



THE THANKFUL TIMES



JANUARY 2026
VOLUME 6 ISSUE 9

Pastor Dwight L. Sims
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www.thankfulbaptistchurch.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31
4:00 PM Watch Night Service &
Communion



THURSDAY, JANUARY 1
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026



SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
TBC Sacrificial Giving Sunday
of \$100 for Life Center Gym
9:50 AM Pastor Dwight L. Sims

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
9:50 AM Special Black History Speaker,
TBC members arrive
by 9:30 AM **NO LARGE BAGS/
PURSES**
CLEAR BAG POLICY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17
9:00 AM Church Cleaning Day
Calling All Members!!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18
9:50 AM Pastor Dwight L. Sims

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
9:50 AM Pastor Dwight L. Sims
TBC YOUTH SUNDAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
8:00 AM Deacon Ministry
9:50 AM Honorable Judge Steve Jones

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
10 AM - NOON
Pastor Dwight L. Sims &
First Lady Rhonda Sims
Come out and honor them on this day!

(SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Pastor Dwight L. Sims &
First Lady Rhonda Sims 30th
Pastoral Anniversary
Please wear Red & Black
8:00 AM Pastor Dr. Michael
Gresham & Thankful Grove BC,
Carlton, GA
9:50 AM Dr. John H. Smith, Pastor
Emeritus -Welcome Friend BC,
Ellenwood, GA
1:30 PM Pastor Dr. Leroy Hudson
Thankful BC, Gibson, GA
-Dinner served @ 12 NOON-

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15
9:50 AM Pastor Dwight L. Sims

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
8:00 AM FOOD BANK
ALL HANDS ON DECK!!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22
8:00 AM Elder Shawanda Wingfield
9:00 AM TBC YOUTH SUNDAY

**ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
TBC WILL ENFORCE A CLEAR BAG
POLICY. NO LARGE PURSES/BAGS
ALLOWED ON THIS DAY.**

THANK YOU!!

**Check your email for weekly
schedule updates from Pastor.
Wednesday Prayer Line link
sent weekly via email. Prayer
line link also on back of this
newsletter. Just point and
click.**

CHURCH MISSION

**The church is the
vehicle of Christ's
Mission to the world.
The commission to
the Church is a
worldwide one. The
triumphant, Living
Lord sends forth His
ambassadors to
proclaim His Gospel
throughout all the
world. The purpose
of the Church is to
make disciples of all
kinds of people.**

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~~Pastor Sims & Family~~ Around Outta Town



The Sims Family took a much needed vacation for the Christmas holiday. They enjoyed a 7-day cruise and visited places like Belize, Mexico and Cozumel. Pastor, First Lady Rhonda and their grandson DJ take a break to pose in the sun for the camera.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY BREAKS

Oglethorpe, Clarke & Oconee
School resumes Jan. 6, 2026
MLK, Jr. Holiday Monday, Jan. 19

CONGRATULATIONS!!

INTRODUCING AASP'S NEWEST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

MEET THE TEAM

Jaylon Bruner-Vann

MS



Student
Representative

Congratulations Jaylon!!

Brother Jaylon Bruner Vann attends Thankful and sings in the choir and is a second-year doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology PhD program at UGA. He was recently appointed to the executive board for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP).

Jaylon works extremely hard and currently works as a clinician in UGA's Center for Counseling and Personal Evaluation and is a doctoral student clinician in the UGA Mental Health and Performance Clinic.

Read more about Brother Jaylon [here](#)

YOUTH SUNDAY

DECEMBER 2025

Minister Andrea Shaw-Eberhart was the guest speaker for Youth Sunday on December 7th. Her ministry, *Truth Talk Ministries*, caters to the youth and young adults. In her message titled *"Born For This"*, she used a public science experiment to demonstrate how our environment affects our circumstances. With oranges and a container of water, Minister Shaw-Eberhart demonstrated how a peeled orange will sink in water. The peels represent our issues that we face in life. To remove the orange from the water without spilling, the water has to be stirred, the speed of stirring allows the orange to rise to the top of the water so it can be removed, this stirring represents the stirring of the holy spirit. In that stirring, we discover our gifts which leads to our purpose, our purpose is what we are born for.

She shared her personal testimony of having to move back home with her mother at 40 years old. In her newfound living arrangements she found her purpose. She is now an artist, author and minister. It took Jesus thirty years to come into his purpose. No matter our mistakes or environment we need to remember that we were created with a purpose and our surroundings do not define us.

Sister Deandrea Fleming from Fork Bethel Baptist Church was also an invited guest and blessed us with a beautiful dance. Thank you to both of our invited guests. Some of the youth of TBC participated in reciting a Christmas poem, telling what each letter of Christmas means. Thank you Sister Kenatty Watkins for a wonderful December Youth Sunday program.



