

North Central News

Serving the Churches of the Etowah, Hightower, Lanier and Roswell Baptist Associations

May 2018



Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

June 12 - 13, 2018

Kay Bailey Dallas Convention Center

Dallas, Texas



For additional information or registration, please visit www.sbcannualmeeting.net



2018 Lifeway VBS

North Central Area Missions has Lifeway Game On! Preschool and Kids Starter Kits available in our office for preview for any church that would like to come by and check out the material!



As in the past, North Central Area Missions is available to help you and your church in obtaining Lifeway VBS materials. We will receive your order, forward it to Lifeway and pick it up, then we will deliver it to your church.

Your church pays the same for the literature whether you order thru North Central or directly thru Lifeway. North Central does receive a rebate from Lifeway on all VBS orders purchased directly thru our office. These funds are used to assist small or new start churches needing financial assistance in conducting VBS programs.

You may submit your VBS orders to our office by email to janice@northcentralga.org, by fax to 770-384-8658 or by calling our office at 770-384-8548.

North Central Area Missions can also assist your church with promotion of your VBS as follows:

- Design and print banners - Design and print/press t-shirts
- Design and print door hangars - Design and print cards/flyers

Below are a few designs for the Lifeway "Game On" VBS. We can also assist you in creating your own personal church design.

If we can assist you with any of the above items, contact us by email at janice@northcentralga.org or call us at 770-384-8548.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 18 - 22 9:00AM - 12:30PM

Completed PreK thru 5th grade

REGISTER AT

Your Website Address



Timeless Truths from the Oldest Voices

The Lesson from the Mighty Men of David - "Prepared for Any Battle" Part 2

We are returning to our study this year of Old Testament characters and what they can offer to us today. We were in the middle of a study of the Mighty Men of David when I took a sidebar to relate our recent trip to Washington, D.C., a stark reminder of our overwhelming need for "mighty men" in our country today! These rough and tough hombres have skill sets and experiences that will make your hair curl (if you have any!) and cause you to reevaluate your own level of discipline, tenacity, bravery, courage, and personal strength. We looked already at the men that came to David while he was in Ziklag, and now we will look at the ones that made it the top, the chief of the mighty men, the best of the best – the men that were his top three mighty men spoken of in 2 Samuel 23:8-17.

This first character has many names. These names each have meaning and we will only briefly look at those words in context of how they describe his character. His first name is not even listed in many modern translations, and it's "*Josheb-Basshebeth*," which means "one who sits in the seat," or "one who dwells in rest." I think it's important because it reveals a man that has achieved a level of strength and position making him unafraid, unmovable, and quite fearless. He is seated and at rest. If he stands up, **you** better be the one that is afraid! He is also called the "*Tachmonite*," meaning, "You will make me wise." Wisdom is the most powerful weapon a soldier can have in his arsenal. Knowing when to fight, when to pull back, when to remain silent or hidden, and what weapon he should pull out in any given circumstance is his greatest advantage.

His last tag is probably a nickname, *Adino*, which has multiple meanings – "an ornament," "slender," and "a spear." Your guess is as good as mine as to the implications and applications of such meanings. The main thing we know about this guy is that he was the chief of the Mighty Men. He attained the position of top gun! In Samuels account, he is credited with whipping 800 warriors of the enemy and in the Chronicles account (1 Chron. 11) it states that he slew 300 men. It is uncertain why there is this discrepancy, the numbers in Hebrew are very confusing and do look similar, but it is also true that he could have killed both 300 and 800, or one writer knew that he killed 300 and did not realize he went on to kill 500 more, and

the rest of the story was written down by another author. Regardless, anyone that can kick the tails of 300 men at one time is a pretty bad dude, and I want him on MY team!

This story of Adino is the picture of incredible odds. In ministry, I see these statistics played out every day! We are up against impossible odds – the world, our own flesh, and the devil are already piled up against us in every scenario. The media, the popularity and draw of extremely ungodly superstars and celebrities override any attention or claim toward a Judeo-Christian ethic and its importance and value. If you kneel on the football field to praise the God that gave you your ability you are condemned and called horrible names, but if you kneel in disrespect to the nation you are considered a brave hero.

