

## Commitment Time

It is our custom to sing a hymn of commitment at the close of each worship service. This time of "invitation" provides an opportunity to reflect upon the Bible message and make an appropriate personal commitment to the Lord. During this time, our pastors are available at the front to:

**Pray** with you regarding your commitment to Jesus Christ or another matter of personal concern.

**Counsel** with you regarding a challenging situation or decision you are facing, especially committing your life to Jesus Christ.

**Encourage** you as you seek to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.

**Receive** your request for membership at Cleveland First Baptist Church.

### You may become a CFBC member in the following ways:

**By Public Profession of Faith** in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, following Him in obedience by scriptural baptism by immersion.

**By Baptism** if you already have been saved through faith in Jesus Christ but have never been scripturally baptized by immersion and are willing to be baptized.

**By Transfer of Membership** if you already have been saved through faith in Jesus Christ, scripturally baptized by immersion, and are a member of another Southern Baptist congregation. We will contact your former church to arrange for the transfer of your membership.

**By Statement of Faith** that you have been saved through faith in Jesus Christ and have been scripturally baptized by immersion.

**\*By Watchcare:** Individuals temporarily living in the area but who do not wish to transfer their church membership may come under the watchcare of CFBC. They will be extended the privileges of fellowship and participation in church activities but may not vote in business meetings or serve in positions that require church membership.

*All candidates for membership will complete an "Application for Membership," indicating how they're coming (profession, baptism, transfer, statement). All requests for membership will be shared with the congregation at the end of the worship service, and all candidate names will be presented for church approval at a regularly scheduled business meeting.*

### Schedule of Regular Activities

#### **Sundays**

Orchestra/Praise Team Rehearsal – 8:30 AM  
Sunday School/Bible Study – 9:15 AM  
Morning Worship – 10:30 AM

#### **Wednesdays**

Orchestra/Praise Team Rehearsal – 5:30 PM  
Youth/Children in Action – 6:30 PM  
Bible Study/Prayer Service – 6:30 PM  
Choir Rehearsal – 6:30 PM

## Children's Ministry Update

### **Good News Club Volunteers:**

Good News Club has begun with nearly 50 students enrolled so far! We still need "boots-on-the-ground" volunteers to help for "some or all" of our club meeting time when school is in session each Thursday through February 26. We need line leaders, restroom takers, craft helpers, calm-down helpers, etc.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Wollett at [jenniferwollett4@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferwollett4@gmail.com).

### **September Operation Christmas Child**

cups, sturdy silverware and toothbrush covers

### **Nursery Workers**

**September 21** - Pam Walden, Doris Beck

**September 28** – Olivia Batchelor, Margaret Owens, Wilma Pittman

### **Intercessory Prayer Workers**

**September 21** – Leon and Barbara Pirkle

**September 28** – Loretta Brooks

## **Cleveland First Baptist Church Staff**

Dr. Phil Weaver, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dennis Turner, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Manning Minton, Associate Pastor  
of Students and Families  
Mr. Michael Pickett, Music Director  
Mrs. Bethany Beck, Pianist  
Ms. Sue Massey, Organist  
Mr. Donnie Filaski, Administrative Assistant  
Mrs. Bea Rogers, Receptionist  
Mr. Terry Goodger, Financial Administrator  
Mrs. Terry Trimble, Custodian

### **Audio and Video Volunteers**

Mr. Cory Beck  
Mr. Chris Edwards  
Mr. Matthew Minton

### **Church Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
706-865-2933

The logo pictured on the front of this bulletin artistically incorporates the cross, with the letter "C" for Cleveland, in the silhouette of a tree, denoting life, growth, and the mountain region in which we live.



# *Welcome to Church!*

**We're glad you are here today.  
Cleveland First Baptist Church is a  
loving family of believers in Jesus Christ.**

25 Church Street | Post Office Box 250  
Cleveland, Georgia 30528  
[www.firstcleveland.com](http://www.firstcleveland.com)

# Welcome to Worship

Sunday, September 21, 2025 | 10:30 AM

Prelude

Welcome – Dennis Turner

Pastor's Pals (Children's Time) – Phil Weaver

[Note: This part of the service is on our live stream.]

\*Congregational Singing (Hymn \*\*)

Offertory Prayer – Manning Minton

Worship In Song – Praise Team

\*Congregational Singing (Hymn 348)

Choir Special

Message – Phil Weaver

\*Song of Invitation and Response (Hymn 480)

Benediction – Manning Minton

Postlude

*\*Please stand, if able.*

*\*\* Not found in Celebration Hymnal*

*The altar is available for you to bring your decisions and prayer needs before the Lord. Come and present yourself as "a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship" (Romans 12:1).*

## Current Sermon Series

# No Matter What

Nehemiah's  
Message for Today



Please silence your cellphone before the service begins.

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

**Grand Adult Visit to The Millennium Gate Museum – Tuesday, September 23:** Join us as we visit Atlanta's very own triumphal arch, housing a world-class boutique museum of Georgia history. Cost is \$15.00 each, plus lunch. Please pre-register for this trip if you plan to go. We will leave the church at **9:00 AM**.

**College and Career Cornhole Tournament:** All "College and Career" individuals are invited to a cornhole tournament on **Friday, September 26**, in our lower parking lot area at **6:00 PM**. Live music, food, and prizes will be provided. All skill levels welcome. Contact Manning Minton for more information.