Sister Deandrea Fleming



Minister Andrea Shaw-Eberhart &
Elder Shawanda Wingfield

LOOKING FOR A BIBLE READING PLAN FOR 2026?

***The BIBLE RECAP* is an excellent and highly recommended reading plan.**

Visit the link using the QR code to start January 1, 2026.

- **Choose Digital User or Print User**

As a digital user:

- **Download the Bible App  and follow the TBR (The Bible Recap) page to access the reading plans.**
- **Choose from 365-day plan or the New Testament plan.**

As a print user:

- **Download and print a reading plan for the whole bible (365 days) or New Testament only.**

READING PLANS AND PODCAST ALSO AVAILABLE FOR KIDS



Have you ever closed your Bible and thought, "What did I just read?"

You can READ, UNDERSTAND, and LOVE Scripture!

Choose book, podcast or video

Each episode is approximately 12 minutes long and each recap is 8 minutes long.

Spend time with God using *The Bible Recap*. Once you start you will find other resources available to enhance your reading.

**DAY 1 STARTS
JANUARY 1**

<https://www.thebiblerecap.com/>



*Scan the QR code
or visit
[thebiblerecap.com/start](https://www.thebiblerecap.com/start)*

*Follow along:
@thebiblerecap*



Honoring 40 years as EMMA J. WALTER Church Secretary

On Sunday, December 14th Pastor Sims and Thankful Baptist Church honored Mother Emma J. Walter for 40 years of service as the Church Secretary. Aspiring to be a secretary since a young girl, it was not by chance that she became the Secretary here at Thankful in 1985. Sister Barbara Johnson Davenport was the assistant secretary and had asked her to take over her position. After working alongside Secretary Mother Helen McLaughlin and Financial Secretary Mother Virginia Stovall, she was approached by Mother Stovall to take over the helm. Mother Stovall told Emma she would not turn over the books to anyone else and to let her know when she was ready to take over. *"The Lord came to me one day and told me it was time and I went to Mrs. Stovall and told her I was ready."*

Since stepping into the role of Secretary, she does most of her job behind the scenes, and does it humbly and without asking for anything in return. She has trained other church secretaries and asks them to pass along what they have learned to help other churches.

"When I was young, I wanted to be a secretary. My mother taught me to be the best of whatever I chose in life and that's what I've done. God blessed me with good health to do my job, and I rarely stay away from my duties." Not only is she the personal secretary for Pastor Sims but some of her responsibilities include writing and mailing letters to the local churches in the area about upcoming events at Thankful, typing all correspondence, collecting the mail, paying bills, financial banking, handling payroll and payroll taxes, scheduling repairs and maintenance needed, maintaining member registry, baptism information, ordinations and assist all the needs of ministries of Thankful. She is also the coordinator and contact for the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia.

Not only does she serve as the Secretary here, she holds several positions within the community such as the Secretary for the Oglethorpe County Class of '72, Lion's Club, Mentoring Moms of Oglethorpe County Middle School, and for the State of Georgia which she retired from after 34 years. *"With all the responsibilities I have as secretary, I never let go of my responsibility of serving the Lord as an usher at Thankful Baptist Church."*

During the service held to honor Mother Emma, a member of each ministry blessed her with a bouquet of flowers to show their appreciation. Invited family and friends enjoyed a celebratory dinner after service and fellowshiped with the honoree. Pastor Sims and TBC are grateful and blessed for the 40 years of service of Mother Emma J. Walter.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY PJ GAME DAY 2025

This holiday season was filled with lots of festivities in and around TBC. The Women's Ministry hosted a PJ Game Day 20 for the ladies and it was loads of fun. The hosts, Elder Shawanda Wingfield and First Lady Rhonda Sims, did an amazing job not only as hosts but as organizers as well. There was so much laughter and good fun that even if you didn't win a prize you were just glad you attended. This was the second year of PJ Game Day for the ladies and each year is destined to be better than the last. Thank you Sister Delois for the beautiful décor.



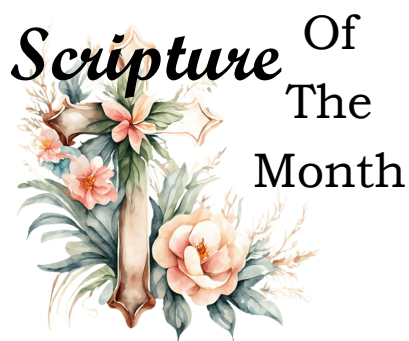
THANKFUL MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS:

A Thankful Christmas

GOSPEL CONCERT 2025

A Thankful Christmas was the Christmas gospel celebration presented on December 13th by Brother Daniel Elder and the Music Ministry of Thankful along with Pastor Ken Keely and Antioch Baptist Church of Crawford and other special guests. After the concert TBC and guests fellowshiped and enjoyed refreshments.