We are laughed to scorn by the world on a regular basis. If we stand for truth, righteousness, or even the unborn, we are shamed as purveyors of hate. Our odds in even keeping our own children in church after their first year of college is less than 12%! We are facing impossible, overwhelming odds. We've all got to have the attitude and confidence of Adino – seated and at rest, but ready and able to pick up the spear at any moment. It's kind of a "don't make me get up and come out there" attitude! We need to have more of this in our churches today!

The second of the top three is called "*Eleazar, the son of Dodo*." Well, just from that, I can tell what made him such a tough little guy! Every time he told someone his name in grammar school, he was in a scuffle! Just kidding. The name Eleazar means, "God has helped." He is also an *Ahohite*, which means "a brother of rest." Isn't that interesting. Both of the top two guys have names that include the idea of rest. It's interesting here because of the story connected to his name. Eleazar was in a battle with the Philistines, their archenemies, and when everyone else retreated, he stayed put. He fought the enemy until his hand became so weary that it "*stuck to the sword*." Truly, God has helped! The tenacity and fortitude he demonstrated is quite unmistakable, but can you see the symbolism of this warrior? The sword had become one with his own hand. Oh, that you and I would be like Eleazar and make the Word of God, the Sword of the Spirit, one with our own hand, so that when we are cut, we bleed Bible! The picture here is one that knows how to wield the Sword and does it effectively. He also is not scared to go beyond his limits. I've worked with my dad's tiller until my hands became so tight around the handles, you had to pry my fingers off. Without question, how we need Eleazars in our churches today.

The third Mighty Man of David is named *Shammah*, meaning "astonishment," and he is

the son of *Agee*, a name that means "to increase," and he was an *Hararite*, meaning "mountain dwellers." There is little to pull from all this except to say that if he grew up as a mountain dweller, danger was something he learned at an early age; one false step and it's over! The idea of "astonishment" is captivating as we see so few things and even people that 'astonish' us anymore. I love his personal story most of all.

Here is a situation where the Philistines gathered to attack Israel and Shammah was right there in the battle alongside his fellow warriors. The Bible says that the "*people fled from the Philistines*," but Shammah "*stationed himself in the middle of the field*," a field of "*lentils*," basically, it's a pea patch! You see, the others thought that their lives were worth more than a pea patch, so they fled. But Shammah, wow, this guy just stood his ground. It was as if he said, "This may only be a pea patch, but it's MY pea patch!" He kicked serious backside that day and won a great victory by defending a simple field of lentils. You realize you never get medals for defending a pea patch. There are no parades, no schmoozing and networking and fanfare for the guy that defended the field full of lentils. They don't name a school after you when you kept the enemy from taking over the pea patch.

I love Shammah's story because it's the picture of honor. It's the picture of doing the right thing without any reward, recognition, or fame. He stood his ground because it was his field, not theirs. It was the principle of the thing. We have lost in our culture the reason of just cause, the idea of standing for principles, doing the right thing simply because it's the right thing to do! Shammah is my favorite Mighty Man of David. He was not number one or number two. His name is not the first one that comes to your mind. But Shammah is the example of Christian character that we could use in our churches today.

The Mighty Men of David are a brilliant study in leadership, motivation in strategy, and examples of a high class of character, none of which are in abundance today. We need to teach these to our younger children, our teens, our university students, and our adult leadership. No man strives to just make it to the semi-finals - - he strives to win! These Mighty Men demonstrate the character, determination, grit, and experience of winning the battle. We need these classic demonstrations of victory to motivate us to victory.

Alan J. Morris

150th

ANNIVERSARY

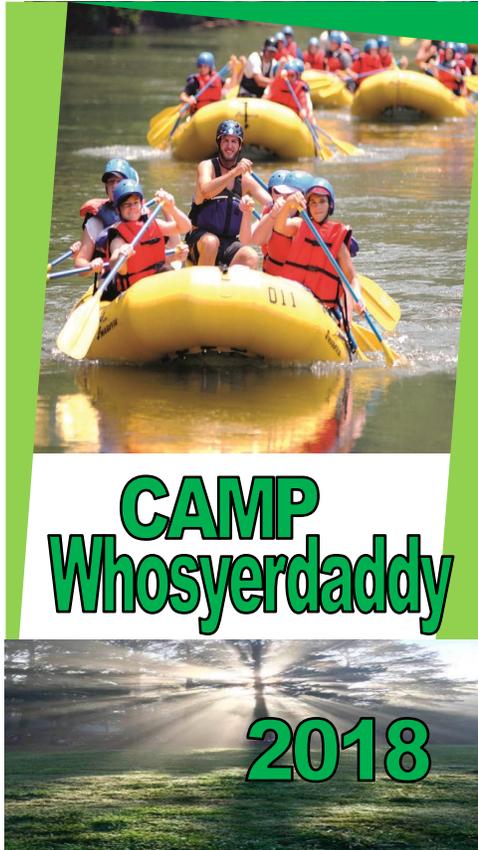


Clear Springs Baptist Church
Celebrating May 6 at 11 am

Established in 1868

All Clear Springs families and friends are invited!

