



# Mell

## BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### PLANNING AHEAD

August 1  
Tift County Schools  
First Day of Classes

August 11  
Tiftarea Academy  
First Day of Classes

August 13  
Ribbon Cutting/Dedication  
New Mell Baptist Association Office  
817 North Central Avenue  
2:00 PM

August 15  
Mell Ministers Meeting  
Mell Office  
Noon

August 24  
Mell Admin Team  
Noon

September 4  
Labor Day  
Office Closed

September 15  
MinistrySafe™ Skillful Screening Training  
Eastside Baptist Church  
9:30 AM -2:30 PM

September 19  
Mell Ministers Meeting  
Mell Office  
Noon

September 21  
Mell Executive Committee  
7:00 PM  
CrossView Baptist Church

October 15  
Mell Baptist Annual Meeting  
4:30 PM  
First Baptist, Tifton

October 17  
Mell Ministers Meeting  
Mell Office  
Noon



-Leadership Training

-Breakout Sessions

-National Speakers

**A TOTAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP EQUIPPING EVENT**

**AUGUST 25-26**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, TIFTON**

**To Register individuals or groups, go to this link:**

<https://www.sbcworkspace.com/Pub/Event/Register/55227389>

### ANNUAL TRUCKLOADING

**Georgia Baptist Children's Home**

(see insert for items)

**Baxley Campus**

**September 11—14**

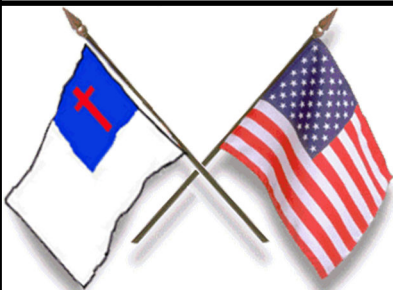
**Bring your items to the Mell Baptist Association Office at 817 North Central Avenue between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM.**

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](http://www.mellbapt.com)

August 2017



## AM THOUGHTS

Here is an update on the progress at the new office building: trees trimmed, shrubs removed, outside pressure washed, one and 2/3 load of dirt distributed where shrubs pulled up, doorway made to back room, flooring completed, new windows installed, sign hung, electrical work completed, old front door and window-lites removed and new front door assembly installed (had to reinforce sill and floor support), new chairs arrived, painting scheduled to begin July 18. Tentative moving week will be July 24-28. We will need able bodies and some pick-ups and/or trailers to move the contents of the old office to the new office. Please let us know if you can help at that time. We are hoping for a gift of sod to put around the foundation and front. Ribbon cutting and dedication tentatively planned for 2 PM Sunday, August 13. Please begin announcing this in your services. Let's have a great turnout!

I had the privilege of participating in the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Vida Abundante and dedication of the old 4<sup>th</sup> Street property (that was given to FB Tifton for use by Vida). It was a great time of celebration and fellowship. I got to preach impromptu! Had not done that in a long time! I am excited to see what God does through Vida under the leadership of Pastor Jose Lopez and his family there. Thanks FB Tifton for your sponsorship of this important work among Hispanics.

Don't forget to register for the GO Georgia all church training that will take place at FB Tifton August 25-26. There will be training for all leaders in your church. You will want to take advantage of this quality training. Register at [gogeorgia.net](http://gogeorgia.net).

Your Evangelism/Mission Team has been at work and approved the following as goals for the next few years. The Administrative Team also approved these goals.

1. Continue to promote participation of our churches in ministry at Jake's Day with ongoing evaluation based on evangelistic effectiveness and with full evaluation as to continuation by end of 2019.
2. Continue to promote participation of our churches in Santa's Helpers ministry with ongoing evaluation based on evangelistic effectiveness and with full evaluation as to continuation by end of 2019.
3. Continue to promote participation of our churches in the Mell Food Pantry with an evangelistic emphasis with ongoing evaluation based on evangelistic effectiveness and with full evaluation as to continuation by end of 2019.
4. Continue to promote participation in outreach at Downtown Holiday Christmas Celebration with ongoing evaluation based on evangelistic effectiveness and with full evaluation as to continuation by end of 2019.
5. Select, promote, and carry out at least one Mell Mission Trip within Georgia by the end of 2018.
6. Select, promote, and carry out at least one Mell Mission Trip in North America by the end of 2019.
7. Select, promote, and carry out at least one International Mell Mission Trip by the end of 2020.
8. Pursue relationships with African-American pastors and churches for partnering with African-American churches to more effectively minister in the African-American community by the end of 2018.

Be watching and listening for opportunities to participate in these evangelistic/missional emphases. As you can see we are making all we do as an association more evangelistic oriented. I am grateful for the members of the Evangelism/Missions Team and their work together: Steve Cadwell, Jimmy Cook, and Greg Love.

**Tom**

## Prayer Suggestions

- ◆ Pray for the churches without pastors: Alapaha, 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.



