

**2024 SPIRITUAL  
GROWTH PLAN**



*Hide*  
**YOUR WORD**  
*in my* **HEART**

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**Psalm 119:11**







CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Elders**

Tim Hall  
Junior Jenkins  
Mike Linkous  
Mark Pettit

**Deacons**

Josh Chancey  
Nathan Collier  
Tim Hensley  
John Johnson  
Brandon Jones  
Barry Kingsley  
Jason Ledford  
Tate McCoy  
Will Parker  
Barry Pritchett  
Garry Rittenberry  
Daniel Sisson  
Mark Wilson

**Ministers**

Jeremy Green

January 7, 2024

Dear Church Family,

As we enter a new year, we want each of you to know how much we love you and how blessed we are to be your shepherds. 2023 was another great year, and we are thankful for the time we spent growing closer to Jesus through our studies.

As we turn the page to 2024, we want to continue to study God's Word in a deep, meaningful way while growing together in service to our church and community. With that in mind, our theme for the year comes from the text of Psalm 119:11, which reads, ***"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."*** The Psalmist tells us that we need to do more than know the Word; we must seal it in our hearts to let it guide every step of our lives. This year, we will focus on developing a love of God's Word while also focusing on making life-changing application along the way.

To aid in this, the 2024 growth plan includes weekly, family devotionals to both teach and apply Scripture at home. We believe this will be of great benefit to our families and our church family. We lovingly ask that you do your best to use these and have family devotional time at least once a week.

Once again, we love you, and we are always available to help you in any way! We are looking forward to a great year!

In Christian Love,

The Elders

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Hall

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Junior Jenkins

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Linkous

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Pettit

## 2024 Congregational Goals

### **Grow in the Knowledge and Application of God's Word**

- The Ellijay church family will emphasize the importance of attending Bible classes for all age groups
- All members of the Ellijay family will be actively involved in all worship services
- The Ellijay church family will be encouraged to participate in home Bible studies by using the 2024 planner

### **Prioritize Outreach as a Main Focus of the Ellijay Church Family**

- As a church, evangelism will be a top priority for every member
- Choose one Sunday night a month to have a devotional and then break up into four AGAPE Groups to focus on evangelism
- Place evangelistic thrust on every church event to fulfill the Great Commission
- Increase local outreach, including collecting diapers, distributing school supplies, and similar efforts
- Continue to support domestic mission work – Hiawassee, Murphy, Toccoa, Camp Wetoga, GST, and the North GA College Ministry
- Continue to support foreign mission work – Jamaica, Africa, India
- Explore a mission trip with Partners 4 Africa in the summer of 2025

### **Promote Spiritual Growth within the Youth and C-Squad**

- Prioritize teaching the plan of salvation to each member of the youth group
- Focus on parental involvement in youth activities
- Increased focus on biblical teaching and spiritual growth
- Understand the value of spending time together as Christians
- Implement new curriculum program for kids in kindergarten through 5th grade
- Begin a new middle school class for grades 6-8

### **Emphasize Outreach to Hispanic Families in the Ellijay Community**

- Continue to utilize Homework Club as a method of reaching young people and their parents
- Continue to use Homework Club to lead outreach to Spanish-speaking families in Ellijay

### **Focus on Leadership within the Ellijay Congregation**

- As elders, emphasize the role of shepherding and devotion to prayer and ministry of the Word
- Continue to increase communication and delegation to deacons
- Utilize a mentoring program to identify and develop future elders and deacons
- Further utilize the Lads to Leaders program to develop leadership among young people

### **Encourage and Expand Communication throughout the Church Family**

- Challenge each member to utilize the Realm app on smart devices to access directory information and receive important messages and updates instantly
- Continue to emphasize communication using social media, the church website, Realm, and the telephone callout system
- Increase focus on reciprocal communication between the elders and members as we strive to grow together
- Maintain focus on the seriousness and significance of worship by planning services in greater detail and communicating with the deacons in charge if you are not able to serve when assigned

