

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

May 4

National Day of Prayer Service
7:00
Leroy Rogers Senior Center

May 11

Sons of Jubal Concert
First Baptist, Tifton
7:00—8:30 PM

May 12

Mell Ministers' Meeting
Noon
First Baptist, Tifton

May 15

Protecting Your Church Seminar
1:00—4:00 PM
Northside Baptist Church
Attorney Matt Sharp, Speaker

May 15—16

Public Affairs Pastors Training
6:00 PM—8:30 PM (Monday)
9:00—Noon (Tuesday)
Mike Griffin, Leader

May 21—28

Week of Prayer for the Mell Baptist Association

May 25

Mell Administrative Team
Noon

Tifton National Day of Prayer Service

Thursday, May 4, 2017

7:00 P.M.

Leroy Rogers Senior Center

315 2nd Street, West

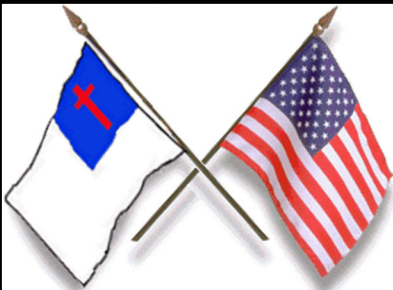
Everyone is Invited to Attend

Music provided by ABAC Choir Members

Brief Devotion

Prayers for Churches and Ministries, Local Government, Healthcare Entities and Personnel, First Responders, Educators, Youth, Family and Family Ministries, Businesses, State Government, and Federal Government led by members of our community.

Sponsored by an Ad Hoc Committee committed to prayer.



The Mell Baptist Association exists to Encourage Churches, Strengthen Churches, and Partner with Churches to Reach People with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Established 1886.

www.mellbapt.com

May 2017

AM THOUGHTS

By now I hope that you know that I am now (effective April 1) your full-time Associational Missionary! I am grateful for the confidence that you have placed in me to lead you into the future. I am convinced that God has great things in store for the Mell Baptist Association. I am impressed with the churches and pastors of our association and look forward to working together with them to fulfil our purpose of encouraging churches, strengthening churches, and partnering with churches to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If there is any way that I can assist you, please let me know. I want to serve the Lord by serving the churches of the association.

You will notice that there is a Mell Baptist Association Prayer Update sheet included in this newsletter. This will become a regular part of the newsletter. I hope by now you know that I consider prayer to be a priority in my life as well as the church. Thus, it should be a priority in the association. This will be a tool that you can use to pray for the association as well as other Kingdom issues. It is just a guideline, but I think it can be helpful to you in your praying. I hope that you will put it with your Bible and pray using it, or a portion of it, daily. One of the features of this Prayer Update is to pray for a church and pastor in our association on a regular basis as well as upcoming events, different levels of government, and our state and national Baptist entities.

Please look at our revised web page <https://mellbapt.com>. Let me know what you think. How can we improve it?

I also want to give you an update on the purchase of an office building. We closed on the office building at 817 N. Central Avenue on April 13. We paid \$100,000 plus limited closing costs. We have approximately \$36,000 left, after the purchase, from the sale of the previous office and are now in the process of getting estimates on the needed remodeling—new floor covering, painting inside and out, new windows, new wiring, additional furnishings, and other incidental repairs. We are having a work day (inviting members of our churches) on Saturday, April 29, at 9 AM at the building to clear out the shrubs, trim trees, generally clean up the outside, and possibly take up the carpet. I believe that this building will serve the association well and we will not have any debt on it!

May 21-28 is the suggested time for Associational Missions Emphasis. We are designating it as a Week of Prayer for the Mell Baptist Association. I have sent to every church/pastor a copy of a bulletin with information about the association as well as a prayer guide to use during that week. We are encouraging churches to make copies for all members. My hope is that you are praying for the association regularly, but this is a special time for directed prayer for the Mell Baptist Association. I am praying that you and your church will participate in this special time of prayer for the association.

As you can see, God is at work and moving us forward to become the association that He wants us to be! Thank you for letting me be a part of this.



817 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE

Prayer Suggestions

- ◆ Pray for the churches without pastors: Alapaha, Brighton Road, Eldorado, Lakeview, New River, and Omega.
- ◆ Pray for the victims of the recent tornados and those assisting them.
- ◆ Pray for the President and all government officials.
- ◆ Pray for the Association Missionary and the Administrative Team that they will have God's wisdom.
- ◆ Pray for the Encouraging/Strengthening Team and the Evangelism/Missions Team that they would have God's wisdom.
- ◆ Pray for God's guidance and God's wisdom as we proceed with the remodeling of the new office building.



