



*est. 1975*

**Camellia Baptist Church**

# HEARTBEAT

**THURSDAYS**

6:00pm Pickleball

**JANUARY 1-2**

Church Office Closed

**JANUARY 4**

No Evening Services

**JANUARY 6**

6:00pm Women's Ministry Meeting

**JANUARY 7**

Wednesday Night Suppers Resume  
Disciple Life Classes Begin

**JANUARY 9-11**

Young Adult Snowbird Conference

**JANUARY 11**

5:00pm Members' Meeting

**JANUARY 13**

9:00am Sewing for Missions  
Women's Small Group Bible Studies Begin

**JANUARY 18**

Connect Groups Begin

**JANUARY 25**

3:30pm Deacon's Meeting

**JANUARY 28**

11:30am Brotherhood Lunch at Captain D's

Camellia Family,

It is crazy that 2026 is already here. For many people, the coming of a new year is a time of hope. For some, 2025 was not a year to be remembered. It was one that brought pain, heartache, and difficulty. 2026 represents the opportunity for a change in circumstances. For others, though, 2025 was a positive year, and they hope 2026 brings even greater prosperity. But this view of the New Year is not biblical. The flipping of a calendar does not guarantee that you will rid yourself of trials in your life. In fact, God regularly reminds us that we WILL have problems. In 1 Peter 4:12, Peter tells us not to be surprised when the fiery trial comes upon us as though something strange were happening to us. Jesus told us in John 16:33 that in this world there will be trouble.

I do not say these things to burst your bubble as you look forward to a new year, but I do want us to think biblically about life. A new calendar year does not bring a change in circumstances. It does not fix problems. It does not change adversity into prosperity. It also does not bring hope. It might promise hope, but a new calendar year cannot deliver on that promise. As Christians, we derive hope from a much more certain place.

Romans 15:4 says, "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." Then in Romans 15:13 Paul says, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

God's desire for you is that, as we enter into 2026, you may abound in hope. But we must be certain from where that hope originates. That hope originates from the God of Hope who has given us His Scriptures as anchors for our souls, filling us with endurance, encouragement, joy, and peace in believing. God indeed wants you filled with hope in 2026. God wants you to prosper in hope! But our hope is not merely that a new year will bring new circumstances. But our hope is twofold:

1. God has overcome the trouble through Jesus, and we will not live for eternity with this trouble. This trouble is temporary. Our glory in heaven will be eternal.
2. We don't have to wait until heaven to abound in hope. God has given us His Holy Spirit and His Holy Scriptures, and if we believe His Scriptures and their promises, and we depend on His Holy Spirit to strengthen us to obey those Scriptures, then we can respond to our circumstances with joy and peace even now.

Church, I look forward to a year marked by endurance, encouragement, joy, and peace. I look forward to a year in which our church abounds in hope. But we must remember that our hope is not in the new calendar year. Our hope is in Jesus! I pray that Camellia will lead the way in shining this light throughout our city.

- Bro. James

## Women's Ministry MEETING

Tuesday, January 6  
6:00pm | CLC

THE INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD  
*The Every and The All*

## LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

GOAL: \$25,000  
GIVEN TO DATE: \$18,470.90

## MEMBERS' MEETING

January 11 • 5:00PM

DISCOVER  
Camellia

A THREE WEEK INTRODUCTION CLASS

JANUARY 11 | 8:45AM | CHOIR ROOM

CALL THE  
CHURCH  
OFFICE OR  
SCAN THE  
QR CODE TO  
SIGN UP



TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

## SEWING FOR MISSIONS

CLAYTON SHAW FELLOWSHIP HALL  
9:00AM-2:00PM


DISCIPLE LIFE CLASS

# New Believers

*Led by Pastor James Taylor*

**CLC - 105**

Beginning Wednesday, January 7




DISCIPLE LIFE CLASS

# Gentle & Lowly

*Led by Pastor Peyton Kelly*

**CLC - 104**

Beginning Wednesday, January 7




DISCIPLE LIFE CLASS

# Feminine Appeal

*Led by Hilary Taylor*

**CLC - 103**

Beginning Wednesday, January 7



# CONNECT GROUPS

**Sundays at 5:00pm**

Beginning January 18

Scan the QR code to Sign Up!




## Directories

Limit: One Per Household

Pick Up in the Bookstore  
or at the Church Office

### "Maranatha!"

Another year has dawned. The year of our Lord 2026 is upon us! As we reflect (and recover) from celebrating Jesus' first advent, I am reminded of one thing: We are closer to Christ's second advent than we have ever been before. Our study through the gospel of Mark has reminded us of this truth: Jesus will return!

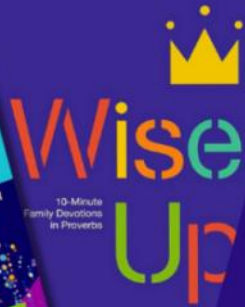
Pastor Blake reminded us in his sermon on 12/14 that while we wait for Jesus' return, we are to live alert and faithful as followers of Christ. We are to be a good steward of our time, gifts and abilities that the Lord has afforded to us. Time is short. Let's not waste our lives on trivial, meaningless things. Let us as the apostle Paul says, "press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14).

In Christ,



**New Year is a great time to begin daily time in God's word as a family!**  
**Visit our Bookstore for these & other great resources!**

Marty Machowski



RECOMMENDED  
RESOURCES

CHILDREN

**Young Adult  
Snowbird Conference**  
 January 9-11

## Young Adult Bible Study

Our Young Adults meet on the first and third Monday night of each month at 6:00pm at the Turner's home for Bible Study and fellowship. For more information about how to get involved, please reach out to Pastor Blake Turner.

CBSM  
CHURCH BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY

CAMELLIA  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS

RSVP BY 12:00PM TUESDAYS



**Adults - \$5**  
**Children - \$3**  
[cbcprattville.org](http://cbcprattville.org)

### January 7

Loaded Baked Potato Soup,  
 Chicken Vegetable Soup,  
 Grilled Cheese, Cornbread, & Dessert

### January 14

Country Fried Steak, Field Peas,  
 Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Rolls, & Dessert

### January 21

Sliced Ham, Lima Beans,  
 Mac n' Cheese, Rolls, & Dessert

### January 28

Taco Salad & Dessert

## HOSPITALITY FELLOWSHIP

DESIGNING CHARCUTERIE BOARDS

FEBRUARY 7 9AM-12PM

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 4



\$25 PER PERSON

Women's Small Group Bible Study

# JAMES

by Jon MacArthur

*Beginning January 13*

Contact Leslie Morgan for Details