoke of the Boots on the Ground ministry that has developed over this last year. This group is the hands and feet of Jesus. This ministry has gone 14,000 miles to and from North Carolina helping the Hurricane Helene victims in North Carolina. He spoke of the Hard to Reach Ministry where he has worked. He spoke of his personal life experiences waiting for someone to come and tell him about Jesus Christ.

Bro. Brady Holbrook gave the Brotherhood report. He spoke of Anaias and aiding those in need. He encouraged us to study, work, and pray together.

Sis. Janice Tallant gave the History Committee Report. She gave updates on the Hightower Association Newsletter. She encouraged other churches to donate their church history book to the Hightower Association Library. Encourage the historians in your church to join our committee. She recognized 5 churches who are now 190+ years old: Mt. Tabor (1833), Liberty (1833), Goshen (1834), Beaver Ruin (1835) and Bethel-Forsyth (1836). (Bethel has been corrected from what was stated.)

Bro. Greg Moore gave the Youth Committee Report. They have started having monthly Youth Nights. He encouraged ALL the churches to support these youth gatherings. (Announcement for October Youth Night is elsewhere in paper.)

Bro. Al Day gave the Senior Ministry Committee report. He read 1 Corinthians 13:11. Seniors attend the church services regularly. Seniors are a plus and not a minus for the Lord. We need to take care of our senior adults.

Bro. Colins Wold gave the Music Committee Report. Gospel music and hymns are a big impact on our services. Encourage everyone to sing the praises of our Lord Jesus Christ from our youth through our seniors. Psalm 40:3.

Bro. Gary Hickman gave the Deceased Members report: 179 lay members, 4 ordained ministers, 5 ordained deacons and 1 licensed member for a total of 189 members have passed away from the 48 churches who sent in reports.

Rev. Alan Thompson gave the Financial Committee Report. He said they audit the treasury account regularly and it is accurate and current. He thanked April for the great job she is doing as treasurer.

Sister April Pruitt gave the treasurer report. (I did not get printed copy, but I think these are the figures that April gave out for each account.)

There are 6 accounts. Boots on the Ground is a new account started in February 2025.

The Children and Christmas Account is combined now with a balance of \$67,785.19.

The Disaster and Benevolence Account is extremely active. \$83,499.25 deposits, \$46,200.69 expenses, and ending balance is \$41,993.41.

The Food/Clothing bank is the biggest account. \$112,054.63 deposited, spent \$144,909.96 and balance is \$86,595.52. \$57,612 has been donated for food, \$28,135.74 has been spent for food leaving a balance is \$139,629. You can donate online and you may give to the Adoption Scholarship as well.

Rev. Paul Bagley gave the Food/Clothing Bank report. He began by saying “Thank you” many times to all who volunteer at the food bank. At least 71 people have been saved in the last 9 months. 3,652 families of 16,500+ individuals have been served. There were over 300 backpacks given to children filled with school supplies in July. There were over 1250 Children served with Christmas toys in 2024. Over 80 souls have been saved during the associational year. Around 1500 people come on the second Saturday of each month for help and probably 500 of those have not been saved.

Bro. Joey Wallace made announcements about 2026 places and dates, read the resolution to Hopewell Church, and then read the Minutes and they were approved. General announcements were made. The Meeting closed in prayer led by **Rev. Cody Thomas**.

(Pictures below is another view of the full church of men, few women, and choir loft filled as **Rev. J T Simonds** brings the Missionary Sermon.)



(I, Janice Tallant, would like to thank **Morris Jennings** from Lebanon Baptist Church for donating the **Mt. Tabor History book** compiled by Mitchell and Wanda Collins for the Hightower Association Library located at the Food/Clothing Bank office. This book states that Mt. Tabor was the first church constituted in Forsyth County. It's a very interesting book. We have a new History Committee chairman, **Ben Finley**, whom I look forward to getting to know. Janice Tallant)

More Association Meeting pictures from October 1, 2025 at Hopewell Baptist Church



Rev. Ricky Byrd, Hightower Baptist Association representative for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board Executive Committee Report

(The November 11, 2024, Board Meeting report is in Volume 8 of the Hightower Newsletter. Here are his reports from the Executive Committee meetings on March 11, 2025, at Burnt Hickory Baptist Church, and September 8, 2025 at Ingleside Baptist Church in Macon.)

