

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

June 5

Religious Liberty Sunday

June 14

Flag Day

June 19

Fathers Day

July 4

Independence Day

July 17

Baptist Heritage Day

July 26

Mell Association
Senior Adult Luncheon
Noon—Until
First Baptist of TyTy

August 2

First Day of School
Tift County Schools

August 18

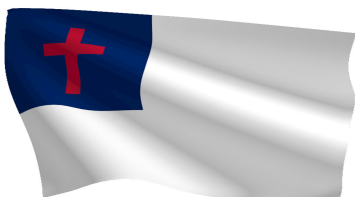
First Day of School
Tiftarea Academy

WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED, SIR, IN THE SACRED WRITINGS, THAT EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE, THEY LABOR IN VAIN THAT BUILD IT. I FIRMLY BELIEVE THIS; AND I ALSO BELIEVE THAT WITHOUT HIS CONCURRING AID, WE SHALL SUCCEED IN THIS POLITICAL BUILDING NO BETTER THAN THE BUILDERS OF BABEL.

Benjamin Franklin



Isaiah 49:6 he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."



The Mell Baptist Association exists to Encourage the Pastors, Strengthen the Churches, and to Build the Kingdom, for the Glory of God. Established 1886.

www.mellbapt.com



May 2016

Highlights

Why have an association? I have been asked that question many times over the years. It is interesting to me that associations predate the state and national conventions. It has been the pattern for over 300 years that churches have observed that working together they are able to accomplish more than working alone and thus they formed themselves into associations. It is also interesting that even in Israel (where we served as your missionaries for almost 15 years) there was an Association of Baptist Churches that led in evangelism, missions, planting churches, and training there. It is obvious that churches working together can accomplish much in God's kingdom work. Churches working together and cooperating is a testimony to the world that God is alive and working in the world.

Associational work has changed over the years. In the past there were associations who actually ordained pastors. Associations have been through the years at the forefront of holding churches accountable doctrinally. Many associations have also been program based. While we celebrate what the associations have traditionally been, we need to look to the future and make sure we are poised to assist churches now and in the future.

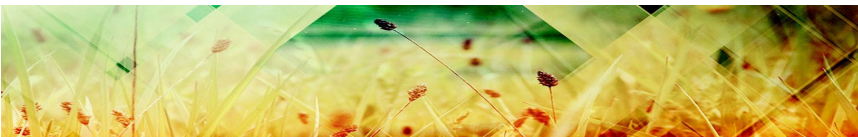
My view of an association is that it exists to serve the churches to fulfil their mission. I think an association should be a resource for the churches and pastors. I view the role of the association as providing a "buffet" for the churches to pick and choose what will benefit their particular church. The association may need to provide training in all areas of church life, mission opportunities, ministries in the local community, physical resources, and the list could go on.

I see my role as your associational missionary as a resource to pastors and churches to assist them in their ministries. I believe strongly in evangelism and missions and want to promote these in our associational churches. One of the privileges I have had over the years is to train Pastor Search Committees/Teams. This has proven to be an excellent way to resource the churches in fulfilling their mission. I have already had the privilege to train the Pastor Search Committee at Omega Baptist Church.

What would God do in our midst if we had a kingdom mindset such that when one church had a need, other churches stepped up to the plate and provided that need? For example, if a struggling church were willing for a larger church to provide 5 couples to commit to a year of service (mentoring and teaching) in that struggling church. What a benefit that would be to helping a church get back on their feet and be viable again! What a testimony to the outworking of the God's Kingdom on earth!

Great days are ahead for the Mell Baptist Association as we seek His will and work together in His kingdom work. As Henry Blackaby teaches in *Experiencing God*, find what God is doing and join Him! Open your eyes to see what God is doing. Please be praying for me and your Administrative Team as we seek God's will for the future of the association.

Tom



Annual Church Report (ACR)

Churches in the Mell Association should select a member to update information to the Georgia Baptist Mission Board's (formerly known as Georgia Baptist Convention) database beginning in early fall. Training on how to accomplish this task will be conducted in late August or early September. The person selected should be able to use a computer. Please let me know the name and contact information of your representative.

The Mell Baptist Association is praying for volunteers to fill the following positions:

**WMU Director
RA Director
Vacation Bible School Director
Sunday School ASSIST Director
Discipleship Training Director**

If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, call the office at 229-386-0865

Churches wishing to inform the public of upcoming events, please forward the information about the event to our office via email or snail-mail so that it will arrive by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the newsletter.

mellbapt@friendlycity.net.

Our mailing address is:

Mell Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1547
Tifton, GA 31793

If you or someone you know wants the Mell Newsletter mailed to them each month, please fill out the information below and mail it to:

Mell Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1547
Tifton, GA 31793

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Useful Links:

Southern Baptist Convention
<http://www.sbc.net/>

North American Mission Board
<http://www.namb.net/>

International Mission Board
<http://www.imb.org/>

Georgia Baptist Mission Board
<https://gabaptist.org/>

Mell Baptist Association
<http://mellbapt.com/>

CELEBRATIONS

June

Birthdays

7	Dorothy Layfield
8	Charlene Fogarty
25	Greg Love
27	Brandy Baker

Wedding Anniversaries

6	Rev & Mrs John Hughes
9	Rev & Mrs William Fogarty
12	Rev & Mrs Dan Eidson
15	Rev & Mrs Kevin Harris
26	Rev & Mrs Benji Rowland