### **Highlight and Attend Special Events throughout 2023**

- Ladies Day (March 10) and Men's Christian Leadership Conference (March 25 w/ Cliff Goodwin)
- Spring Revival and Friends and Family Day (April 28-May 1)
- Ellijay Week - Camp Wetoga (June 23-28)
- VBS (July 21-24)
- Fall Revival (October 25-27 w/ Guest Speaker Dan Winkler)

# *Tentative Congregational Calendar of Events/Activities 2024*

## **JANUARY**

7th..... Present Growth Plan to Congregation  
8th..... GSOP Course Begins - Christian Ethics  
14th.....Agape Groups - PM Service  
28th..... Early Afternoon Service

## **FEBRUARY**

9th ..... Valentine's Dinner  
11th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
19th..... GSOP Course Ends  
25th..... Early Afternoon Service

## **MARCH**

10th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
16th..... Ladies Day  
23rd..... Men's Christian Leadership Conference  
24th..... Early Afternoon Service  
29-31..... Lads to Leaders Convention

## **APRIL**

14th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
28th..... Friends and Family Day/Early Afternoon Service  
29th - 1st..... Spring Revival

## **MAY**

12th..... Raintree Children's Home Appeal  
12th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
19th..... Graduation Luncheon/Early Afternoon Service

## **JUNE**

2nd..... Summer Series Begins  
2nd-7th..... Backwoods Christian Camp  
19th..... Agape Groups  
23rd-28th..... Camp Wetoga

## **JULY**

4th ..... Fireworks in back parking lot  
10th..... Agape Groups  
10th -15th... .PTP - Branson  
21st - 24th....VBS

## **AUGUST**

4th.....Back to School Youth Night  
9th-10th.....GSOP Short Course  
14th..... Agape Groups  
16th-22nd.... PTP - Sevierville

## **SEPTEMBER**

8th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
20th-21st... Family Retreat (Camp Wetoga)  
29th..... Early Afternoon Service

## **OCTOBER**

13th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
25th-27th... Fall Revival - Dan Winkler  
27th..... Early Afternoon Service  
31st..... Trunk or Treat at Pritchett Farm

## **NOVEMBER**

1st-3rd.... Grief Seminar - Dean Miller  
17th..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
26th..... Thanksgiving Service

## **DECEMBER**

1st..... Agape Groups - PM Service  
8th..... Congregational Holiday Party After PM Service  
13th..... Prepare Fruit Baskets  
25th..... Special Prayer/Singing Service

## 2024 ECoC Youth Activities

Community Service / Youth Events / Can Combine C-squad & Youth

<p><b><u>January 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> (Saturday morning): Escape Room &amp; Lunch (6<sup>th</sup> grade &amp; up)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>July 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTP (July 10-15)</li> <li>VBS (July 21-24)</li> <li>July 27<sup>th</sup> (Sat.): Rafting/Tubing Trip, followed by lunch (6<sup>th</sup> grade &amp; up)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>February 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> (Fri.): Senior Saints Valentine's Dinner</li> <li>Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> (Fri.-Sun. ... at tail end of school's Winter Break): Y.E.S. Weekend in Valdosta (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade and college students)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>August 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> (Fri.-Sun.): Camping Trip 411 River Rest Campground Chatsworth (catch 'n' release fishing, sports, games, campfire singing &amp; devo Fri &amp; Sat evenings, etc.) ... Younger kids may come during day on Saturday for activities, lunch, dinner, &amp; campfire</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>March 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 9<sup>th</sup> (Saturday morning): BAKING CLASS &amp; delivery of items to elderly/shut-ins or community first responders (6<sup>th</sup> grade &amp; up)</li> <li>March 24<sup>th</sup> (Sunday after afternoon service): Easter Egg Hunt</li> <li>March 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>: Lads 2 Leaders</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>September 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> (Sat. morning/afternoon): Hiking &amp; Picnic at Amicalola Falls</li> <li>Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> (Sunday afternoon): Progressive LUNCH</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>April 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 14<sup>th</sup> (Sunday afternoon): Lunch &amp; Cemetery Workday (all ages), followed by a Scavenger Hunt (6<sup>th</sup> grade &amp; up) and movie &amp; popcorn at church building (pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>October 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> (Sunday evening): Desserts, Devo, &amp; Trivia Night (6<sup>th</sup> grade through college age)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>May 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 5<sup>th</sup> (Sunday afternoon): Lunch then Devo in Cashes Valley (grades 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; up)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>November 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> (Saturday morning/afternoon): Breakfast then yardwork for shut-ins and elderly             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> (Friday): Friendsgiving Meal &amp; hangout (6<sup>th</sup> grade &amp; up)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b><u>June 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June 2-7: Backwoods Christian Camp</li> <li>June 23-28: Camp Wetoga (Ellijay Week)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>December 2023</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> (Fri): Youth Holiday Party (possible Lock-In ... 6<sup>th</sup> grade &amp; up)</li> <li>Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>: Exposure Youth Camp</li> </ul>



