



Mell

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

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 28
Mell Executive Committee
7:00 PM
CrossView Baptist Church

October 15
Mell Baptist Annual Meeting
5:00 PM
First Baptist, Tifton

October 17
Mell Ministers Meeting
Mell Office
Noon

October 24
Senior Adult Luncheon
Omega Baptist Church
Noon—Until

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.” (Manual of Polices and Procedures, 2016)

Sharing Jesus: without freaking out!—John Hughes, Leader

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM or 5:30 PM

September 5—October 24

First Baptist Church of Tifton
Family Life Center, Patio Room

(Open to all churches within the Mell Baptist Association)

Evangelism the Way You Were Born To Do It

In Sharing Jesus without Freaking Out, you'll learn how to incorporate biblical stories into conversations with the people in your life. You already have the gifts necessary to share God's love with other people. You don't need a memorized evangelism script or a tract handy. Simply relax, tell your story, and you might be amazed at how natural it can be to share Jesus.

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.**

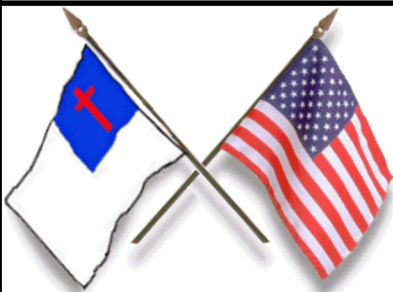
(See insert for more details)

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

September 2017



JAKE'S DAY

As you may know the Mell Baptist Association has had a ministry at Jake's Day sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources. In the last few years it has been mainly a ministry of distributing water. The Mell Evangelism/Missions Team would like to make sure it includes an evangelistic emphasis. In fact, we will be evaluating all the association sponsored ministries to make sure that they have an evangelistic emphasis. We have already ordered bottled water that will have our logo and scriptures on the label.

We are, therefore, requesting that this become more focused on evangelism by our churches. We are proposing that we have four churches who would commit to have at least 5 persons to take an hour and a half time period (see below) to distribute water and engage people in intentional evangelistic conversations with those present at Jake's Day. These volunteers from your church could be high schoolers or older people, but with the ability to engage strangers in a meaningful conversation about their spiritual condition with the goal of leading them to respond to Christ as Savior. This could be an excellent mission effort by a youth group, SS class, Men's Ministry, Brotherhood, WMU, or other such group. We would hope that you would use this occasion to provide those in your church a training on how to share their faith (if you have not done it in a while). Let me know if you need assistance to do this.

Jake's Day: Saturday, September 23
Location: Paradise Lakes, Brookfield

Time Slots: 8:30-10:00 AM

Church _____ 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

Church CrossView 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Church _____ 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Church _____

Please give prayerful consideration to this evangelistic outreach. Please let me know as soon as possible, but no later than September 8, what time slot you would like to reserve.

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

AM THOUGHTS

Praise the Lord, we are moved into our new office facility at 817 North Central Avenue (the yellow building with green doors)! Come see your building! It really turned out well; and no debt! We had our Dedication and Open House on Sunday, August 13, with 32 present from eleven churches and eight pastors presents. There were prayers by Steve Davis (pastor of Zion Hope) and Rodney Owens (Associate Moderator and pastor of FBC, Ty Ty). Steve Tucker (Moderator and pastor of Liberty BC) brought the message. I gave the opening remarks, recognition of those who had worked on the building and grounds, and thanks for the volunteers. We sang "To God be the Glory!" We then had refreshments provided by Zion Hope BC. All in all, a great time together! Here is the list of those who were thanked.

- All those who have served in and through the association before us.
- All the churches and missions of the Mell Baptist Association for their support and financial contributions.
- Craig Nalls and Jason Jones, former Associational Missionaries.
- The Mell Administrative Team.
- C.J. Cater, Steve Davis, Fred Barnes (from Zion Hope)
- Window World - Seller's Tile (flooring)
- Randy Ogletree, Electrician -David Gibbs Painting
- Wade Crumley, Plumber -Salina's Pinestraw and Sod
- Coopercraft Communications -Ashley's Business Solutions
- Southern Office Supply -Lester Potts, Admin Asst.
- Martha Hocutt -Glenn Ford (Calvary)
- Eastside BC (unpacking and setup of Food Pantry)
- Steve Brown (Journey)
- BCM Student (for packing the Food Pantry)
- FBC Tifton (for permitting us a place to minister at a reduced price)
- Zion Hope BC ladies for the refreshments for our dedication service.
- Anonymous gift of new blinds for windows.