-Leadership Training
-Breakout Sessions
-National Speakers

A TOTAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP EQUIPPING EVENT
AUGUST 25-26
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, TIFTON

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
Or call
(229) 386-0865

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/>
Christian Index
<http://christianindex.org>

CELEBRATIONS

May

Birthdays

9 Jose Lopez Vida Abundante

Anniversaries

11 Rev. & Mrs. Greg Love

23 Rev. & Mrs. Jose Lopez

30 Rev. & Mrs. Brad Baker

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

6 Gary Cadwell Brookfield

June

Birthdays

7 Dorothy Layfield Mt. Zion

8 Charlene Fogarty Unity

25 Greg Love CrossView

27 Brandy Baker Pine Grove

Anniversaries

6 Rev. & Mrs. John Hughes

9 Rev. & Mrs. William Fogarty

10 Rev. & Mrs. Les Gilbert

12 Rev. & Mrs. Dan Eidson

15 Rev. & Mrs. Kevin Harris

26 Rev. & Mrs. Benji Rowland

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

1 Andy Ring Salem

1 Mark Myers FBC Tifton

3 Pete Jones Enigma

20 Fred Evers Northside

Food Pantry

2017

May	Zion Hope
June	Salem
July	VACANT
August	Eastside
September	Brookfield
October	New River
November	Northside
December	VACANT

The Food Pantry served 16 households in March.

Sons of Jubal

First Baptist Church, Tifton

May 11, 2017

7:00—8:30 PM

Georgia Baptist Mission Board Disaster Relief Training

(Cleanup & Recovery)

Saturday, June 3, 2017

Registration begins at 8:00 AM

Training 9:00 AM—1 PM

Liberty Baptist Church

Register online

<http://missiongeorgia.org/georgia-disaster-relief/>

Protecting Your Church Seminar

Northside Baptist Church

May 15

1:00—4:00 PM (Monday)

Attorney Matt Sharp, Speaker

&

Public Affairs Pastors Training

Northside Baptist Church

May 15

6:00 PM—8:30 PM (Monday)

May 16

9:00—Noon (Tuesday)

Mike Griffin, Leader

Mell Ministers' Luncheon

Tuesday, May 16th

First Baptist Church, Tifton

Speaker: Travis Graham, Pastor at Valley Grove Baptist Church in Thomaston.

"What every youth pastor wished their pastor new!"

Cost: \$8 for the meal.

REFRESH

ReFRESHconference.org

...for those who thirst for revival

ReFRESH® is designed to lead pastors and lay leaders to seek the face of God through focused times of corporate worship and prayer, as well as biblical teaching on revival, repentance, and the Spirit-filled life. Join with other like-minded believers in Albany as we "repent and return...in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19).

ReFRESH SOUTH
September 17-20, 2017
Sherwood Baptist Church
Albany, Georgia
To register, call (229) 883-1910 Ext. 1200



Mell Baptist Association
 400-A North Central Avenue
 P.O. Box 1547
 Tifton, GA 31793
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

PH: 229-386-0865
 mellbapt@friendlycity.net
 www.mellbapt.com

Georgia Baptist Mission Board Disaster Relief Training

(Cleanup and Recovery)

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BCM NEWS

Last week we did a block party on campus. We stood in front of the fountain at Town Hall and passed out candy Easter Eggs and had students spin a wheel and win prizes. In order to do this you had to answer a spiritual survey. The week before, we had trained over 40 people on how to share your testimony and the plan of salvation. At first, they were nervous and scared but by the third person they were going at it and looked like stalkers searching for people to survey! It was a great experience for them and in the process someone accepted Christ! This has sparked quite a bit of interest in them to share with those around them! This sparked several to invite someone to attend church with them on Easter!

Also, we have been trying all year to reach out to the Internationals on campus. ABAC has very few and those we have are mostly on the sports teams. Well, one of my students helps with the tennis team and has been our connection to reach them. We sponsored an Easter Egg Hunt last week for them and they were like children running around trying to find the prize eggs! This opened a door for several students to build relationships with them. For the next two weekends the Internationals are coming to my house for a meal, fish, and hang out! We are so excited to be able to share the love of Christ with our new friends. Just because some students have reached out in love to them they are beginning to ask questions as to why they are going out of their way to help them. What an open door to share Christ. Please pray we can continue to be intentional with them and to love on them. At first my students were scared because they thought they were so different from them, but as the relationships have developed they have realized they have so many similarities and friendships are developing! One student was heart-broken as she realized how homesick and isolated the Internationals must feel at times. She began to see them as Christ sees them – someone who needs love, a friend, and most importantly a relationship with Jesus. Who knows what International missionaries may come from this group!

I know many of you are getting ready to congratulate your high school seniors. If you wish for me to come speak to them about college, I would love to. Also, if you have seniors who will be going off to college, even if it is not ABAC, let me know their name, phone number and email and I will connect them to a BCM leader on their campus!

School is winding down and we are impressing on students that their time with classmates and roommates is coming to an end and just as important as finals is the need to be intentional with sharing Christ before the end of school! Please pray they will do this!

Penny

**Baptist Collegiate Ministries
 Club Advisor
 Penny Chesnut
 ABAC 595
 2802 Moore Highway
 Tifton, GA 31793-2601
 (229) 382-8708**

Senior Adult Luncheon

**Tuesday, July 25th
 Noon**

We are looking for a church to host this event. Any church that would be interested in hosting the summer Senior Adult Luncheon, please contact our office at 229-386-0865.

Monthly Financials

(March 2017)

Budget Needs:	\$9823.42
Funds Received	\$9311.91
Expenses:	\$7213.13