# 2024 SUMMER SERIES

## OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST



June 2 – Crucifying the Old Man (Romans 6:6)

*Jody Apple, Dahlonega, GA*

June 9 – Be Transformed (Romans 12:1-2)

*Andrew Kingsley, Montgomery, AL*

June 16 – Resetting Our Hearts and Minds (Colossians 3:1-4)

*Caleb Cochran, Enterprise, AL*

### **June 23 – Camp Wetoga**

June 30 – Clothed With Compassion and Kindness (Colossians 3:12)

*Mike Underwood, Blue Ridge, GA*

July 7 – Clothed With Humility, Gentleness, and Patience (Colossians 3:12)

*Elliot Glasgow, Columbus, GA*

July 14 – Bear With Each Other and Forgive (Colossians 3:13)

*Jake Sutton, Marietta, GA*

### **July 21 – Vacation Bible School**

July 28 – Bound Together by Love (Colossians 3:14)

*Justin Mason, Rockmart, GA*

August 4 – Do All in the Name of the Lord (Colossians 3:17)

*Robert Tipps, Manchester, TN (**Back to School Youth Night**)*

August 11 – God’s Special Possession (1 Peter 2:9)

*Matt Wallin, Rome, GA*

August 18 – Words That Build Up (Ephesians 4:29)

*Jordan Alker, Northport, AL*

August 25 – We Are Now Children of God (1 John 3:1-2)

*Harold Savage, Snellville, GA*



**Winter Quarter December - February**

**Sunday Morning**  
Auditorium

Jeremy Green

Bible By the Book

**Wednesday Evening**  
Auditorium

Jeremy Green

Frequently Asked Questions

**Spring Quarter March - May**

**Sunday Morning**  
Auditorium

Jeremy Green

Bible By the Book

**Wednesday Evening**  
Auditorium

James Barr

How to Study the Bible

**Summer Quarter June - August**

**Sunday Morning**  
Auditorium

Jeremy Green

Bible By the Book

**Wednesday Evening**  
Auditorium

Various Teachers

TBD

**Fall Quarter September - November**

**Sunday Morning**  
Auditorium

Jeremy Green

Bible By the Book

**Wednesday Evening**  
Auditorium

Elders

Overlooked Sins





## Work Area Contacts

### Elders

Tim Hall- Edification, Finance, Evangelism

Junior Jenkins – Youth, Building and Grounds, Security and Transportation

Mike Linkous – Evangelism, Finance

Mark Pettit – Adult Education, Benevolence, Worship, Technology

### Work Area Contacts

Evangelism- Mike Linkous (478-955-5836) Barry Kingsley (706-273-6153) Jeremy Green (334-614-1503)

Benevolence- Curtis Kingsley (706-515-5146) Church Office (706-635-2950)

Edification- Daniel Sisson (770-595-8141) Damien Baker (770-597-6235) Barry Kingsley (706-273-6153)

Adult Education- Barry Pritchett (706-889-8409) Jeremy Green (334-614-1503)