At the September meeting, Dr. Don Dowless, President of Shorter University, reported that they are “In the business of teaching people about Jesus and giving the very best Christ centered education possible. He spoke of students at Shorter sharing Jesus in every opportunity through the Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM), mission trips, discipleship groups, and Wednesday chapel services. Dr. Dowless says their students are hungry for the Gospel. Five members of the football team have accepted Christ! He said the teachers at Shorter believe what they are teaching. He asked us, “What is a soul worth?” And gave us the answer, “Everything!”

* Baptist Retirement Communities of Georgia (Now called “Ignite Living”) report the following:

- Lots of activities for their residents!
- Great Christ honoring Worship!
- They have been serving for almost 60 years.
- Campuses in Hiawassee and Palmetto, Georgia.

* Penfield Addiction Ministries:

- Average 3 to 5 baptisms per month.
- 26 confessions of faith in Jesus, and many more rededicating their lives to Jesus Christ.
- Residents go from discouragement and brokenness to being able to smile again.

- Many come from situations where they have been scarred for life.

* Georgia Baptist Convention President, Steve Browning reported that this year's annual meeting will be focused on "Every One Every Where!" The meeting will begin on Monday with an Evangelism Conference. Dates: November 9-11, 2025. Location: First Baptist Church, Atlanta. I hope you will make plans to be there.

* Executive Director, Thomas Hammond shared updates regarding the Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) construction projects at Georgia Southern, University of Georgia, and Georgia Tech. They will feature new functional space for BCM as well as student housing in partnership with CCI. Through this partnership with CCI, an approximately \$5.8 million corpus will produce investment income for BCM summer missions scholarships, campus outreach events, and facility needs. Be in prayer for more of these partnerships to help improve the BCM on more campuses. It was reported that UNG and Kennesaw have reached out with interest in one of these partnerships.

* The Sugarloaf property has sold, money is in the bank, and the proceeds will go to help push back the vast lostness in the State of Georgia.

* Beth Ann Williams gave a report for Mission Georgia: (You can see more about Mission Georgia at www.missiongeorgia.org)

- 59,000 children in Georgia experience homelessness.
- She spoke of seven days of prayer for Mission Georgia
- Gifts and the Gospel for first responders program.
- Mobile Health Ministry
- Read Georgia Program
- Addiction Ministry
- A new construction ministry
- Foster Care ministry
- The goal of the September Mission Georgia offering for 2025 is \$1.5 million.

* My term as the Hightower Baptist Association representative on the Georgia Baptist Mission Board Executive Committee will run through the 2026 annual Georgia Baptist Convention meeting. Please be in prayer for someone to step up and be willing to take on this position. The terms are five years. Meetings take place in December, March, September, and at the Annual Georgia Baptist Convention. To be considered a cooperating church in the GBC it only takes a contribution of \$500 dollars to the Cooperative Program. It is my understanding that our HBA representative must be a member or pastor of a cooperating church. You can go to the Georgia Baptist Convention web site (https://gabaptist.org/join/cooperative_program/). You will learn what the program is all about and how the funds are distributed between the GBC and the SBC. We really can accomplish much more together than we can alone!

May God richly bless each and every one of you! And may God continue to bless our Hightower Baptist Association! Ricky H. Byrd, Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church, HBA representative on the GBMB Executive Committee



Identify this Hightower Baptist Associational Church!
Can you identify this church which is in the Hightower Association?
There are a few hints listed from *The Men and Missions of Hightower-Volume 2: Churches*.

- Organized in 1881 and admitted to the Hightower Association in 1881, departed 1887, readmitted in 2000.
- First Pastor: B. B. Sargent
- In 4th District of HBA (Forsyth County)
- This present building was built in 1939 and has added various new parts over the years.

(Goshen Baptist Church was the church shown in the June-July issue.)

Hightower Association Revival on October 5-7, 2025 at Bethany Baptist Church



Hightower Baptist Association Church News and Announcements!!!

Bethel Baptist Church **Live Nativity Program** **December 12th & 13th** **6 pm to 9 pm**



And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. Luke 2:4-5

Dress warmly for the tractor drawn wagon journey which lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Admission is free and everyone is invited to attend.

From downtown Dawsonville, follow Shoal Creek Road to Highway 136. Church is located on the left at 2659 Highway 136 West.

Bethel Baptist Church- Dawson: (2659 Hwy 136 West, Dawsonville)

Bethel enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship and worship at this year's Church Camp, held at Camp Pinnacle on September 5,6, and 7.

Weekly Bible study and choir practice resumed on Wednesday September 10, 2025. Services are held each week at 7pm.

A baptizing for Brother Jacob Parker was held on Sunday September 14, 2025, followed by services on the banks of Howser's Mill.