Our Senior Adult Luncheon was held July 25 at Eastside BC. There were 66 present from six of our churches. We had good food and good fellowship. Thank you Pastor Keith Norris and members of Eastside for hosting us in such a wonderful way. You all treated us very well! Our next Mell Senior Adult Luncheon will be October 24 at Omega BC. Mark you calendar now.

Please be making your plans to participate in the Mell Baptist Association Annual Meeting that will be held Sunday, October 15, at First Baptist Church of Tifton. We will begin registration at 4:30 PM; the business session will begin at 5:00 PM; and the worship service will begin at 6:00 PM. Mel Blackaby, pastor of FBC Jonesboro, will be preaching at the worship service. You do not want to miss hearing him. Please go ahead and elect your messengers and let our office know who they are NLT October 5th so we can print name tags.

Your church should have received your Annual Church Reprot packet by now. If you are a deacon, clerk, or pastor, please make sure that you complete your report (preferably online) as soon as possible. This is very important for us, the Georgia Baptist Mission Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention. This is the way your church gets counted as a GBMB and SBC church. Please make sure you give us accurate and full information on the form. The deadline is the end of September. Thanks for your cooperation in this important matter.

The Mell Executive Committee will be meeting September 28 at 7:00 PM at CrossView Baptist Church (320 West 20th Street.) Everyone is welcome to attend, but the elected members are encouraged to attend. "The Executive Committee shall be composed of the pastor and one lay member from each church elected by the church annually." *MBA By-Laws, Article VII, Section 1, A. Membership.*

TOM

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

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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October

Birthdays

8	Britni Rowland	Journey
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Anniversaries

3	Rev & Mrs Pete Jones	Enigma
8	Rev & Mrs Jim Donovan	First, Tifton
14	Rev & Mrs Jimmy Parker	Brushy Creek
21	Rev & Mrs Gary Caldwell	Brookfield

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

24	John Hughes	First, Tifton
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Operation Christmas Child

NATIONAL COLLECTION WEEK 2017
NOVEMBER 13-20, 2017

COLLECTION CENTER: EASTSIDE BAPTIST

Help us collect 24,000 shoeboxes from our local area so that God's love may be shared with children and their families across the globe.

*For more information, email
occebctifton.org

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

Food Pantry 2017

September	Brookfield
October	New River
November	Northside
December	Brighton Road

The Food Pantry served 19 households in July.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

A **Grief Support Group** will begin meeting on **August 31st @ 1:00 PM** in the **Family Life Center of First Baptist Church Tifton**. This group will meet on Thursday for eight consecutive weeks. Everyone that is experiencing grief is welcome to attend. **John E. Patten Sr.** will be the facilitator. Previous grief groups have been very helpful to many people.

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
 817 Central Avenue, North
 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!

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

Annual Church Reports (ACR)

Churches, I mailed ACR packets to your clerks. 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.

BCM NEWS

The semester has started and is like a whirlwind! In one week and a half we fed the CAs twice, moved in Freshmen last Saturday, trained and planned for the semester, passed out waters, had our first meeting, and a Friday night Get Together. To top it all off, on August 1, I broke my leg and had surgery. The students have been awesome picking up the slack and taking over! This is promising to be a great semester.

On Mondays we will be studying the Sermon on the Mount and on Thursdays we will be studying the book of Jonah. Already students are reaching out and trying to build relationships in an effort to share Christ. Who knows what God has in store for us this semester?

We have been able to build relationships with several International students and were wondering if there were any people in our association that would be interesting in adopting an International. Many of these students are able to have very little contact with their families and miss them a lot. They need a second Mom and Dad to love and help guide them. This may entail inviting them in for supper, taking them to Walmart, giving them a home away from home, and just sharing Christ's love with them. You may be an empty nester or just someone who likes to love on people. Most of them are lost and don't live a Christian lifestyle at all. But, as some of the students have reached out to them we have begun to see changes. If you feel God is leading you to share His love with one of these students, please contact me at 229-848-0755 and let's talk about it.

Please pray for us as we begin. One girl said today she invited a freshman to BCM around lunchtime and the girls said 7 people had already asked her to come today and she was definitely coming. We don't just need these students to come here just to come and have fun – we need them to come so we can share with them the things Christ wants us to. Our job is to train them so they in turn can go and reach the world for Christ. Please pray we will have wisdom in knowing how to do that. Thank you for all you do!!!

Penny

Monthly Financials

(July 2017)

Budget Needs: \$9823.43

Funds Received: \$7346.61

Expenses: \$8422.18

**Fall Begins
 September 22nd**