First Baptist Canton invites local youth to participate in their commUNITY summer camp. See details and contact information below!



Community can be hard to find. As much as the things we like can pull us together, they tend to tear us apart just as frequently. As Christ-followers, we've been given something greater than our preferences to hold us together: Jesus. He gives us so much more than a rallying cry, he gives us a purpose for our unity.

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35)

For those who have completed 6th-12th grade.

June 10th: Registration Deadline

Cost by June 10th deadline

Student- \$225

Parent/Leader-\$125

After deadline, IF space is available, all pricing increases \$50.

No refunds after June 10th.

Rafting: The Ocoee is pretty serious stuff. Rafters must be at least 12 years old at the time of the trip. Those under age 12, or who prefer, will raft the Nantahala. Everyone rafts.

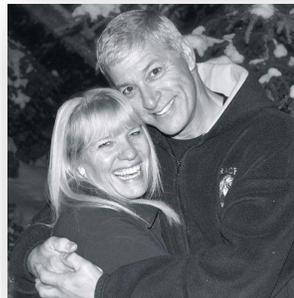
***Includes:** 11 meals at camp, lodging, activities, t-shirt and more!

Get In, Buckle Up, Hold On.

5 days. 4 nights. 11 meals. White-water rafting. Paintball. Horseback. Mountain bikes. Sandpit volleyball. High ropes. Low ropes. Cabins. Hammock cities. The BLOB. Worship through art. Small groups. Large groups. Live worship. S'mores. Campfire. Star-filled nights. We are adding a missions track for 2018!

Students and their parents are invited to join us July 9th-13th for CAMP WHOSYERDADDY 2018. White Water Express, Ocoee Camp, is our camp home this year. WhiteWater Express is located at: 703 Golf Course Road Copperhill, TN 37317 Phone: (423) 496-9126 Parents can either drop students off or come and stay the week with us and join in the fun!

July 9-13



Special Guest
Alan Morris,
GA Baptist Missionary



Worship by Bec

Questions?

Contact:

First 
Baptist
Canton

1 Mission Point
Canton, GA 30114
770.479.5538

Dave Hall, Minister to Students
call/text - 912.506.1690
davehall@fbccanton.org

Becca VanDerbeck, Admin
call/text - 678.880.1344
beccavanderbeck@fbccanton.org

Pastor Appreciation Luncheon And Ministry Job Fair

Thursday, May 10, 2018 * 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

We welcome every pastor in the Georgia Baptist Convention to join us for a special day of recognition, lunch, and opportunity to interview prospective ministry candidates for vocational ministry work in local church settings. Students will be available to interview for ministry needs in your church. Join us in the newly dedicated Student Wellness Center on the Truett McConnell campus for this inspirational and informative gathering. Call 706-865-2134 ext. 3702 for RSVP and more information and accommodations (if needed)



*Come meet Dr. Emir Caner, President
of Truett McConnell University*



SO MANY PASTORS AND PERSONNEL LEADERS ARE CALLING TMU REQUESTING STUDENTS FOR MINISTRY POSITIONS IN THEIR CHURCHES AND MINISTRIES. YOU MAY HAVE A NEED FOR A VOCATIONAL MINISTER AND TMU WANTS TO ASSIST YOU BY INVITING YOU TO COME TO OUR FIRST PASTOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON AND MINISTRY JOB FAIR.

MAY 10 * 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Meeting at the Student Wellness Center for lunch, meet with Dr. Emir Caner, President of TMU, and encounter students in a variety of vocational ministry areas of interest.

Call ... 706-865-2134 ext. 3702 for more information and details.

If you need overnight accommodations, please let us know.

Looking forward to seeing you on this special day of fellowship.