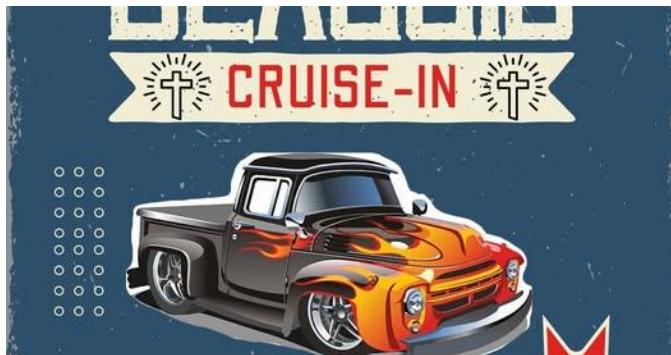
Homecoming was held on Sunday September 21, 2025.

The 4th annual Fall Cruise In will be held on Saturday November 8, 2025 from 10am-2pm

We at Bethel are looking forward to serving at the Food and Clothing Bank in October, November, and December. (Thank you, Lanier Swafford and Nancy Disharoon, for the news,)

Brookwood Baptist Church: (2775 Brookwood Rd., Cumming)

So thankful for God's transforming grace! A **soul was saved** at our annual Oak Tree service in September!



Saturday, October 4 - 10:00 am – 2:00 pm - 3rd Annual Classic Cruise-in Car Show at the church. BBQ Plates for \$12 and other homemade goodies will be available for purchase. (Sorry I did not get this newsletter out in time, but I'm sure they would accept donations.)

Sunday, October 19 – 11:00 - Communion Service

Sunday, October 26 - 5:00 pm - "Chili Cook Off and Trunk or Treat". Bring your favorite chili recipe to share. Trunk or Treat will follow dinner. Vehicles will be decorated. Drop by and enjoy the fall festivities!

Wednesday, November 19 - 6:00 pm - Thanksgiving Dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday, December 1 - 7:00 pm - WMU will host a Ladies Christmas Celebration. All ladies of the church are invited. Bring a friend and finger food to share. Donations for the Georgia Baptist Children's Home will be collected.

(Thank you, Stacey Gonzales, for the information.)

Coal Mountain Baptist Church: (3220 Dahlonega Hwy, Cumming)

Coal Mountain will be hosting **Brunch Buffet on Saturday, November 1, at 11 a.m.** Women you may bring your husbands if you would like. The admission is a Donation and proceeds will go to our **Church Youth and Kweli Moya Girls Mentoring Project in Africa** led by **Steve & Donna Taylor**. **The Oak Grove Boys from Lumpkin County** will be our entertainment. If you have never heard them, you are in for a treat. We expect a fun time. Door prizes are included. Steve & Donna will close the program. Please call Peggy Pruitt at 770-331-1387, Amanda Davis at 404-274-4231, or Patricia Hamby at 770-887-4579 to reserve your seat and to make sure we prepare enough food. Thank you!

Corinth Baptist Church: (1700 Mary Alice Park Road)

Corinth Baptist Church will be hosting a **Singing & Supper on Saturday, November 8th from 5-7pm.** Children are free. The dinner includes pork chops, soup beans, mac and cheese, fried potatoes, cornbread, and more!

(Thank you, Beth Baker, for sending this announcement.

Daves Creek Baptist Church: (1597 Old Atlanta Rd, Cumming)

Daves Creek Baptist Church will be celebrating 100 years on November 2nd. We would like to invite everyone to share this special milestone with us, especially those who have been a part of Daves Creek over the years. Service will be at 11:00 with lunch to follow. We are blessed to celebrate 100 years of Daves Creek Baptist Church and honor those who have gone before us!

Happy Anniversary Daves Creek Baptist Church Members!!!

Friendship Baptist Church: (2250 Friendship Circle, Cumming)

Communion Services, Pastor Appreciation, and a covered dish lunch will be on Sunday, October 12, 2025, at Friendship. Services begin at 11 a.m. and we invite you to Sunday School as well at 9:45 a.m.

Friendship'S NO BOOs, Just Good News About Jesus!

Trunk or Treat

Come out and join us

10-29-2025

Dinner served for FREE at 5:45 PM

Dinner Menu: Hot Dogs, Chips, Soda and a Yummy not mummy surprise!

Trunk or Treating starts at 6:30 PM

Face painting, Best trunk award, Costume Walk, Fun games and fellowship for the whole family!



