

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

October 2
Annual Church Reports
Completed

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

November 5
Daylight Savings Time Ends
(Move your clock BACK one hour)

November 13-14
Georgia Baptist Mission Board
Annual Meeting
Lawrenceville, GA

November 16
Mell Administrative Team
Noon
Mell Office

November 23
Thanksgiving
Mell Office Closed

Mell Baptist Association **Annual Meeting** **October 15, 2017**

Registration begins: 4:30 PM
Business Session: 5:00 PM
Worship Session: 6:00 PM

Guest Speaker

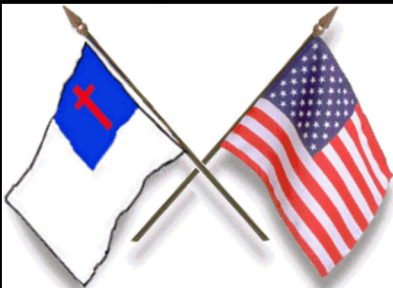
Rev. Mel Blackaby, Senior Pastor
First Baptist Church of Jonesboro



Senior Adult Luncheon

October 24
Noon—Until

Omega Baptist Church
Please call 229-528-4920 to reserve your spot.



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

October 2017

Truckloading

Many thanks to the thirteen churches that participated in the annual "Truckloading" in support of the Georgia Baptist Children's Home.

**Zion Hope Baptist Church
Mt. Zion Baptist Church
CrossView Baptist Church
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Alapaha Baptist Church
Unity Baptist Church
Lakeview Baptist Church
Eldorado Baptist Church
Omega Baptist Church
Victory Baptist Church
New River Baptist Church
First Baptist Church, Tifton
Eastside Baptist Church
Lenox Baptist Church**



Messengers to the Annual Meeting

Only elected delegates from member churches that have been identified in writing will be allowed to vote at the annual meeting of the Mell Baptist Association. Churches, please notify our office of your chosen messenger NLT October 10th.

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 15th 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

The Mell Baptist Association Annual Meeting will be Sunday, October 15, at First Baptist Church Tifton at 5 PM for our business session and 6 PM for our worship session. Mel Blackaby, pastor of First Baptist Church Jonesboro, will be preaching at the worship session. You do not want to miss hearing him. All Mell church members are encouraged to attend the business session and worship session even though they are not a messenger. Please elect your messengers and give their names to us here at the office by telephone (386-0865) or email mellbapt@friendlycity.net. We will have name badges for the messengers to indicate their privilege to vote in the business session. We are requesting that all our churches transfer their evening services to First Baptist Church Tifton for the Annual Meeting.

Also, please encourage the clerk or responsible person to complete the Annual Church Report (ACR) by October 2 so that we can use the information provided for our Book of Reports that will be distributed to the messengers at the Annual Meeting. It is a requirement of the Mell By-Laws that every member church submit an Annual Church Report annually. This is the way that our churches receive recognition as a Southern Baptist church in Mell, the Georgia Baptist Mission Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

If you are a Senior Adult, please make your plans to attend our next Mell Senior Adult Luncheon, Tuesday, October 24, at noon at Omega Baptist Church. We have been having good attendance, good food, and great fellowship. Come join us! We meet once a quarter.

Here are "Ten Questions to Diagnose the Evangelistic Health of Your Church" (from a summary of podcast episode #305 by Thom Ranier that I received 2/24/2017)

1. *Are members more concerned about the lost than their own preferences and comfort?*
2. *Is the church led to pray for lost persons?*
3. *Are the members of the church open to reaching people who don't look or act like them?*
4. *Do conflicts and critics zap the evangelistic energy of the church?*
5. *Do small groups and Sunday school classes seek to reach lost persons within their groups?*
6. *Is the leadership of the church evangelistic?*
7. *Do the sermons regularly communicate the gospel?*
8. *Are there ministries in the church that encourage members to be involved in evangelistic outreach and lifestyle?*
9. *Have programs become ends in themselves rather than means to reach people?*
10. *Is there any process of accountability for members to be more evangelistic?*

These are some good questions that need to be answered honestly by all churches!!!

