

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

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

December 2
Downtown Holiday Christmas
5:00 PM—10:00 PM

December 5
Mell Ministers/Wives
Christmas Banquet

December 14
Mell Administrative Team
Noon
Mell Office

December 18—January 1
Mell Office Closed

December 25
Christmas Day

January 2
Mell Office Open

Happy Thanksgiving!

“...in everything give thanks; for this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus for you.”
1 Thessalonians 5:18, NKJV



December 3-10, 2017
Week of Prayer for International Missions

and
Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering
Goal
\$160,000,000

100% of gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering fund IMB missionaries who are making disciples and multiplying churches among unreached people and places.

In the last year reported (2015):

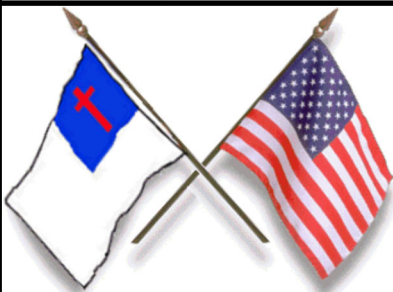
- **9 MILLION** heard the gospel
- **175,290** new believers in Christ
- **15,058** trained pastors
- **6,138** new churches

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

November 2017



Employment Opportunity

The Mell Baptist Association is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant. The person must possess excellent secretarial skills; possess good bookkeeping skills; be proficient in the use of QuickBooks; be proficient with computers; be able to use Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, and Access; have good people skills; and be able to take initiative. Our office is open Monday-Thursday 8 AM to 4 PM, but Administrative Assistant hours can be flexible (28 hours weekly total). Resumes may be submitted by email, in person (817 N Central Ave), or by mail (Tom Hocutt, P. O. Box 1547, Tifton, GA 31793). For more information, please contact Tom Hocutt at thocutt@gmail.com or 229-733-8911. Interviews will be held after receiving resumes.



Washington issued a proclamation on October 3, 1789, designating Thursday, November 26 as a national day of thanks. In his proclamation, Washington declared that the necessity for such a day sprung from the Almighty's care of Americans prior to the Revolution, assistance to them in achieving independence, and help in establishing the constitutional government.

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

On September 23 forty-one volunteers gathered at Paradise Lakes for the association's Jakes Day ministry. What a great turnout of volunteers! These volunteers were from five of our churches/missions and Beulah Hill Baptist Church. It was great to see black and white and Hispanic believers working side by side in sharing the love of Jesus and His gospel to those attending Jakes Day. We distributed 700 bottles of water with the association logo and two Scriptures (John 1:3 and Matthew 16:24) printed on the bottles. We also distributed approximately 100 Gospel tracts. I did a few balloon "dogs," but the balloons were not cooperative! The Evangelism/Missions Team is planning an even larger presence next year!

"Praise God from Whom all blessings flow" and "to God be the glory" express my impression of the 131st Annual Meeting of the Mell Baptist Association that was held October 15 at FBC Tifton. The business session at 5 PM was conducted in an orderly, Godly, cooperative manner. We adopted a budget for 2018 of \$116,617 which was a one percent decrease from this year. We also approved our officers: Steve Tucker, Moderator; Rodney Owens, Associate Moderator; Jim Donovan, Acting Treasurer (He is stepping down when we have someone in place.); and Lester Potts, Clerk. We also approved full teams for the Administrative Team, Encouraging/Strengthening Team, and Evangelism/Missions Team. Carolyn Kelly serves as our associational WMU Leader. We also heard an informative and challenging Co-operative Program report from Bobby Boswell, GBMB. We adopted the Book of Reports which contains Financial Reports, reports of teams and ministries, and the statistics from our churches. We also approved The Road Church to become a member of the association under watchcare for a year. We welcome the co-pastors, Jason Jones and Matt Strevel, and the members of this church into the family of churches of our association and look forward to continuing to work with them in God's kingdom work.

We had 80 messengers who registered from eighteen of our churches with over 300 in the worship service. The offering for Georgia Disaster Relief was \$1,879.00. Thank you for your generosity to people in need! The highlight of the evening was the worship service where Jon Duncan, Worship and Music Ministry at GBMB, and the FBC Tifton choir and orchestra led us in worship through music. And then, Mel Blackaby, pastor of FBC Jonesboro, Georgia, preached a powerful, challenging message on being men and women of conviction from Luke 3, using John the Baptist as an example. I have heard great compliments about this special time of worship. Again "to God be the glory!"

Thanks to Steve Tucker for a job well done; Lester Potts for his work with the ACRs and registration; Jon Duncan for his uplifting leading us in worship through music; Mel Blackaby for his being used by God to challenge us to be people of conviction; and FBC Tifton staff and volunteers for the way they hosted us. It is great to see how God uses so many to honor God with their gifts and resources.

The association received two lovely thank you letters from the Union Baptist Association, Houston, Texas, thanking us for the six Walmart gift cards that we sent to assist the flood victims there; and a letter from Georgia Baptist Children's Home (Baxley) thanking us for the \$350 in gift cards and \$250 worth of items donated to them from our churches. Thanks again for your generosity!

In case you haven't noticed, God is at work in the association! Let's make sure we have eyes to see what He is doing and join Him!

