



July 12, 2026

TUG OF WAR



The “In Charge” Confusion

Jesus said, “You are the branches...” *JOHN 15:5*

To Our Friends & Guests

From the Branches Family, To Our Friends and Guests

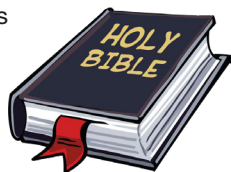
We are pleased that you made the choice to spend your morning with us. You may be starting your search for God, or you may be looking for a place to enhance the faith you already have. The Branches Family wants to serve you by helping you progress at your own pace. We don't intend to pressure you, or automatically follow up with a visit or phone call. In respect of your privacy we let you tell us if, or when, you want more information. Just use the chair cards or give us a call with the numbers listed in this bulletin.

Check Out Our Chair Cards

There are cards located in the seat backs/racks for anybody seeking more information or a follow-up. If you fill one out, please place it in the offering box, or hand to one of our ministers.

Bibles

In keeping with our desire of leading you into God's Word, we try to put the Bible verses used on the screens. Bibles have also been placed under the chairs in front of you. Feel free to use one to follow along with the sermon and if you don't have a Bible, you are welcome to take one home with you. **It's yours!**



Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request or praise please write it down on the card provided on the table before you enter the auditorium and place it in the box by 9:55am. We will gladly share it at the beginning of the service and send out in the church prayer email.

A Special Word about Communion

It is our practice to observe communion at the end of the service every Lord's Day; the bread and the juice remind us of the sacrifice of Christ's body and blood made on our behalf. We invite all Christians to join us in this opportunity for remembrance and to partake of the elements when ready. The elements will be served as a double cup with the bread in the lower cup and juice in the top. Gluten-free cups are at the Welcome Center and may be picked up before church.

Worship Can Include Giving

We didn't forget to pass the offering plate, we haven't done that for 25 years. As a guest, if you'd like to share, you will find a mail slot on either side of the sound booth just before exiting the auditorium doors.

EVENTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Weekly at Branches

- Sundays 9:00a – Adult Sun School
- Sundays 10:00a – Worship with Children Programs
Birth through 5th in the Foundation
- Mondays 7:00p – Guys Group
- Mondays 8:00p – Beyond Human Aid Recovery Meeting
- Tuesdays 10:00a – Crocheting Class
- Tuesdays 6:00p – Free Yoga Class
- Wednesdays 7:00p – Worship
- Thursdays 6:30p – Ladies Bible Study – Elijah
- Sunday – 7/12 – DNA Foundations of Faith

Check out the website/app for more information and locations

Foundation Kidz

As our children's ministry continues to grow, we are expanding our classes and need more volunteers. Each week, we require six teachers/helpers and one person to staff the security desk.

Moving forward, our children's ministry will now be called "The Foundation Kidz," reflecting our focus on building foundational faith elements.

The concepts behind the changes to Foundation Kidz and the new classroom names are:

+ Loved and Growing (Ages 2–K):

Focusing on identity and the message "Jesus Loves Me."

+ Rooted and Rising (1st–3rd Grade):

Focusing on the theme "My Faith Has Roots."

+ Brave and Ready (4th–6th Grade):

Focusing on the theme "I Can Stand for Jesus."

If you would like to join this ministry and serve our children, please let Tim know.



EVENTS and OPPORTUNITIES

MUST Summer Lunch

Collecting from 6/21 to the 7/18 Packing Party

We are participating in the Must Ministries "Summer Lunch" Program. MUST's goal is to provide breakfast and lunch to eight surrounding counties. Last year they fed 7,500+ children 500,000+ meals during the 9 weeks the schools were out for summer



Branches will be participating by collecting food donations from their list, as well as donations to purchase said items, to make as many food kits as possible. We will collect from Sunday, June 21st till July 15th. On Sat., July 18th we will lay out all the food items and build the Kits. If you would like to participate, we will start at 9am and once finished we will then deliver them to the Must warehouse.

