collegeroad BAPTIST CHURCH

Faith Family Forever

Issue: November 2026

Pastor's Corner

DR. ALAN COTNEY, LEAD PASTOR



Dear College Road Family,

Of all the months on the calendar, November may be my favorite. Not because of the food, though I will not turn it down, but because it invites us to stop and say thank you. This year I have much to thank God for, and most of it has your fingerprints on it. I am grateful for your unity. I am grateful for your generosity. Those two things do not always travel together in a church, but they have here, and that is the work of the Holy Spirit among us. Thank you for giving, serving, and following the Lord together with such gladness. Two dates deserve your attention. On November 15, we gather for our annual Church Family Meeting, where we will approve our 2027 budget and leaders and celebrate all the Lord has done this year. Then on November 22 at 3:00 p.m., our Ministry Fair gives you the chance to meet leaders from across our ministries and discover where your passions and gifts fit best. If you have been looking for a place to serve, that afternoon is for you.

On the Forward Initiative, work continues behind the scenes with the city and our engineers. I will keep you posted as things progress. Keep praying.

And keep joining us on Sunday mornings as we walk through 1 John in Love Without Fear.

Thank you for being a grateful, generous, unified church family. I love being your pastor.

Faith, Family, Forever
Pastor Alan

Getting to Know the Wives of our Pastors

YOLAIDA RAMIREZ REYES



Yolaida, wife of Pastor Orlando Reyes of CRBC, Dunnellon Campus was born in Bayamo, capital of Granma Province, Cuba and grew up with her father and mother. She developed a passion for artistic gymnastics and won national championships from ages 6-14. She earned a degree in physical education, sports and recreation at the Universidad del Deporte de Granma. For 13 years she worked as an artistic gymnastics coach and achieved several national titles.

Meeting Orlando on March 8, 1984, they were married in 1985. During their early relationship Orlando, being a Christian, shared the Gospel and she received the new birth and salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. They joined First Baptist Church of Bayamo and were discipled and sent out to establish prayer groups, house churches, missions and new church plants in various places throughout Cuba and Spain.

Yolaida states that the more than 40 years in ministry as a pastor's wife has been centered on serving others and reaching and discipling children and women to grow by loving God. Both Yolaida and Pastor Orlando have attended and led talks, workshops and conferences. She has also completed Level One and Level Two studies through Child Evangelism Fellowship and the Cross-Cultural Course offered by "DELPHOS", the Chilean missionary agency.

As the mother of two children, son Orlando Yesley and daughter Rut, she is devoted to teach, instruct, correct,

(Cont'd on page 2)

SUNDAY SERVICES

Ocala English:
8:00 am & 9:30 am (Traditional)
11:00 am (Modern)
Ocala Spanish: 11:00 am
Ocala Haitian Creole 1:00 pm
Ocala Portuguese 5:00 pm
Dunnellon Spanish 11:30 am

OUR PASTORS

Dr. Alan Cotney
Jeff Rountree
Jason Kaminski
Kevin Bradford
Brandon Glisson
Rogney Paz
Orlando Reyes
Andrés Cañola
Joel Petit Noel

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For information on current events and opportunities, check out the "events" tab on our website.

Register for any event online or by calling the church office at 352-237-5741.

Wives of our Pastors

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encourage, protect and provide security and love along with her husband as God's Word instructs. She said, "It brings us great joy to see them serving the Lord alongside their families."

Currently in her professional life outside of ministry, she works as a classroom assistant with children at a Montessori school while enjoying Christ's unconditional love along with her husband, children and precious grandchildren and the brothers and sisters of their church family at CRBC Dunnellon.

Behind the Music

DON AND BRENDA HALLGREN



Brenda and Don Hallgren came to CRBC in the fall of 2013, later joined the church and Brenda began playing the piano in 2015. They have been actively involved in the music ministry, and their talents are enjoyed each Sunday here at CRBC by everyone in the 8:00 am and 9:30 am services.

They met at Brenda's home church, Worth Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas while Brenda traveled with a choral group from college called the "Choralaires". Growing up with her mom, dad, a brother and a sister in Fort Worth, Texas, she began playing piano very young, began piano lessons when she turned six years old and became the church pianist at age 15. She attended Arlington Baptist College majoring in business and music. Brenda is a Florida-registered paralegal having worked for the state attorney office; then, for 43 years for the same attorney until he retired in 2024.

Don, born in Worcestor, Massachusetts, second oldest of eight children, grew up in West Hollywood, Florida. He earned a Bachelor of Sacred Music degree with a major in Choral Directing from Bible Baptist Seminary in Arlington, Texas. Before moving to Florida, he worked full-time for Southern Pacific Railroad working the midnight shift so he could work part-time at the church.

The two of them worked with their pastor at Burleson Baptist Temple in Burleson, Texas and at New York Avenue Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas. Then in 1975 when their pastor moved to Starke, Florida, he called for them to work with him there. In 1976 they went "in view of a call" which they accepted and worked for five years at Pine Level Baptist.

During the time they ministered in Starke, the church started a Christian school and built a new auditorium all while Don and Brenda worked with the music, youth, and made mission trips to Mexico. Don started and supervised the Bus Ministry with eight buses bringing in 300-400 children and families to church each week.