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](mailto: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

### August

#### Birthdays

2	Bryan Mullis	Omega
8	Leslie Gilbert	New River
11	Michael Marchant	New River
17	Frances Eidson	Victory
20	Leslie Broome	Northside
21	Brian Broome	Northside
25	Nancy Hughes	First, Tifton
27	Wayne Rod	First, Tifton

#### Anniversaries

3	Rev & Mrs Steve Davis	Zion Hope
4	Rev & Mrs Wayne Roe	First, Tifton
20	Rev & Mrs Mark Myers	First, Tifton
23	Rev & Mrs Casey Shaw	Lenox
23	Rev & Mrs Clark Harden	Brighton Road

#### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

26	Brad Baker	Pine Grove
29	Sam Jones	Northside
31	Larry Layfield	Mt. Zion

### September

#### Birthdays

1	Pete Jones	Enigma
2	Brad Baker	Pine Grove
2	Cindy Evers	Northside
20	Kevin Harris	Oak Grove
20	Susan Roe	First, Tifton
25	Jimmy Parker	Brushy Creek

#### Anniversaries

4	Rev & Mrs Don Harris	New Bethel
21	Rev & Mrs Kevin Kilgore	Northside

#### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

2	Kevin Harris	Oak Grove
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## Food Pantry 2017

<b>August</b>	<b>Eastside</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Brookfield</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>New River</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Northside</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Brighton Road</b>

The Food Pantry served 24 households in June.



# Righteous Manhood

Saturday, August 12, 2017  
Mabel White Baptist Church, 1415 Bass Road, Macon

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 a.m.)

Cost: \$20 until August 4; \$25 after August 4

For more info and to register go to [righteousmanhood.com](http://righteousmanhood.com).

## We're Moving

The Mell Baptist Association will be relocating to its new home at **817 North Central Avenue**. We will have a ribbon cutting and dedication on August 13th at 2:00 PM. All are invited to attend.



Because we are moving, we need help. If you can help on any of the following dates, please come and join us:

**July 28-29 or July 31-August 2.**

We need able bodies, trucks and/or trailers. This is a great ministry opportunity for your church. **We thank you in advance!!!!**

## MinistrySafe™ Skillful Screening Training

An effective screening process must address the risk of hiring an applicant whose motives are wrong. Criminal background checks alone will not protect children from sexual abuse. Statistically, less than 10 percent of sexual offenders are ever criminally prosecuted, because two out of three children don't report abuse until years later, if ever. As a result, over 90 percent of offenders have no past criminal conviction to check.

To address this risk, every ministry should have a system of protection in place, as opposed a single screening or training element. MinistrySafe™ provides state of the art tools and training to help churches successfully screen future hires. Training is being offered at the following location .

**There is no cost and lunch will be provided.**

Eastside Baptist Church of Tifton  
September 15, 2017  
9:30 AM—2:30 PM

To register, go to the following link:

<https://www.sbcworkspace.com/Pub/Event/Register/55227676>



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

**FALL SUPPER LIST**

AUG. 21 - BCM  
 AUG. 28 - BCM  
 SEPT. 11 - Northside  
 SEPT. 18 - Crossview  
 SEPT. 25 - FBC Tifton  
 OCT. 2 - New River Baptist  
 OCT. 9 - BCM  
 OCT. 16 - Fall Break  
 OCT. 23 - First Baptist Chula  
 Oct. 30 - BCM  
 NOV. 6 - Mt. Zion Baptist  
 NOV. 13 - TY TY  
 NOV. 20 - Crossview

Please let me know if you need to make changes. We are thankful for your hard work!

**Annual Church Reports (ACR)**

Churches, I will be mailing ACR packets to your clerks as soon as I receive them from the GBMB. Once the packets are received, please ensure the information is completed and posted on the GBMB iGO website (<http://igo.gabaptist.org>) by on or before October 2, 2017. This will allow time for the data to be available for the Mell Association annual meeting on October 15th.

For new clerks, or for clerks who might need a refresher, I will conduct a training session on ACR reporting and iGO on September 5, 2017 at 6:00 PM in our office at 817 North Central Avenue.

When completing the ACR reports online, if you run into problems, please call tech support at 770-936-5245.

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



**REMEMBER TO STOP WHEN  
 SCHOOL BUSES ARE LOADING  
 OR UNLOADING.**

**Mell Baptist Association Executive Committee (EC)**

**September 28, 2017  
 7:00 PM  
 CrossView Baptist Church**

The membership of the Executive Committee (EC) shall be composed of the pastor and one lay member from each church elected by the church annually.