**Crafters:** Crafters will meet in Heritage Hall, **Thursday, September 25**, at **10:00 AM**.

**Ladies' Fall Craft Night:** Enjoy a fun and relaxing evening with your fellow ladies from church. We'll be making an adorable Dryer Vent Pumpkin Topiary. We'll be meeting in Heritage Hall on **Tuesday, September 30**, from **6:00 - 8:00 PM**. Bring a friend and your creativity, and let's make some beautiful memories together. Call the church office or register online by September 26, to ensure enough supplies. Contact Jennifer Wollett for more information.

**State Mission Offering:** During September, we're participating in the 2025 "Mission Georgia" State Mission Offering. This year's theme is "Missions in Motion," and the statewide goal is \$1.5 Million. Mark your contributions "State Missions."

### Part-Time Children's Ministry Director Update

The CFBC Personnel Committee is pleased to announce Donnie Filaski will assume the role of part-time Children's Ministry Director effective October 1. He will continue serving as the church Administrative Assistant as well with his hours and work week extended to accommodate additional responsibilities for the new role.  
(Note: The church office hours will remain the same.)

## Connect with Us

If you are visiting with us, we welcome you As our special guest. We invite you to fill out a guest's card and give it to an usher during the time of offertory. You can also use the provided QR code with your smartphone to enter online.



Following the service, we invite you to meet our pastors. They would be delighted to share more information about CFBC. Again, welcome to our church!

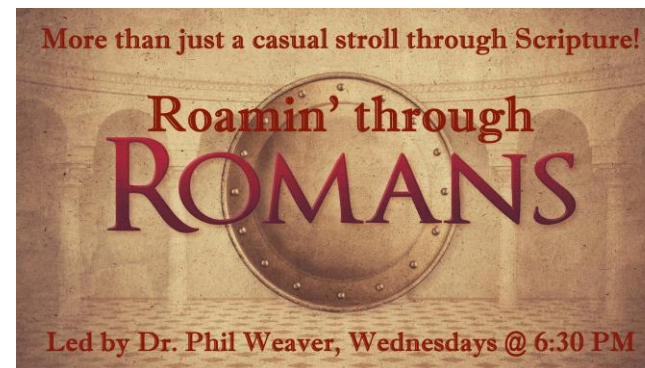
**Live Stream:** Download the CFBC app or follow our Facebook page for announcements and live stream of the worship service.



## CFBC Online Giving

firstcleveland.com

**Online Giving:** CFBC now offers online giving through our website at firstcleveland.com. You also can download our church app from the Google Play Store or Apple Store to set up your account.





Cleveland First Baptist Church – Sunday, September 21, 2025  
Message by Dr. Phillip E. Weaver

**No Matter What: Committed Service to a Holy and Faithful God**  
**Pt. 15: “Guarding Your Gates:**  
**Standing Watch Over What Matters” (Nehemiah 7:1-4)**

In the Old Testament, the city gate was the center of public life. Within our church and our personal lives, we have a hubbub of activity going on as well. How well are we “**guarding our gates**”? Are we standing watch over what really matters in life—what God has given us? If you neglect your gates, you risk losing all you’ve gained!

**1) The Completion:**

A New **Beginning**, Not an End (Neh. 7:1)

**2) The Appointment:**

Trustworthy **Leadership** (Neh. 7:2)

**3) The Establishment:**

Clear Procedures and **Boundaries** (Neh. 7:3-4)

**4) The Application:**

Daily Guarding the **Gates** of Your Soul

- **Proverbs 4:23:** “Watch over [guard] your **heart** with all diligence, for from it flow the **springs** of life.”

***Which gate have you left unguarded? Who is guarding your soul? What procedures do you need to put in place?***

- Spiritual **alertness**
- **Fellowship** and community
- Personal **responsibility** (for your faith)

We stand a large fork in the road! Jesus taught about the “narrow gate” to eternal life and the “wide gate” to destruction (Matt. 7:13-14). He is the “gate” since whoever enters through Him will be saved (Jn. 10:9)! If you’ve never invited Jesus to rebuild your life—if your heart’s walls lie in ruins, let Him in.

**“Lift up your heads, O gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of Glory may come in!” (Ps. 24:7)**



**September 21, 2025**

**Jonathan &  
Melissa Parnell**

St. Paul, Minnesota

*Pray this week that God would bring more church planting families like the Parnells to the fertile ground of the Twin Cities.*

Jonathan serves as a Send City Missionary for the Twin Cities (St. Paul and Minneapolis). He trains and encourages fellow pastors as they try to reach their cities with the good news about Jesus. Jonathan, Melissa, and their family arrived in the Twin Cities in 2008 for theological training. He planted Cities Church in 2015. Today, the church meets on one of the most historic streets in the state, just a few blocks from the governor’s mansion. Deep loneliness and fragmentation surround the church, despite being in an educated and desirable neighborhood. Recently, Rob and Anna began attending worship services at Cities Church upon the invitation of their landlord. Struggling with drug use, the couple came under conviction as they heard God’s Word. Both were baptized last spring and now sit with the Parnell family in worship weekly.



***Through our support of the Cooperative Program, our church helps missionaries like Jonathan as he trains church planters throughout the region so they can reach people like Rob and Anna with the love of Jesus.***

For additional resources, scan the code or visit **[sbc.net/cpstories](https://sbc.net/cpstories)**