After moving from Starke to Ocala, they ministered at Central Baptist Church for three years where Don conducted the "Living Christmas Tree" during the holiday season. Then at First Baptist Ocala, they led an ensemble, "Higher Ground" who traveled to other churches to sing and speak. They also worked at a church in Morriston, Florida for several years as Music and Youth Pastor where they started the "AWANA" program for the children and the "WORD OF LIFE" program for the youth. They organized a concert series twice a year with well-known musical groups.

Don's hobbies include his love for animals and caring for various flowers and plants, making the landscape of their home a beautiful scene year-round. They have been married 57 years and have two girls (cats) – Bailey and Brandy.

Don, the new winter concert coordinator, would like everyone to sign up for the upcoming special Christmas program scheduled on Thursday, December 10th featuring the LeFevre Quartet and Michael Booth, a member of the Booth Brothers. This can be done on the church center app, or by calling the church office.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

Psalms 100:4

NEW MEMBERS/BAPTISMS

Athena Baker
Isabela Cotney
Katelyn Cotney
Dana Davis
Joyce Fortner
Rex Fortner
Emily Glisson
Dawn James
Jonathan James
Larry Johnson
Mary Johnson
Lisanne Poldvee
Phil Poldvee
Doris Ruiz
Santos Ruiz Jr.
David Thomas
Donna Thomas

DID YOU KNOW?

Turkey was not on the original "Thanksgiving" menu when it was first celebrated in 1621. During the three-day harvest feast between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag tribe it is reported that they feasted on venison, ducks, geese, lobster, clams, fish and swan.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a 19th century writer known for writing "Mary Had a Little Lamb", wrote a letter to President Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of State William Seward in 1863 asking them to declare Thanksgiving as a national holiday. We still celebrate Thanksgiving, but probably use turkey in the main course.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

First Sunday of each month we collect a Benevolence offering for members of our church who are experiencing difficulties.

Third Sunday of each month we collect nonperishable food items for Interfaith.

HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OR EVENT TO SHARE?

Contact the Newsletter Team via Sharon Hall at skhall.sharon@gmail.com. Please provide your name and contact info with the request.

Newsletter Team:
Marcia McIntosh, Betty Pipkins & Sharon Hall

2026 CHURCH THEME

forward
Faith Family Forever

4th Annual Christmas Toy Chest

PROVIDED BY: OUTREACH MINISTRY

Christmas is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Jesus with our community! Join us for our 4th Annual Christmas Toy Chest on Saturday, December 5, from 9 AM to 12 PM.

Last year, our church family blessed 51 families with 1,029 gifts, and more than 100 volunteers shared the love of Christ through kindness, prayer, and the hope of the Gospel.

You can be part of this special day! Beginning November 1, you can sign up to volunteer or choose a gift to purchase from the ornaments on our Christmas tree. Together, let's bring joy, share hope, and remind families of the true meaning of Christmas!

Christmas Concert

This year our Christmas Concert features the LeFevre Quartet and Michael Booth on Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 pm.

The LeFevre Quartet have been sharing gospel music since 2005 with the desire to reach people with the message of hope, faith and salvation. Michael Booth has been sharing the gospel through music his entire life and joins us for this special Christmas Concert.

Tickets have been selling fast, so don't miss your opportunity. Check the church website for availability.

Show Love Sunday

November 1 will be our Show Love Sunday, an opportunity to reach out to those around you that are lost or without a church home and invite them to join you for church.

Diabetes Awareness Presentation

Join us on Thursday, November 5 at 1:00 PM for a presentation by Dr. David Willis with Sabal Direct Primary Care as he discusses diabetes care and GLP-1 medications. Register on the church website or call the church office.

Ministry Fair

Are you looking for a way to serve in our church ministries. Save the date for November 22, 3:00 - 4:00 PM. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about our various ministries and how you can find a place to serve.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Don't have family in town? Come and share Thanksgiving with your church family. Thursday, November 26 at 12:00 PM. Lunch will be served with all the Thanksgiving traditional sides. Register on the church website.



WALK FOR LIFE

Walk for Life is a two-mile, fun, family-friendly celebration of life sponsored by Education For Life. Money raised during the annual Walk for Life impacts countless women, men and families each year.

This year's walk is on Saturday, November 7, 2026, at Citizens' Circle. Stop by the table under the portico for more information or go to EducationForLife.org/WalkForLife to register to walk or to donate to a walker.

Support one of our CRBC walkers by pledging directly through them or making an online donation supporting your walker.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Register on the church website.

November 1 - Show Love Sunday
November 5 - Diabetes Awareness Presentation
November 7 - Walk for Life (see info above)
November 15 - Discover College Road
November 15 - Family Meeting
November 21 - Men's Breakfast
November 22 - Ministry Fair
November 26 - Thanksgiving Dinner
December 3 - Pre-Diabetes Presentation
December 9 - Surviving the Holidays Presentation
December 10 - Christmas Concert (Ticketed event)
December 19 - Men's Breakfast



As our church grows, so grows our Kids Ministry. There are so many ways to serve in our Kids Ministry; maybe there's a spot just for you. For more information on how you can serve, contact Pastor Brandon.

DISCOVER COLLEGE ROAD

Meets monthly for your opportunity to learn more aboaut College Road Baptish CHurch. Next date is November 15 from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Lunch is provided. Register on the website or contact the church office.