Watch over your heart with all diligence,
For out of it flow the springs of life.

Proverbs 4:23 AMP

The Kounseling Korner, LLC



Looking for support for your middle or high schooler?

I'm Inesha K. Howard, M. Ed, a Professional School Counselor with a deep passion for helping adolescents navigate the challenges of growing up academically, emotionally, and socially.

With years of experience working with students and families, I specialize in preparing teens for the real world while building their confidence and resilience. My approach is all about keeping it

R.E.A.L.:

***Relatable. Empathetic. Authentic.
Laughing.***

SERVICES OFFERED:

TRANSCRIPT REVIEW
ENGLISH TUTORING
COLLEGE PREP
SEL LESSONS
SECTION 504 PREP
JOB APPLICATION/INTERVIEW PREP

SERVICE PACKAGES

TUTORING- \$35/HR
\$140 MONTHLY (INCLUDES 1 HOUR SESSION ONCE PER WEEK)
\$280 MONTHLY (INCLUDES 2 HOUR SESSION ONCE PER WEEK)
\$300 MONTHLY (INCLUDES 1 HOUR TUTORING SESSION ONCE PER WEEK, TRANSCRIPT REVIEW, JOB/COLLEGE PREP)

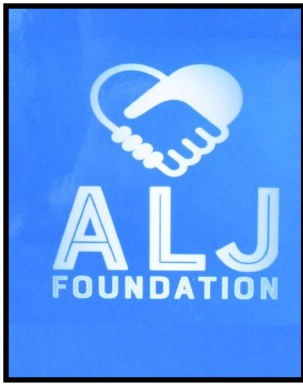
☎ (706) 201-6436

✉ THEKOUNSELINGK@GMAIL.COM

SOCIAL MEDIA

IG: THE.KOUNSELING_KORNER





Antonio L. Jewell
FOUNDATION
WINTER WONDERLAND
GALA



THE ALJ WINTER
WONDERLAND GALA
IS SOLD OUT.



NO MORE TICKETS
AVAILABLE!!

THIS IS A BLACK TIE CHARITY
EVENT

NO SMALL CHILDREN
PLEASE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE
ALJ FOUNDATION

CHPH

CHPH Ministries held its annual Christmas Shopping Spree at Target on December 19th for special needs youth and young adults. At the helm is Elder Shawanda Wingfield and she would like to acknowledge and thank all who give, donate, volunteer and support her cause. She especially would like to thank the wonderful recipients and their parents. A special thanks to the Manager at Target, Mrs. Claire Marie and her amazing staff and the best part, Santa, who Elder Wingfield calls "THE BEST SANTA."

Not only was CHPH able to bless those who showed up on December 19th but the very next day CHPH was unexpectedly blessed with a donation that allowed the ministry to take those that were on the waiting list on their own personal shopping spree. Elder was so overwhelmed by the generous donation of that supporter she burst into tears on the phone. She and her staff met all of the waiting list recipients and their parents at Target the same day. What an on-time God we serve and as the Psalm 27:14 preaches, *"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."*

CHPH



ANTONIO L. JEWELL ALJ FOUNDATION

In remembrance of Elder Antonio "Pootie" Jewell his family has created a memorial foundation. ALJ Foundation will support local kids in the community through scholarships, educational activities and supplies and other expenses.

Please consider donating to keep his legacy alive. He had a heart for the kids and had taken so many young men under his wings.

To donate: Cashapp - \$aljfoundation09

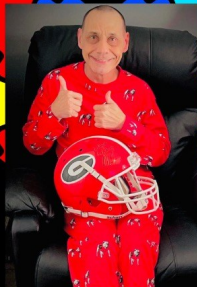
Zelle - aljfoundation09@gmail.com

PLEASE GIVE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO HELP BOTH OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS
WITH YEARLY EVENTS

CLEAN HANDS PURE HEART MINISTRIES (CHPH)



In loving memory of
David "Dave" Chafin
10/1/62 - 4/21/24



**CLEAN HANDS PURE
HEART MINISTRIES**



About Our Ministry

Since 2019, Clean Hands Pure Heart Ministries have been committed to serving individuals with developmental disabilities by having outreach ministries. Our comprehensive training and educational resources give families the support they need to be successful. Our team love to motivate God's Especially - Special babies by taking field trips, sharing Gods love, and telling them about the Gospel.

Ways To Donate

PayPal
@ShawandaWingfield

Cash Donations Accepted





Elder Shawanda Wingfield is the Founder of Clean Hands Pure Heart Ministries, LLC.