DR. DAVID L. DRAKE

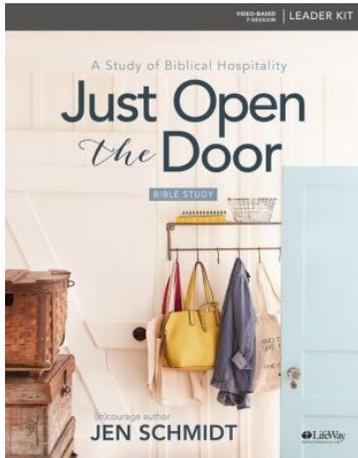
Director of Church Relations

706-865-2134, ext. 3702 (office)

706-669-0835 (cell)

<https://truett.edu/>

New Discipleship Kit available through North Central Area Missions



Hospitality is one of the best ways to live out the two greatest commandments: loving God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself. But often we get caught up in perfecting our homes and conversations before we open our doors.

Look to Jesus as your model for hospitality. Discover how He lived a life full of interruptions, yet always welcomed people and invited them to follow Him.

Learn to replace cultural expectations with biblical hospitality to create a legacy of invitation and reflect Jesus through simple acts of service.

7 sessions, 18-26 minutes each

SPONSORED BY CHURCH MINISTER RELATIONS & NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SHEPHERD CARE CONFERENCE

MAY 29-30, 2018
GEORGIA BAPTIST MISSIONS
& MINISTRY CENTER-DULUTH

INSTRUCTORS:



DR. JAKE
ROUDKOVSKI



DR. REGGIE
OGEA



DR. MARCUS
MERRITT



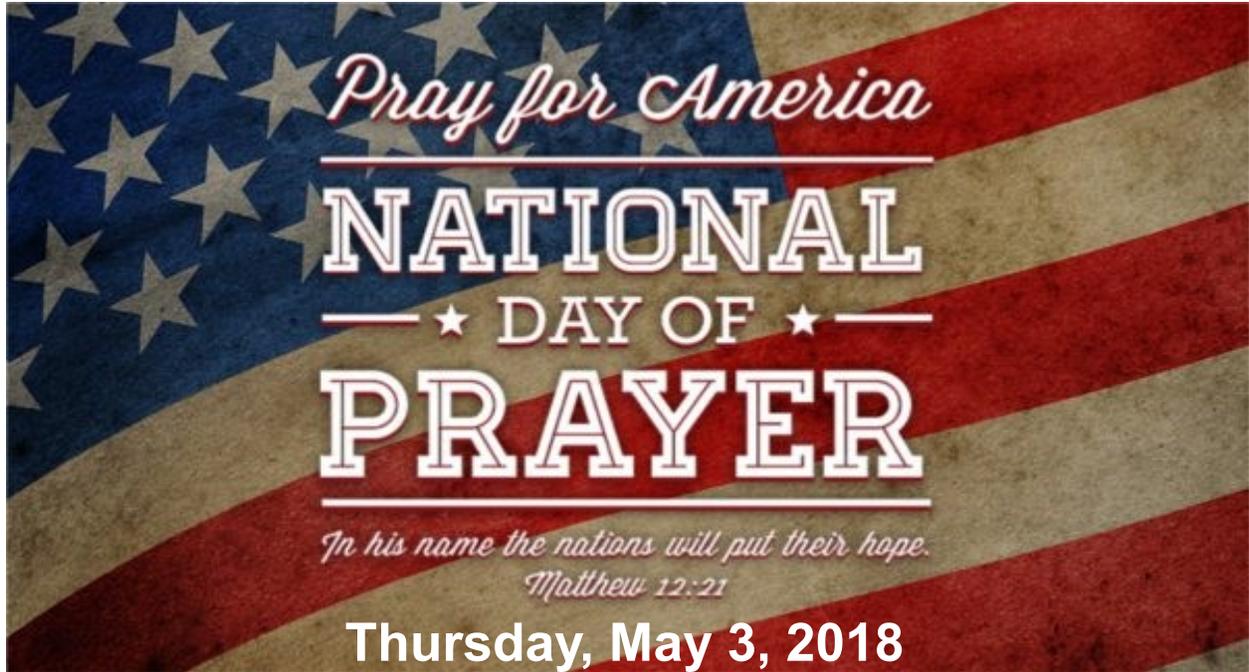
Georgia Baptist
Mission Board
CHURCH MINISTER RELATIONS

This conference is designed to equip each minister to assess his spiritual health and evaluate his current ministry. The conference will further aid him in setting realistic and attainable goals for future ministry. Participants will be taught and challenged by professors from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Participants will also be involved in dialogues, experiential learning, self-evaluations, and group discussions.