Youth Education & Youth – Mark Wilson (770-596-6742) Brandon Jones (706-273-8762) Josh Chancey (706-669-6848)

Lads to Leaders- Brandon Jones (706-273-8762)

C-Squad- Jeremy Green (334-614-1503)

Hispanic Ministry- John Johnson (706-669-0422)

Worship Support- Jason Ledford (706-669-4504) Tim Hensley (706-669-3874) Clyde Cody (404-863-1818) Alan Hall (706-972-5592)

Finance- Nathan Collier (706-972-4789) Bob Burkewitz (706-889-4455)

Technology/Advertising- Will Parker (706-889-1021) Nathan Collier (706-972-4789) Nathan Bagwell (770-366-1550)

Security- Will Parker (706-889-1021) Tate McCoy (706-669-0667)

Transportation- John Johnson (706-669-0422) Damien Baker (770-597-6235) Caelan Scarbrough (706-834-8903)

Building and Grounds- Brandon Jones (706-273-8762) Garry Rittenberry (706-889-1777) Jason Ledford (706-669-4504) Tim Hensley (706-669-3874)

**ELLIJAY CHURCH OF CHRIST  
PROJECTED BUDGET 2024**

**LOCAL EVANGELISM**

Advertising .....	\$ 2,500
Gospel Meeting/Summer Series/Visiting Preachers.....	11,000
Workshops, Campaigns and Outreach.....	5,600
Ministers' Support (Salary, housing, expenses).....	84,000
Recording & Technical Equipment and Web Site.....	7,000
Tracts/Periodicals/Magazines.....	2,000
Outreach Ministry.....	8,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 120,100</b>

**MISSIONS**

Murphy, N.C. Church of Christ .....	\$ 1,200
Toccoa Church of Christ .....	1,200
Hiawassee Church of Christ.....	6,000
North Georgia Bible Camp (WETOGA).....	2,400
Crossville Church of Christ (India).....	1,200
Highgate Church of Christ (Jamaica) .....	2,400
Jenkins Institute.....	1,200
Other Mission Works .....	1,200
North Georgia College Ministry.....	3,600
GA School of Theology .....	1,200
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 21,600</b>

**BENEVOLENCE**

Assistance to Needy.....	\$ 22,000
Family Counseling.....	3,000
Flowers, Cards, Fruit Baskets.....	2,500
Disaster Relief.....	3,500
Memorial Gardens.....	1,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 32,000</b>

**EDUCATION**

Bible Study Literature, Supplies.....	\$ 2,500
Vacation Bible School.....	5,000
Library.....	1,000
GA School of Preaching Teachers.....	2,100
Teacher Workshop & Appreciation.....	1,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 11,600</b>

**YOUTH**

Lads to Leaders & Leaderettes.....	\$ 9,000
Youth Activities.....	7,000
Campaign, Camp, Youth, Workshops, Retreats& Missions, Homework Club.....	15,000
Youth College Scholarships.....	3,000
Youth Intern .....	4,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 38,000</b>

**EDIFICATION**

Fellowship Activities & Edification.....	\$ 6,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATION**

Office Worker .....	\$	34,632
Postage, Office Supplies .....		3,000
Copier Lease & Maintenance.....		6,000
Finance Administration (Quickbook, Payroll, Software).....		4,500
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>48,132</b>

**CHURCH BUILDINGS/GROUNDS**

Building Care/Cleaning.....	\$	13,000
Electricity.....		25,000
Heating/Gas.....		4,000
Water & Sewage.....		1,000
Telephone/Security and Training.....		6,000
Trash Removal.....		2,300
Repairs, Improvements & Maintenance, Supplies.....		34,153
Church Residence Maintenance.....		1,000
Insurance.....		12,000
Debt Service.....		45,480
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>143,933</b>

**TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE (3 Vehicles).....** **\$ 5,000**

<b>Total Budget 2024</b>	<b>\$426,365</b>
<b>Weekly Budget 2024</b>	<b>\$ 8,200</b>