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

1	Andy Ring	Salem	2011
1	Mark Myers	First Tifton	2008
3	Pete Jones	Enigma	1984
20	Fred Evers	Northside	1999

July

Birthdays

7	Mark Myers
8	W.E. Fogarty
14	Jim Donovan
15	Casey Kilgore
18	Misty Harris
20	Glenn Ford

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

1	Jose Lopez	Viva Abundante	2004
1	Wayne Roe	First Tifton	1996
21	Don Harris	New Bethel	2013

REDEEMED CHARITY STORE

361 Main Street, Tifton, GA

NOW OPEN

Monday- Saturday 10:00-6:00

Shop Donate Volunteer

Proceeds benefit Lifehouse Ministries

Food Pantry

2016

June	Chula
July	Crossview
August	Eastside
September	Journey
October	Northside
November	OPEN
December	OPEN

CWJC UPDATE

Janet Spears shared this thought in her book, Just Thinking. "Truth. It's black and white. It's not up for debate or opinion and it must be communicated clearly. As leaders, it's imperative that we know and pass on truth to those we lead, otherwise we are passing on opinions. What is one of the dangers of passing on an opinion? The real danger, a wrong opinion could lead someone away from faith rather than towards it!"

I am thankful to the volunteers at Christian Women's Job Corp for speaking, teaching and living the TRUTH as they have mentored, encouraged, taught and loved the women we serve each day. What a blessing it has been for me to walk with these Godly women the past 16 weeks as they have poured themselves into the Participants that came, looking for a better life.

May 12 we celebrated the end of another term, hearing testimony about the results of the TRUTH that was taught, lives that were changed, evidence of better choices being made and confessions of improved attitudes. Only through the TRUTH, the word and the love of Jesus did this happen.

We are making plans for an event in August that will not only connect CWJC to our community but will bring awareness about the importance of healthy eating and how it affects us mentally and physically. We will share statistics about how the food children eat impacts their learning and behavior. We will have trained professionals sharing this part of the program. There will be classrooms for children giving the opportunity to share the word and demonstrate examples of healthy snacks while the parents are learning about food value. We also plan to provide child care. A budget friendly, healthy meal will be served followed by a food preparation demonstration showing the simplicity of budget minded recipes. This event will take place on Thursday, August 4 from 5:30-7:30. We will use this opportunity to register women for our fall term.

We have applied for a grant to the CWJC Foundation Grant Fund and were approved for funds that will cover about 50% of our projected cost, so we are asking our local churches to help us meet our projected cost. We invite you to be a part of this event and make it possible for us to reach a projected 300-375 people and share the love of the Lord through this "Healthy Eating and Positive Thinking" event.

Blessings to all,
Martine J Hill, Executive Director
Christian Women's Job Corp

BCM Meals Fall Schedule

AUGUST 29	Northside
SEPTEMBER 12	BCM
SEPTEMBER 19	Crossview
SEPTEMBER 26	FBC Tifton
OCTOBER 3	New River Baptist
OCTOBER 10	BCM
OCTOBER 17	Fall Break
OCTOBER 24	First Baptist Chula
OCTOBER 31	BCM
NOVEMBER 7	Mt. Zion Baptist
NOVEMBER 14	TyTy
NOVEMBER 21	Crossview

Churches who wish to participate in stocking the Food Pantry, please let our office know.



Men's Ministry

If you would like to host one of the quarterly events during 2016, please contact this office.

**Aug
TyTy**

It has been suggested the Men's Ministry events be changed to two times yearly. What are your thoughts? Let us know.

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Tifton, GA 31793
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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www.mellbapt.com
Jason Jones, Associational Missionary
Cell: 229-339-1383
sabsp4hm@gmail.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Chula, GA 31733
Permit No. 5

BCM NEWS

During student leadership training we talked about why BCM exists at ABAC. The students came to the conclusion that we are here to disciple students, train the future church leaders, teach students how to share their faith, provide opportunities for them to share, and to reach ABAC for Christ. This is our purpose and has been since the beginning of BCM, pretty much, but, they had to realize this.

I was excited to see them come to this conclusion. Over the training we talked about different ways to reach these goals. Some things we have done well over the years and some we are struggling with. I have just finished ABAC leadership training and state leadership training and have a little bit of time to focus on these things. Please pray for the students and me as we pray through and seek God's wisdom on how to better reach this campus. This is a burden that cannot be taken lightly. I plan to set aside some time this week to just sit at the feet of Jesus and seek His wisdom. We have some plans but will be working with the summer group to finalize plans.

This past week two of our young me left to serve this summer at Camp Kaleo and this Thursday Lindsay will be traveling down a river in the Philippines to go into the countryside sharing Christ. She will have little electricity and no bathrooms. Part of her training will entail learning how to chop the head off a chicken and pluck the feathers so she can have supper. She is pumped but I am not sure she is fully aware of all this trip entails. Please pray for her and the other 15 young people on this team. Lindsay is a strong young lady, but even for someone like her, this will be a challenge! Other students will be leaving at different times during the summer. Please pray for them as they venture out to see what God has planned for them!

This has been an eventful year and a time of great growth. We could not have done anything without this wonderful association of churches. Your prayers, food, and financial support met our needs above and beyond. We cannot thank you enough.

**God Bless,
Penny**

A Message to all Churches in the Mell Baptist Association

Go ahead and put on your calendars, the annual meeting of the Mell Baptist Association will take place on

October 23rd at 6:00 PM.

(Details to Follow)

The Mell Baptist Association office hours for the months of June and July will be:

**Monday—Thursday
8:00—Noon**

The Associational Missionary will be available
Monday-Wednesday 9:30—3:30.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM), formerly known as BSU (Baptist Student Union), is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention, however, we welcome everyone to join us. BCM is a great way to make friends, have fun, learn about Christ, and get involved at ABAC.



GEORGIA
BAPTIST
COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

Club Advisor
Penny Chesnut
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