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

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
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December

Birthdays

14	Stacy Ring	Salem
21	Steve Tucker	Liberty
23	Nerily Lopez	Vida Abundante

Anniversaries

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

28	Les Gilbert	New River
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Food Pantry 2017

November	Northside
December	Brighton Road

<u>2018</u>	
January	Liberty
February	First, Tifton

The Food Pantry served 30 households in September.

THANK YOU!!!

The Mell Baptist Association Food Pantry is a vital ministry opportunity for our churches, ensuring our neighbors have nourishing meals for themselves and their families. On average, our pantry serves 20 families each month. If you price the items we issue, each family receives food costing approximately \$71.74. Serving 20 families each month would bring that total to \$1434.80. Extrapolating out for 12 months, our total service to our community through the food pantry and the generosity of our member churches, the annual total comes to over \$17,000.00 each year. This is an example of the love of Christ reflected into Tift, Cook, and Berrien counties. We sincerely thank you for your continued support.



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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2017

DROP-OFF DATES AND TIMES

EASTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1490 KENNEDY ROAD

TIFTON, GA 31794

Mon, Nov. 13: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Mon, Nov. 13: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Tue, Nov. 14: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Tue, Nov. 14: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Wed, Nov. 15: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wed, Nov. 15: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Thu, Nov. 16: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Thu, Nov. 16: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

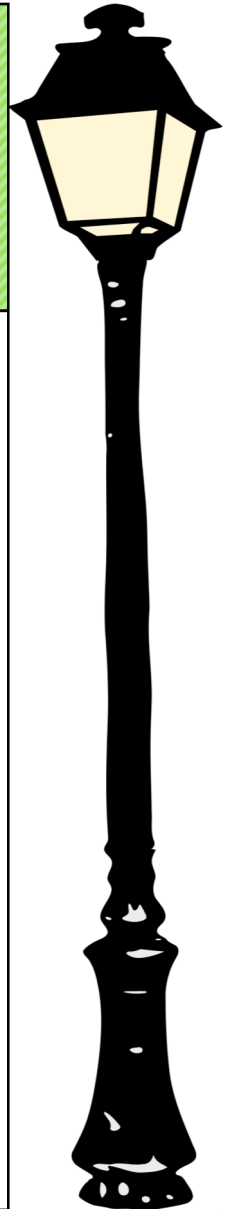
Fri, Nov. 17: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Fri, Nov. 17: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Sat, Nov. 18: 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Sun, Nov. 19: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Mon, Nov. 20: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM



Mell Senior Adult Luncheon

January 23, 2018

Noon—Until

Liberty Baptist Church

Mell Baptist Association

Executive Committee

January 25, 2018/ 7:00 PM

Mell Office

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS Jumpstart

February 15, 2018

Sherwood Baptist Church, Albany

Regional VBS Clinic

March 10, 2018

Sherwood Baptist Church, Albany



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 Tifton, GA 31793
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 U.S. Postage Paid
 Chula, GA 31733
 Permit No. 5

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

FALL SUPPER LIST

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

(September 2017)

Budget Needs: \$9,823.45
 Funds Received: \$7,561.75
 Expenses: \$10,964.21

BCM NEWS

This has been an amazing month! We have a young man whose father came to BCM years ago. While his father was here, he got saved. His father was a lot like the son in that he was aggravating and a redneck but the son is just as aggravating but acts like a thug. This young man came to BCM and was as one would say a little "rough around the edges". He would say "off the wall" things just to get a reaction from other students. But, instead of cutting him off the students loved him where he was. They listened to his crazy stories about drugs and stuff and showed they cared about him. When he was in high school back home the kids at church put him down and cut him off when he acted crazy so he had a bad taste in his mouth about God and Christians.

Well, as the students kept putting up with him, he began to hang around more and trying to get a bad reaction from them. But, they still reached out to him. One night one of the girls cornered him and talked with him about Christ and told him she grew up in a place where drugs and alcohol like he talked about were everywhere and he did not want to be a part of that culture. She shared with him the story of the gospel. This young man grew up in church and he knew the gospel but had rejected it. Two days after she talked with him he called me after church. I met him and we talked about salvation. His big thing was he did not want to give up his lifestyle. Finally, he said he wanted to try the "Jesus thing". I told him there was no trying, he either wanted to make Jesus Lord of his life or he did not and if he did not then he did not want a part of the kingdom of God. He had to repent of his sins and desire to make Jesus Lord of his life. Romans 10:9 tells us this. Well, he did not want to give up his lifestyle so I told him that was his decision. I just hoped that he did not die before he accepted Christ or else he would go to hell. He grew up in church and knew this was true.

I knew his dad and we had been talking about how people were reaching out to him and praying for him and I believed his days were numbered before he accepted Christ. I called his dad and told him what had happened and later that night his dad texted me that his son had accepted Christ. He called his dad after talking with me and his dad told him his story about what happened to him at ABAC. Well, the son decided that the life he was living was getting him nowhere and decided to follow Christ. The night after he was saved we had a BCM meeting and about 20 students raised their hand to say that they had been praying for him and his salvation.

This young man is a perfect example of how God pursues people and loves them. This young man from South Carolina was sent to ABAC to hear the gospel and be loved on by some students so he could get saved!!! God is so good! Please pray for this young man as he grows in his faith.

Penny