



Key to the City Recognition

Dr. Robert Preston "Bob" Jolly

Since accepting the call to First Baptist Church Cumming as Lead Pastor in 1994, Dr. Robert Preston "Bob" Jolly has forged a path of tremendous growth for the church body, campus, and ministries. In 1996, Dr. Jolly proposed securing a new property and on that site, the church has incrementally constructed today's beautiful \$22 million facilities, with an additional expansion currently being drawn. The church staff has flourished from its initial three to nearly 30 full- and part-time staff members today. And of most significance, well over 1,000 men and women have given their lives to Christ in the last 30 years at FBC.

Dr. Jolly has consistently inspired First Baptist Cumming to truly set the pace of the Southern Baptist Convention for local, state, national, and international evangelism and missions. The church is recognized as a top-tier contributor in missions through Acts 1:8 to the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, Georgia Baptist Mission Board, and the Lanier Baptist Association. Under Dr. Jolly's leadership, FBC has sent mission teams to Ethiopia, Thailand, London, Atlanta, New York City, San Francisco, and Appalachia. Dr. Jolly has truly inspired First Baptist to live out its motto to be "the church that gives itself away."

With a genuine heart for investing in and serving the Cumming and Forsyth County community, Dr. Jolly has led FBC in numerous outreach endeavors, such as the annual church barbecue since 1995; Forsyth Family Fest in 2010 and 2011; baccalaureate services celebrating our high schools' seniors; National Day of Prayer events; and of course the children's favorite—Pastor Bob's tractor hayrides for FBC's weekday preschool and children's ministry.

Dr. Jolly's community leadership roles have included:

- President of the Forsyth County Ministerial Association for approximately 10 years
- Forsyth County Board Chairman for Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Forsyth County Board of Education community committees
- Volunteer Hospital Chaplain from 1994 to 2014

Likewise, many Georgia Baptist Boards have appointed Dr. Jolly, including:

- Georgia Baptist Health Care Counseling Board
- Georgia Baptist Health Care, Baptist North Board
- Georgia Baptist Health Care Ministry Foundation
- Georgia Baptist Mission Board Executive Committee
- Chairman of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board Executive Director Search Committee

Additionally, Dr. Jolly has served many community non-profit organizations, including:

- Whispering Hope
- Family Promise
- The Place of Forsyth
- Georgia Right to Life
- Americans Defending Freedom

Dr. Jolly has eternally impacted countless lives in our community, our state, our country, and around the world. First Baptist Church Cumming and the City of Cumming deeply appreciate his leadership and ministry of the past 30 years. In recognition of his immeasurable contributions and with immense gratitude, we present him with the City of Cumming's Key to the City Recognition and proclaim Sunday, April 21, 2024, as Dr. Bob Jolly Day in the City of Cumming.

Thank you, Dr. Bob Jolly, for your many years of service to the Cumming community!