Registration is available at www.gabaptist.org/churchministerrelations or by calling Laura Simms at 770-936-5362.

If you have questions, you may contact Marcus Merritt at mmerritt@gabaptist.org or 678-654-3119.



Check with your local municipality for time and location of National Day of Prayer observance in your area.

In 1952, the United States Congress by a joint resolution, voted to establish the National Day of Prayer; President Harry S. Truman signed it into law. In 1988, the law was amended to designate the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May. In 2017, over 40,000 prayer gatherings were conducted in the United States.

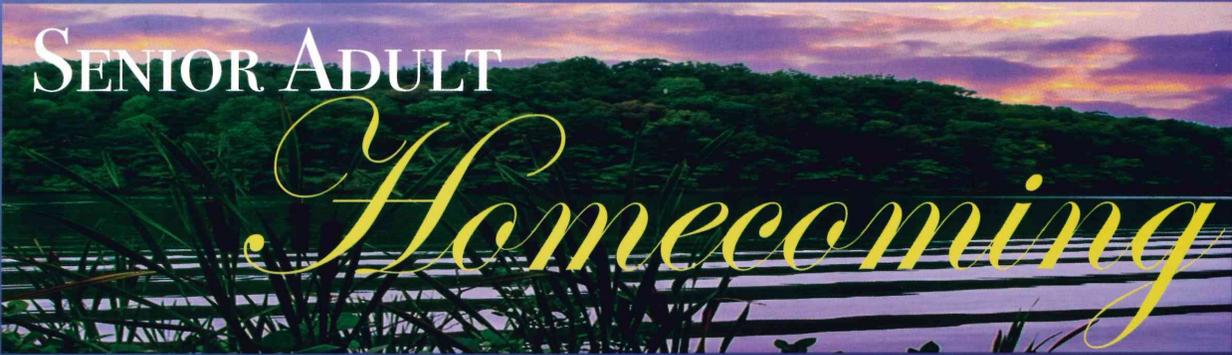


GO Georgia
A TOTAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP EQUIPPING EVENT

AUGUST 17-18, 2018
Mabel White Baptist Church,
Macon

GOGEOORGIA.NET

For additional information or to register, please visit <https://gogeorgia.net/>



SENIOR ADULT

Homecoming

GEORGIA BAPTIST CONFERENCE CENTER – TOCCOA, GA

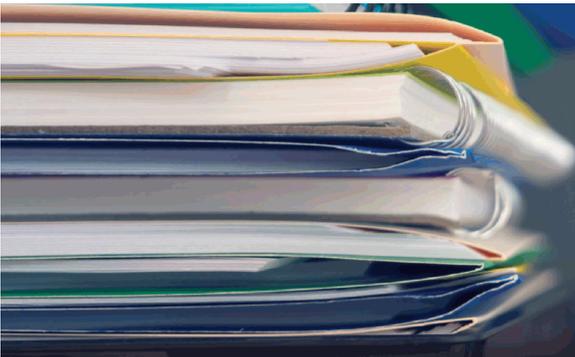
Come join us at the Georgia Baptist Conference Center in the beautiful mountains of Northeast Georgia for an unforgettable two nights of fun, fellowship, worship, and relaxation. Whether you choose to come in the spring, the fall, or at Christmas (or even all three!!), you will receive a warm welcome and will enjoy a retreat away from the bustle of everyday life. It is a time to refresh yourself in your relationship with God, renew your friendships with others, and relax in the beauty of God's creation that surrounds the conference center.

Fall Homecoming - Session 1: October 22-24, 2018

Session 2: October 24-26, 2018

Christmas Homecoming - December 3-5, 2018

For additional information or to make reservations, call the Georgia Baptist Conference Center at 706-886-3133 or email skaup@gabaptist.org.



2018

CHURCH FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE & GIVING SEMINAR

This event is designed for both church staff and lay leaders who work with church finances to stay current with financial issues as they relate specifically to churches, as well as topics related to church giving.