Goshen Baptist Church: (1540 Goshen Church Road, Dawsonville)

Goshen attended camp at Strong Rock in Cleveland, September 19-21! The weekend was fun! All ages attended, from infants to seniors and there was something for everyone. Friday night was kicked off with a campfire devotional and s'mores. Saturday was packed with church services and activities such as fishing, swimming, zip lining, and "blob" on the water. Camp concluded on Sunday with spirit-filled service. The best thing to come out of the camp was seeds were planted in the young and not so young group of worshippers. **A precious soul was saved at Church** and she was baptized on Sunday, September 28. Praise God!

Christmas is fast approaching, and projects have kicked off for the season. Goshen has a **goal of 40 backpacks to the Association for Christmas**. A Happy Birthday Jesus tree will be put up in the next few weeks. Donations will be made to a local charity. (Thank you, Teresa Singleton, for sharing this news.)

Juno Baptist Church: (1230 Juno Rd. Dawsonville)



Annual Chicken-Q Join us on Saturday, October 11th for our annual Chicken-Q!

Plates will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Price: \$12

Includes: ½ BBQ Chicken, baked beans, apple sauce, roll, and dessert

All proceeds benefit the Church Camp 2026 Fund

For more information, please contact: Emily Turner at emilyturnerga@yahoo.com or Aimee Wilkie at jajwilkie@yahoo.com Come enjoy great food and support a wonderful cause. We look forward to seeing you there! (Thank you, Aimee Wilkie, for sending these announcements to us!)

Harmony Baptist Church: (1575 Harmony Church Rd, Dawsonville)



Don't miss the 11th Annual Car Show, BBQ & Silent Auction at Harmony Baptist Church! 🔥

📅 Saturday, Oct 18 | ⏰ 10 AM–2 PM |📍 1575

Harmony Church Rd, Dawsonville

Bring your classic car, tractor—or just your appetite! 🍔

\$20 entry for Car/Truck/Bike/Tractor

Show 🏆 Trophies in 8 categories (awarded at 2 PM) 🎁

Pre-register for a bonus gift: hcdawson.com/hbc-car-show-bbq 📲

BBQ starts at 11 AM—plates, sandwiches, drinks & desserts available 🍔

Silent Auction + Door Prizes all day!

All proceeds support Harmony Vertical Student Ministry—come enjoy a great day for a great cause!

Hopewell Baptist Church: (15730 Hopewell Rd, Milton)



Thank you, Hopewell Baptist Church, for hosting the Hightower Association Meeting on October 1. Everything was beautiful, all were welcoming, the singing was great, and the meal and desserts were delicious! Thank you all for the hard work!!

The meeting was so inspiring! We look forward to seeing the harvest from the seeds planted this day!

Liberty Baptist Church: (520 Liberty Church Rd, Dawsonville)

We will be hosting the **WMU Fall Missions Meeting on Monday, October 20th at 6:30pm.**

We will be hosting a **Harvest Festival on Saturday, November 8 from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm.** Silent auction, cake walk and bounce house for the kids. Food will be available for purchase. All funds raised go towards the youth group.

(Thank you, Amanda Appling!)

Longstreet Baptist Church: (6868 Campground Rd, Cumming)

Longstreet Baptist Church hosted the **Forsyth County Singing Convention** on Saturday September 20th. Singers from several states and counties in Georgia were present. It was a spirit-filled singing. Next year the singing will be on Saturday September 19th. Location to be determined later.



Job Opening: Preschool Director (See details below)

Longstreet Baptist Church Preschool is seeking a highly qualified and passionate individual to fill the preschool director position. This role is crucial to our mission of providing a nurturing and enriching learning environment for young children. The preschool director will be responsible for:

- Ensuring a safe, healthy, and stimulating environment for all children.
- Developing and implementing educational programs that align with our values and meet the needs of our students.
- Managing and supporting a team of dedicated teachers and staff.
- Maintaining strong relationships with parents and the wider community.

- Continuing to spread the love of Jesus and the gospel into our community through the preschool program.

The ideal candidate should possess:

- A strong background in early childhood education and development.
- Proven leadership and management experience.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills.
- A passion for creating a positive and engaging learning experience for young children.

We are excited about the opportunity to welcome a new director to our team and are committed to finding the best person for this important role. If you are interested in this position, please contact longstreetps@gmail.com for an application. Applications are due by October 31, 2025.

(Thank you, Anita Bagley, for sharing this information with us.)