706-424-4242
chphnonprofit24@gmail.com



Elder Shawanda Wingfield is in need of a van for her ministry to help transport the kids when necessary. Let's help her reach this goal. Visit gofundme.com and search "Shawanda Wingfield" to make a donation toward her goal.

Sick and Shut-In & Bereaved Families

May
the Lord
BLESS YOU

AND PROTECT YOU. MAY THE LORD
SMILE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS
TO YOU. MAY THE LORD SHOW YOU
HIS FAVOR AND GIVE YOU

His Peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

BEREAVED FAMILIES

*During your times of prayer please
remember the bereaved*

**The Family of Sis. Magnolia Huff Family of Sis.
Zymia Baughens Family of Sis. Tearrow Davenport**

**Family of Mother Joanne Lay Family of Sis.
Glenda Echols Sis. Eva Dalton & The Family of
Bro. Joe Louis Lattimore Deacon Tyler Dawson &
The Family of Bro. Corye Dawson Family of Bro.**

**Kareem Lane Sister Cynthia Hubbard & The
Family of Sis. Mary Martin The Jones & Dalton
Families & The Family of Mother Bessie Lean
Dalton Jones Family of Sis. Latasha Brown The
Moore Family The Johnson Family The Smith
Family The Family of Bro. James E. Richardson
Sister Loretta Holmes & The Family of Bro. Ronald**

**Neely Bro. Garrell Mattox & The Family of Sis.
Bobbie Ree Davis Bro. Antonio Wingfield & The
Family of Sis. Pearlmae Gresham The Family of
Brother Rufus Faust The Family of Bro. Fred
Wright Bro. Greg Bailey & The Family of Mother
Nellie Bailey Sis. LaToya Jewell & The Family of
Bro. Antonio "AJ" Jewell, Jr.**

SICK & SHUT-IN

*During your times of prayer please
remember our sick and shut-in*

Sis. Plashetta Howard

Bro. Harry Dalton

Bro. Bill Coward

Bro. William Scott

Bro. L. B. Hitchcock

Bro. Joe Kennedy

Sis. Kris Faust

Sis. Lois Standley

Bro. William Jones

Bro. Joseph Kenney

Sis. Abby Vendrillo

Sis. Betty Webb

Bro. Eddie Walter

Sis. Sandra Johnson

Bro. Eddie Lee

Sis. Rosa Ellis

Bro. O. J. Faust

Sis. Brianna Thomas

Sis. Georgianna Campbell

Mother Mamie Howard

Sis. Linda Terrell

Bro. Mateo Brown

Pastor Paul Hull

Sis. Lira Davenport

THANKFUL BAPTIST CHURCH

**now has a Grief Support
Ministry that meets on
Wednesday evenings after
bible study.**

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 1 – Sis. Contrena Little
January 2 – Sis. Kelisha Mattox
January 3 – Sis. Yakira Davenport, Bro.
Jamarcus Jones and
Sis. Cynthia Hunter
January 7 – Bro. Clarence Glenn
January 8 – Elder Shawanda Wingfield
January 9 – Bro. Derunta Evans and
Bro. Kiyonnice Smith
January 10 – Bro. Phil'Drekus Jewell
January 11 – Sis. Renata Dunn
January 12 – Bro. Gregory Morton,
Bro. Otis Barnett, Jr. and
Bro. King Watkins
January 16 – Sis. Tyneshia Davenport
January 17 – Bro. Jeff Lattimore
January 18 – Bro. Timothy Johnson
January 20 – Bro. Bryson Carson
January 21 – Sis. Phyllisha Johnson
January 22 – Bros. Taylor & Bro. Tyler Dean
and Sis. Tina W. Harden
January 24 – Sis. Stacy Smith and
Mother Linda Glenn
January 24 – Bro. Damien Dunn
January 26 - Sis. Chanell Stevens
January 30 – Sis. Ricksheena Willingham
January 31 – Bro. Jamarcus Jones and
Bro. Keith Hunter

Send your:

Church & Ministry Events/News
Birthdays & Anniversaries
Graduations & Congratulations
Baptisms/New Members
Births & Memorials
Sick Notices/Prayer Requests
Testimonies
Wedding Announcements
Messages of Thanks
Inspirational/Devotional Messages
Other Announcements
to be featured in the newsletter.

For your convenience,
Thankful Baptist Church accepts

zelle

Use this email:
thankfulbaptch@windstream.net

WON'T YOU JOIN?
FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT



THANKFUL BAPTIST CHURCH

Prayer Line

Join The Prayer Line

Every Wednesday

Morning At

9:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83554954265?pwd=1vMY63bPaVQjVGprTM2c7tOLX1TRYe.1>

Click to

**access the prayer
line link**

Meeting ID: 835 5495 4265
Passcode: f5rMb2

Thankful Baptist Church - Dwight L. Sims, Pastor
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