May 5 - 9am to noon
Mt. Vernon Baptist Church
850 Mt. Vernon Highway
Atlanta, GA 30327

Registration and information: <https://gabaptist.org/churchcompliance/>
Questions: dsharitt@gabaptist.org

Reaching » the Nations

Race for Missions Congress



JOIN US AT CAMP KALEO!

NOVEMBER 2-3, 2018

A wonderful missions experience for your family, Royal Ambassadors, Baptist Men and girls.

Including activities such as:

Hike-a-Thon for Missions • Bike-a-Thon for Missions
5k Wild Wood Run for Missions
"Mission Possible Obstacle Course"

Without teamwork the mission is impossible. This is a four-person team event.

Taste of Missions Fair • Vendors • Clowns • Magician

Friday night
worship
under the
stars for
everyone
attending
the event!

COST PER PERSON AS FOLLOWS:

\$40.00 Lodging in cabins, breakfast, lunch and ALL events

\$25.00 Tent Camping (space is limited), NO meals and ALL events

\$20.00 ALL events on Saturday

Registration Deadline: 10/5/2018

Event Registration:

<https://gabaptist.org/event/reaching/>

Hamburgers and hotdogs will
be sold on Saturday.

 Georgia Baptist
Mission Board
Men's Ministry

Gifts of Georgia Baptists through Mission Georgia and the Cooperative Program enable us to partner together in fulfilling the Great Commission.



The Georgia Baptist Mission Board has #reachingnextgen roundtables and conferences planned in the Fall of 2018. Events scheduled in locations convenient to churches in the North Central area are:

Roundtables

Thursday, September 13: First Baptist Cumming
Tuesday, September 18: First Baptist Fayetteville
Thursday, September 20: First Baptist Social Circle

Conferences

Monday, October 22: Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Jonesboro

For additional information, please visit <https://gabaptist.org/groups/> or you may call Groups and Faith Development at the Georgia Baptist Mission Board at 770-936-5286



**Georgia Baptist Children's
Homes and Family
Ministries, Inc.**

The Georgia Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries, Inc. thanks the churches in the Lanier Association for their generous contributions of

food, supplies, gift cards and financial support during the Annual Collections conducted on Monday, March 26.

Following is an excerpt from a letter from Brian Hawkins, Vice President of Ministries, Georgia Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries

"As Spring approaches, the promise of renewal after a long winter is an exciting prospect for all of us. As Christians, we are especially mindful of the promise of a new life in Christ.

For the children in our care, the promise of renewal is deeply personal. Many of them come to us having experienced a season of disappointment and hurt. Through people like you who help sustain our ministry, we are able to share with them the eternal love of Jesus Christ and offer them the chance of spiritual renewal.

Thank you for your generous gift to Georgia Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries. You have brought springtime to the hearts and lives of those in our care."

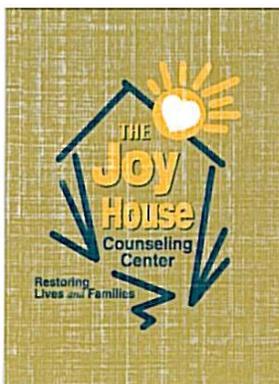
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 2018

- 3 Talking Rock Baptist Church Food Trailer (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
- 3 National Day of Prayer
- 7 Hightower Baptist Association Preacher/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 9 Roswell Baptist Association Executive Ministry Team Meeting, Clear Springs Baptist Church, 10:30 AM
Roswell Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, Place TBD, immediately following Executive Meeting
- 12 Hightower Baptist Association Food/Clothing Bank (7:30 AM - 12:00 Noon)
- 13 Mother's Day
- 15 Etowah Baptist Association Executive Ministry Team Meeting, North Central Office, 10:30 AM
Etowah Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, Red Lobster in Canton, immediately following Executive Meeting
- 17 Lanier Baptist Association Executive Ministry Team Meeting, Living Stones Church, 10:30 AM
Lanier Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, Place TBD, immediately following Executive Meeting
- 28 Memorial Day - North Central Area Missions closed

June 2018

- 4 Hightower Baptist Association Preacher/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 7 Talking Rock Baptist Church Food Trailer (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
- 9 Hightower Baptist Association Food/Clothing Bank (7:30 AM - 12:00 Noon)
- 12-13 Southern Baptist Convention, Dallas, TX
- 17 Father's Day
- 21 Lanier Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, Slopes in Cumming, 11:00 AM
- 26 Etowah Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, Red Lobster in Canton, 11:30 AM



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Counselor

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