Macedonia Baptist Church: (11230 East Cherokee Dr., Ball Ground)

Our youth will be having a **trunk or treat event on Wednesday, October 29, at 6:00.**

Our WMU will be hosting the **annual Thanksgiving luncheon for our seniors and shut-ins on Saturday, November 22.**

(Thank you, Marie Warbington, for the information.)

Roanoke Baptist Church: (2621 Roanoke Rd, Cumming)

Roanoke Baptist Church was pleased to welcome our new pastor Daniel Sparks, his wife, Tabitha, and their family in August.

Our Fall Festival is October 24th from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

November 12th is our annual Samaritan's Purse shoebox packing party at 6:30 pm.

Our Christmas program will be Sunday, December 21st at 11a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us!
(Thank you, April and Jason Jackson!)

Shady Grove Baptist Church: (Shady Grove Rd., Cumming)

Shady Grove had a wonderful church camp. **4 beautiful souls saved.** Praise the Lord 

Our upcoming Fall Festival/Barbecue is Saturday, Nov 1, from 4-7pm.

(Thank you, Angie Bagley, for the news.)

Silver City Baptist Church: (6170 Jewell Bennett Rd., Dawsonville)

Trunk or Treat will be on October 26, 2025, beginning at 4:30 including hotdog and chili supper, cake walk, and cake auction.

Spaghetti Supper and Silent Auction fundraiser will be on November 15, 2025, with supper from 5-7 and the auction ending at 7:15.

(Thank you, Brooke Bramblett, for the news.)



Hightower Baptist Association Announcements

You're invited to our upcoming **Hightower Association Youth Night**, presented by the **Youth Ministries Committee**!

Date: Saturday, October 26th

Time: Begins at 4:00 PM

Location: **Home of Dennis and Sandra Bottoms at 5880 John Burruss Rd, Cumming, GA 30040**

Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and encouragement. **Don't forget to bring a chair!** We look forward to seeing you there and spending time together as a community.

(Thank you, Greg Moore, for sending us this information.)



Hightower Food and Clothing Bank

Church Volunteer Schedule 2025

Fourth Quarter (October 11, November 8, December 13): 2nd District Churches: Bethel (Dawsonville), Bethel (Forsyth), Concord, Cross Roads, Dawsonville, Etowah, Goshen, Harmony, Harmony Grove, Juno, Liberty, New Bethel, Ridgeview

ALL CHURCHES are welcome to volunteer anytime.

We meet at 7:30 am for prayer before we open the doors. The doors are open until 12 noon for people to come in.

Facebook: [\(20+\) hightower food and clothing bank - Search Results | Facebook](#)

Web site: www.hbafoodbank.org, **Hightower Association Food Bank** , 8630 Wallace Tatum Rd, Cumming, GA 30028 · (770) 205-2464

Boots on the Ground Update October-November 2025

We continue to strive to serve the Lord by serving our local communities with our "Sharing His Love, Sharing the Gospel, Lending a Hand" events. We held events in both August and September at Dawson County Junior High. Lunch was served, snow cones made, haircuts provided, toiletries and household supplies and clothes handed out to many families.

We continue to be blessed with large crowds and are blessed to share the gospel with them each time. We even had the privilege of having one of the families we have been helping come and help serve with us in September. We continue to develop relationships with these families through love and service. The gospel is being shared with each one of them and some of them have even attended church with us!! We pray with them, cry with them, and love them.

We are always looking for ways to increase our resource list. If you or anyone at your church knows of additional resources for housing, financial assistance, medical assistance, counseling, drug counseling, homeless or rental assistance, financial assistance, family violence assistance, childcare assistance, job outreach assistance, etc., please reach out to a Boots on the Ground member or contact Kim Weldy at weldyk7268@gmail.com so we may add the resource to our list. We are helping in Forsyth, Dawson, Lumpkin and surrounding areas.

We have several upcoming events. **On October 18th**, we are hosting a joint “Sharing His Love” event with **Pine Crest Baptist Church at the church in Cumming**. We are excited about this opportunity to host with Pine Crest and share the gospel and love of Jesus with those in the community.



WHEN:
SATURDAY
OCT. 18th
9 AM TO 1 PM

WHERE:
PINE CREST BAPTIST CHURCH
126 14TH ST
CUMMING, GA 30040

WHAT:
•FREE HAIR CUTS
•LUNCH

**HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES
(WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)**
•TOILETRIES
•PAPER PRODUCTS
•LAUNDRY DETERGENT/SOAP
•SNACKS



We are looking to host a Bible School in November in the Dawson Community. We are still asking for God’s guidance in this endeavor.