For a list of items needed please pick one up in the lobby or go to our website or app/events. To donate online, go to the Giving tab and follow the steps. Thank you!

VBS Wednesday Nights

Meals in July

We are excited to announce Operation Arctic, our Wednesday Night VBS for the summer! VBS will be held every Wednesday in June and July from 7-8 PM. This year's VBS has something for everyone: **VBS for toddlers through 6th grade, BTM for 6th grade and up, and a service for adults from 7-8 PM.** Go to the Branches Website or App to register the kids.

We will have an optional **MEAL** before VBS each week, costing \$5 per person or \$10 per family.

Wednesday, **July 15th** – Chandler will be serving **Chicken Tacos, Beans & Rice**. Sign up on the app or website by July 12th.

Wednesday, **July 22nd** – Chandler will be serving **Roasted Pork, Mashed Potatoes, and Broccoli**. Sign up on the app or website by July 19th.

Please sign up on the Branches app/website to pay and register.

Sista Suppah – 7/13

Ladies, come join your host, **Mary Jo Sanspree** and your Branches Sistas on Mon., July 13th, 6:30pm, at **Texas Roadhouse, 2150 Cobb Place, Kennesaw 30144**, for food and laughter. RSVP on the "Events" page on the website/app or to MJ by noon, July 12th.

EVENTS and OPPORTUNITIES

Big Book & Bigger Book Bible Study - 7/17

Everyone is invited to join us as we explore the relationship between the Big Book and the Bigger Book—the Bible. Together we'll discuss how the principles found in the Big Book align with God's Word and how both can encourage healing, hope, and spiritual growth.

The study will be led by **Lawrence Lozano**, teaching from the Big Book, and **Tim Hanesworth**, teaching from the Bigger Book (the Bible).

Thursdays beginning July 17, 7:00–9:00 PM, Branches of Christ.

Whether you are in recovery, have a loved one in recovery, or simply want to better understand the connection between these two books, everyone is welcome.

Foundation Renovation Workday – 7/18

We're in the final stages of renovating the Foundation, and we'd love your help! Join us on **Saturday, July 18, from 9:00 AM–4:00 PM** as we work together to put the finishing touches on the space.

There is something for everyone, including organizing toys and supplies, hanging decorations, assembling shelves, painting, touch-up work, and decorating. Whether you can stay all day or just a few hours, your help will make a big difference.

Thank you for helping us prepare the Foundation to better serve our church family and community!

Ladies Lunch Bunch – 7/21

Sherlene Philp will be hosting the July 21st Ladies Lunch Bunch at **Chili's**, 1460 Towne Lake Pkwy, Woodstock, 30189. All ladies are invited to join us at 11:30am. Please RSVP on the app/website or to Sherlene by noon Mon., July 19th.



7 week Ladies Bible Study – Elijah – 7/9-8/20

Join us for an inspiring study of **Elijah** by Priscilla Shirer as we explore the life of one of God's most courageous prophets. Through this powerful study, you'll discover how to stand strong in faith, hear God's voice, trust Him in difficult seasons, and experience His presence in extraordinary ways. Beginning July 9th – 2 Study times on Thursdays, 10:00 AM or 6:30 PM.

Come connect with other women, deepen your relationship with God, and be encouraged through His Word. Whether you are new to Bible study or have been studying for years, all women are welcome! "The God who faithfully led Elijah is the same God who faithfully leads us today." We look forward to growing in faith together! Register on the Branches app or website.

EVENTS and OPPORTUNITIES

NEW – BBQ & Bros – 8/10

All men are invited to join us as we kick off our new monthly men's dinner, **Bros & BBQ!** Come enjoy great barbecue, fellowship, and an opportunity to connect with your Branches brothers.

Date: Monday, August 10

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Williamson Brothers BBQ, 1600 Marietta Hwy, Canton, GA 30114



Reservations are required, so please sign up on the app or see **John Templeton** for more information.