I am blessed to be your Associational Missionary! I am here to serve the Lord and the pastors and churches of the Mell Association. Thank you for the privilege!

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

October

Birthdays

8 Britni Rowland Journey

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

November

Birthdays

3 Gerald Purvis Alapaha
 4 Gary Cadwell Brookfield
 13 Benji Rowland Journey
 15 Kevin Kilgore Northside
 20 Sandy Donovan First, Tifton
 21 Don Harris New Bethel
 24 Larry Layfield Mt. Zion

Anniversaries

6 Rev & Mrs Steve Tucker Liberty
 22 Rev & Mrs Brian Broome Northside

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

8 Jimmy Parker Brushy Creek



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
occeebctifton.org



DISASTER RELIEF DONATION INFORMATION

Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief is responding to the following areas affected by Hurricane Irma:

- Habersham County: Cleanup & Recovery, Chaplains, Low Level Feeding.
- Savannah: Feeding (coordinating efforts with the Salvation Army).
- Liberty/McIntosh Counties: Cleanup & Recovery, Chaplains, Feeding.
- Kingsland: Cleanup & Recovery (multiple units will be responding), Chaplains, Feeding.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Pray.
2. Buckets of Care.
3. Donate: 100% of all donations go directly to relief efforts!

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

Food Pantry
2017

October	New River
November	Northside
December	Brighton Road

The Food Pantry served 18 households in August.

Employment Opportunity

First Baptist Church of Chula is in search of a Church Secretary/Pastor's Administrative Assistant.

If you are interested, send your resume and cover letter to:

First Baptist Church of Chula
 P.O. Box 58
 Chula, GA 31733

SUNBELT AG EXPO MISSION OPPORTUNITY
OCTOBER 17, 18, 19

Each year the Colquitt, Thomas, Mercer, and Grady Associations sponsor the **Georgia Baptist Ministries Tent** at the **SunBelt AG Expo**. This event provides tremendous opportunities for ministry and evangelism to folks from around the country. Volunteers should call **229-985-1168** for more information.

They are looking for volunteers to join with them in this ministry. The following is a list of opportunities available:

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Greeters | Literature Table | Popcorn Machine | Faith Bracelets | Balloons |
| Face Painting | Music | Cooks | Share the Gospel | Others |



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

- 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**

Monthly Financials

(August 2017)

Budget Needs: \$9,823.40
 Funds Received: \$11,216.38
 Expenses: \$9,578.38

BCM NEWS

I have thanked you many times for all your prayers, financial support, and wonderful food! Because you give to us, God uses your efforts to invest in a group of college student's spiritual walk. You play a part in all they do. Well, your efforts have paid off. During the recent disaster, I think God sat in heaven and said, "Well done my good and faithful servants." to some college students.

On Thursday before the storm they wanted to do something and so instead of going out to eat they gave the money they would have spent and gave it toward Disaster Relief and collected 160.00. Not only did they contribute the money, they fasted and prayed for the storm victims.

On Friday before the storm some students helped New River when they opened the first shelter in Tifton. On Saturday they put up over 200 cots and helped man the ABAC shelter for the next 3 days. On Tuesday after the storm students went around town helping people cut down trees and clean up their yards. Then the next Friday they helped the nursing home evacuees load their vans to head home.

We talk all the time at BCM about missions and many have gone all over the world serving the Lord. But, I was excited when they saw a need in their own backyard and they ministered to it sharing the love of Christ with those who came to our city seeking refuge. You may have not physically been able to minister to the hurting in our area but because of what your gifts and prayers to BCM you played a part in all they did. One of the shelter kids said, "If I have to experience a disaster again, I want to come back to Tifton – these people care!" This is a great testimony for our city.

This semester has had a great start and as I type this I am preparing to take 50 students to our state BCM meeting. We have several who are lost and keep coming to BCM because God is reaching out to them. Please pray that these students will come to know Christ as their personal Savior.

Penny