We are also going to feed the homeless camp in Gainesville in November with Randy and Michelle Duran.

It has been heavy on our hearts to host a BE BOLD event explaining who Jesus is to those who may be searching about our Lord and Savior after all the attention on the news, social media, etc. after the death of Charlie Kirk. We are working on that now with a representative from Turning Point, so be looking and listening for the information for this upcoming opportunity.

We also have Blessing Bags we have put together and are handing out. We try to keep them in our vehicles or wherever. In these bags, we have toilet paper, hygiene products, and a personal note or testimony for whoever we may give the bag to. When we run into someone that the Lord leads us to share a blessing bag with, we hand those out. We all see homeless people all the time. We hope to share these bags with them and a little piece of our Lord and Savior.

As always, if you would like to donate either financially or with supplies to our group, please go to the Hightower Food and Clothing Bank Website or contact weldyk7268@gmail.com .

If you would like to come be a part of our volunteer opportunities, follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61571693535928> to see when our next opportunity will be occurring or contact weldyk7268@gmail.com . Also, if you know of someone that is need of help, please contact the same email address.



Keep us in your prayers as we ask God to continue to lead us in the direction, he would like for us to go with our group and show us the needs both locally and through disaster relief. We pray that Jesus is so far out in front of us and so big, all people see is Jesus through it all. And we pray that we may be BOLD enough to stand and tell people about our Savior.
God Bless you all, Boots on the Ground

(The pictures were found on the Boots on the Ground Facebook page from the September 6 event at Dawson County Jr. High.)



September 2025

Living Faith Ministries International

Jungle Clinic

We held our first jungle clinic with Dr. Gerry Martinez, his wife, and two highly skilled local volunteers on August 30th in the village of Heroes de Nacozari. With no public transportation and the nearest doctor more than an hour's drive away, the residents rarely get medical attention. The town's industry is charcoal making and workers earn less than \$10 a day. It would cost a week's salary to pay for transportation to the nearest hospital. Excited to get free medical care, over 30 patients showed up. In addition to receiving treatment and medications, every patient was prayed over and told about God's love for them.

Living Faith Ministries is a mission ministry where Alan and Rebecca Morris are serving as missionaries in Mexico. Alan was Hightower Association missionary while we were part of North Central Mission. Alan helped Hightower Association load hundreds of backpacks and get them sent off to their designated place while he was at North Central Mission. Check the following link to get an update on some of the wonderful things that are happening on this mission. [Healing Body and Soul](#)

Hightower Baptist Association WMU News

The Hightower Association Fall Missions Meeting will be at Liberty Baptist on October 20th beginning at 630 p.m. We are so excited to join these “on Mission” ladies for this event! The new Georgia Baptist **WMU President, Pam Murphy** and a special IMB missionary will be speaking to our group. Bring the men if you'd like so they can get fired up and on mission as well! We will make room! And don't forget your pastors also!

Leigh Hawkins sends this about our visiting Missionary:

We are so excited to have **Morgan Wright** who will be stateside with us at our meeting from Nairobi Kenya. A little background about Morgan.

“I am **Morgan Wright, your IMB missionary serving in Nairobi, Kenya.** I’ve been prayerfully reaching out to you since 2022, when I moved to Kenya, with the hopes that I would have the opportunity to connect with you in sharing what the Lord is doing through my team in Nairobi. We desire to see Kenyan churches sending Kenyan missionaries to the ends of the earth - and I would love to see you involved in that work by **praying** for us, **giving** to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which goes to support missionaries like myself on the field, **going** to Kenya to join in on this work for yourselves, and even **sending** out your own missionaries from within your congregation! It is a large task to see the Lord raise up Kenyan missionaries from Nairobi - but the harvest is plentiful, and the laborers are few.”

(Editor’s note: It is almost Lottie Moon Christmas Offering time. Here is a link if you desire to go ahead and donate online direct to IMB: [Give To The International Mission Board - IMB Generosity](#)

Christmas Backpack drop off will be at Friendship Church Gym, 2250 Friendship Circle, Cumming GA on **October 23 from 5-7 p.m. and on October 25 from 9 -11 a.m.** The backpacks will be taken to the Summerhill Association in Albany again this year.

The GA Baptist Convention Annual Meeting is November 9-11 at First Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia (registration is August 1)! If you are interested in attending the Convention, check with your church clerk about being a messenger from your church. Check all the trainings and events going on at this web site: <https://gabaptist.org/events/>