Operation Christmas Child

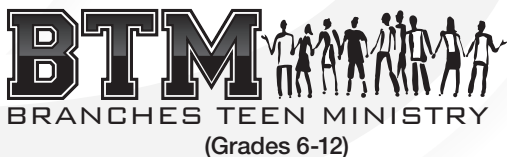
Christmas in July

Branches has participated in OCC for over 20+ years – thank you everyone!

Again, this year we are providing options for ways that you can participate:



1. Pick up a Shoebox from the foyer (or wrap your own regular shoebox) and **FILL** it up with items from the approved list. Then return it on Sun., Nov. 22nd to be prayed over and delivered to the Processing Center.
2. Donate an item(s) from the list to be used to fill shoeboxes at the Packing Party on Sun., Nov 8th
3. Pick up a quarter coin wrapper and fill it with quarters (\$10) to help with shipping the Packing Party shoeboxes. Return by Sun., Nov. 22nd.



Catalyst for Discipleship – 7/15

6:00-6:45 Meal – Sign up on Branches App

7-8:00p – Lesson

8-9:00p – Gen Next / BTM Hangout in the Foundation

We Believe...

...That Jesus Christ is the one and only Son of God who died for our sins and arose from the dead. *1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-8*

...That the Bible is the inspired word of God, truthful and useful in living out the Christian life. *2 TIMOTHY 3:16*

...That every person has worth as a creation of God, but that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. *ROMANS 3:23*

...That forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life are available to those who trust Christ as Savior and Lord. *JOHN 3:16*

...That those accepting Christ should repent of sin, confess their faith and be baptized into Him. *ROMANS 10:9 and ACTS 2:38*

...That the church is the body of Christ on earth, empowered by the Holy Spirit and exists to save the lost and edify the saved. *EPHESIANS 4:1-16*

...That Jesus Christ will one day return to resurrect those that have faithfully lived for Him. *1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18*

Branches Staff...

God's design for His church is that we'd all minister to each other and we pray for that ministry to take place. **Branches** has also been able to provide full time staff to assist us with that ministry. The office hours are 9:00 to 6:00 Monday thru Friday. Phone 770/917-4964.

Steve Pettit: Preacher, contact at 770/917-4964 or steve@branchesofChrist.com. *He is off on Tuesday.*

Tim Hanesworth: Minister of Education, Contact him at 770/ 375-5145 or timbranchesofchrist@gmail.com. *He is off on Thursday.*

Henry Leno: Worship Minister, contact him at 770/309-0600 or henry.leno@yahoo.com.

Julie Pettit: Church Administrator, contact at 770/917-4964 or julie@branchesofChrist.com. *She is in office M-F 9a-1p*

Our leadership is also willing to help you out:

Brett Thein: Chairman of the Elders. 404/775-3206

John Templeton: 678/508-4690



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E-MAIL: branchesofChrist@comcast.net

WEB: branchesofChrist.com

MEDIA: branchesofchrist.tv, Spotify, Apple Podcasts

Be Involved...

Thanks for Sharing

Branches is an independent, nondenominational church and operates solely through the gifts of transformed people that give back. Ministry happens as the Lord works through His Spirit in those that have received salvation. Practically, we don't have to charge people because of the hearts of those that have grown in the Grace of Giving and Honoring God. Jesus was the first and best to "Pay it Forward" by dying on the cross for us and our sin before we asked for it. As Christians, we follow His example and pay it forward, so those that benefit from "free" church grow to give so others can receive freely. Our budget represents what our ministries would LOVE to do. But we are only able to do that ministry according to what we have received.

Our weekly projected budget : \$6,778.06

June 28 – \$5,048.40

July 05 – \$5,671.40



Located down the stairs in The Foundation Area

Please Note: The Greenhouse is open on Sundays for Infants to 5th grade.

On Wednesdays childcare is provided for Infants to 1st Grade at this time.



THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYING



Nancy Hightower



Brian Carlin



Karsen & Allison Hettinger



I have not stopped giving thanks for you,
remembering you in my prayers (EPH 1:16)