**Mell Baptist Association  
 Annual Meeting**

**October 15, 2017  
 Delegate Registration: 4:30 PM  
 Business Meeting 5:00 PM  
 Worship Service 6:00 PM**

**First Baptist Church, Tifton**

**Guest Speaker**

**Mel Blackaby  
 Pastor of First Baptist Church, Jonesboro, GA**

**Monthly Financials  
 (June 2017)**

Budget Needs:	\$9823.43
Funds Received	\$7867.97
Expenses:	\$7592.96

## BCM NEWS

Working on Welcome Bags, finishing up our last meetings for the summer, working on Bible studies for our small groups, welcoming back summer missionaries, and getting the building ready for fall are part of the whirlwind of activities it takes to get ready for the new year at ABAC. This truly is an exciting time. When you think about it, please offer up a prayer for students. The new students will enter with many challenges ahead to shake their faith and they need prayer to have the courage and faith to stand strong. Many of them will be faced with hard choices the very day they move in!! My BCM president said when he came here to ABAC, his biggest fear was that his relationship with Christ would weaken and he would fall flat on his face his face to temptation. He was a strong Christian and he was scared of all the challenges he would face! But, God gave him some good Christian friends, a church family that loved him, and the BCM to support him on campus! Students desperately need that Christian support when they enter the doors of college! Everything they have ever been taught about God will be challenged! You are my prayer warriors and I thank you for your support!

I have a few things I want to remind you that are happening in our area.. On **August 25 and 26** the Georgia Baptist Mission Board will be sponsoring GO GEORGIA! This is right at our backdoor at First Baptist in Tifton. Please check out the website GO GEORGIA and see all the important information it will cover in breakout sessions. This is a great way to learn new ideas and get help and connect with others in your same area of service! ALSO, on **August 24, from 4-6**, ABAC will sponsor our Town and Gown. This is a time when local Businesses and churches can come, set up a booth, and give out info about your activities. School will have already started so it will be open this year to all students and many of the booths have giveaways so there will be lots of students there! This is a great way to make connections If you are interested, contact Bernice Hughes at 229-391-5129. In addition, if you would like to come to one of our first meetings and advertise your church, just let me know.

Thank you for all you do for us!

Penny



## MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume 1, Number 4 August 2017

### Urgent Prayer

1. Pray for a spirit of prayer to sweep through our churches that would usher in true repentance and revival.
2. Pray for those impacted by the storms in South Georgia and those churches and individuals helping in the recovery.

### Local

1. Pray for our Purpose to become a reality: "Mell Baptist Association exists to encourage churches, strengthen churches, and partner with churches to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. "
2. We are praying for our churches and pastors per an alphabetical list of churches. Pray this time for First Baptist Chula (Brian Allen, pastor), First Baptist Tifton (Wayne Roe, pastor), and First Baptist Ty Ty (Rodney Owens, pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Alapaha, Eldorado, Lakeview, New River, and Omega.
4. Pray for our city and county officials in Tift, Cook, and Berrien Counties.
5. Pray for our schools, colleges, boards of education, superintendents, principals, teachers, and students.
6. Pray for the lost in your family and your circle of influence (work, school, recreation, neighborhood, etc.).
7. Pray for unity in the body of Christ in our association and surrounding area.
8. Pray for the monthly meetings of the Evangelism/Missions Team and Administrative Team.
9. Pray for the Mell Baptist Association staff (Tom Hocutt and Lester Potts).
10. Pray for the Mell Baptist Associational Annual Meeting October 15th at First Baptist Church Tifton with Mel Blackaby preaching.
11. Pray for the guidance of the Lord as we continue the renovations at the new office building.

### State

Pray for our state government officials.

Pray for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board: its Executive Director (Robert White), its ministries, and other State Missionaries.

Pray for GO Georgia, all church training, August 25-26, at FBC Tifton.

### Nation

Pray for our national government leaders.

Pray for the North American Mission Board, its president (Kevin Ezell), staff, and its missionaries.

Pray for the Southern Baptist Convention: Frank Page, CEO of the Executive Committee and Steve Gaines, SBC President.

Pray for the revival of God's people and the spiritual awakening of our nation and the world.

Pray for the protection and support of our law enforcement, fire fighters, and EMS personnel.

### World

Pray for the International Mission Board--its president (David Platt), staff, and missionaries.

Pray for the 1.6 billion Muslims of the world that they would come to an understanding of who Jesus Christ is.

Pray for the Gospel of Christ to be shared to the unreached people groups in the world.

Pray for the protection of Israel, wisdom for Israel as they deal with their enemies, and for the peace of Jerusalem.

Pray for protection for our armed forces in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and around the globe.

Pray that the people of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria would have stable governments and that they would have an opportunity to hear the Gospel and respond.

Pray for the persecuted Christians of the world, including the Christian refugees fleeing persecution in Syria.

### ANSWERS TO PRAYER

1. Praise the Lord for the progress that has been made on the new office building—trees trimmed, shrubs gone, one and two-thirds loads of dirt distributed, outside pressure washed, new flooring, new windows, electrical completed, new front door assembly. (Yet to be completed—painting and landscaping.)

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# “GEORGIA BAPTIST CHILDREN’S HOMES ”

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## “Truck Loadings”

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“Where Spiritual and Eternal Decisions are Made”

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Date: September 11-14, 2017

Bring your Items To  
Mell Baptist Association Office  
Collect: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

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The Mell Baptist Association is collecting: Pine Sol, Rice, Cleaning Supplies, Canned Beef Stew, Cooking Oil and of course **Gift Cards** are always appreciated!



2017- Will you partner with us and pray for our residents and direct care staff as they start their journey here with us!