

Mell

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER 2
LABOR DAY
(MELL OFFICE CLOSED)

SEPTEMBER 17
MELL MINISTER'S MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19
MELL EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM

SEPTEMBER 24
MELL ENCOURAGING/
STRENGTHENING TEAM

SEPTEMBER 26
MELL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

OCTOBER 15
MELL MINISTERS' MEETING

OCTOBER 17
MELL EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM

OCTOBER 20
MELL ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 22
MELL ENCOURAGING/
STRENGTHENING TEAM

OCTOBER 22
MELL SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 24
MELL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

ANNUAL TRUCKLOADING

Benefitting
Georgia Baptist Children's Home
and Family Ministries

The Mell Baptist Association is collecting:
Spaghetti sauce, noodles (egg, lasagna, and elbows), cooking oil
and aluminum foil.

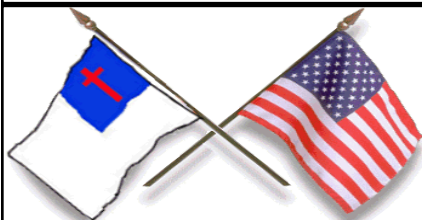
Gift Cards are always appreciated!

Collection Information
September 16-19, 2019

8 a.m. to 4 p. m.

Association Office
817 North Central Ave.
Tifton, Georgia 31794

Questions? Please contact the Association at 229-386-0865 or
Charlie Koehl at 770-463-3800 or ckoehl@gbchfm.org



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

www.mellbapt.com

Established 1887.

September, 2019

Check us out on Facebook

AM THOUGHTS

In an email received from Thom Ranier on 9/20/17 entitled "Seven Deadly Statements of Church Members" he said, "... there are some sentences that can prove harmful, even deadly, to a congregation. Here are seven of the deadliest statements:

"I like our church just the way it is." When you begin to hear this statement expressed among church members, you can be certain there is no Great Commission heartbeat. We should never want our church to stay just like it is; we should be constantly seeking to reach new people with the gospel.

"My pastor doesn't visit me enough." There are so many things wrong with this statement. First, it reflects a ministry where there is expectation that the pastor is to do most of the ministry, instead of equipping others to do the work of ministry. Second, it reflects a dependence and self-centered ministry on the part of church members.

"I always vote 'no' just to keep the leadership in check." This person is the disrupter I described in an earlier post. He or she really wants the focus on self. Attention seeking and self-focus are characteristics of this person. They are toxic to churches.

"I just can't worship with our style of music." The worship wars aren't over. These church members could never be missionaries because their indigenous people group probably wouldn't be singing hymns from the hymnals. There is no sense of worship with these church members; they are all about their own preferences and desires.

"People know where our church is if they want to come." This statement reflects deadly ecclesiology and deadly missiology. It assumes that the church is a place; and it assumes that the Great Commission is, "Y'all come."

"I love you pastor, but . . ." "This statement reflects a church member who is both deceitful and deadly. He or she tells leaders they love them but puts a metaphorical knife in their backs at the first opportunity. These members tear churches apart.

"I pay my tithes here, so I deserve . . ." This church member sees his or her offerings as conditional. So, in a real sense, they aren't offerings as much as they are country club dues. They will continue to pay their way as long as they get their way.

To be clear, most church members do not make these statements, nor do they reflect these attitudes. But healthier church members should and must speak up when they hear other members making such destructive statements.

Otherwise, the naysayers, cartels, critics, and bullies will have their way in the church. And the church will soon cease being the church."

Have you said any of the above? We need to be saying encouraging words about our church. I am convinced that churches grow when they are talking positively about their church out in the community. It makes people more likely to want to come see what is going happening!

Please make your plans now to attend the Mell Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 20, at Eastside BC. Registration is at 4:30 pm; business session at 5:00 pm; and worship at 6:00 pm. Gordon Fort, Ambassador for the President of the International Mission Board will be preaching. There will be testimonies, great music, good fellowship, and a great time together? Make sure your church elects its messengers and let's the Mell Office know who they are so that we can provide Messenger Name Badges. Everyone is encouraged to attend. I hope that you are transferring your Sunday night to the Annual Meeting! See you there!

Tom

Community News:

Mount Zion Baptist Church in Chula, Georgia is seeking a part-time Music Leader. Please send a letter of interest and your resume to either the church address or email the information to the email listed below.

**Mount Zion Baptist Church
ATTENTION: Worship Pastor Committee
293 Mount Zion Church Road
Chula, Georgia 31733**

Email: aaronjfrasier923@gmail.com



Choose to Reach the Next Generation. Start Here. Start Now

A reaching the Next Generation Roundtable is designed for those who serve on a church staff to have a conversation with others about ideas, trends, and concerns as we seek to reach future generations with the gospel.

The format will have four breakout rooms which will be for preschool\children, students, collegiate, and pastors. Each group will meet in their respective rooms with a discussion time. Following this they will come together in a large group where three key questions from the breakouts will be brought together in a larger conversation over lunch.

Each location will have the same schedule and topics. The cost is \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. Lunch is included!

**Thursday, September 19, 2019
Piedmont Church, Marietta
9:00 AM-1:30 PM**

**Tuesday, September 24, 2019
First Baptist Church, Valdosta
9:00 AM-1:30 PM**

Schedule

9:00am—Registration & Fellowship w/coffee and lite refreshments
9:30am—Large Group Gathering (Welcome and Review Schedule)
9:45am—Roundtable Breakouts
11:00am—Break with refreshments
11:15am—Roundtable Breakouts
12:30pm—Lunch that includes a large group summary of the roundtables
1:30pm—Dismiss

CELEBRATIONS

September

Birthdays

2	Cindy Evers	Northside
20	Susan Roe	FBC, Tifton
25	Jimmy Parker	Brushy Creek

Anniversaries

14	Rev/Mrs. John Werner	Lakeview
23	Rev/Mrs. Kevin Kilgore	Northside

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

10	Allen Mullis	Omega
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October

Birthdays

19	Leigh Ann Werner	Lakeview
21	Darryl McHan	Alapaha

Anniversaries

14	Rev/Mrs. Jimmy Parker	Brushy Creek
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Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

4	Barol Bailey	FBC, Ty Ty
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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.

Our mailing address is:

Mell Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1547
Tifton, GA 31793

mellbapt@friendlycity.net Or call (229) 386-0865

Food Pantry 2019

September	FBC, Ty Ty
October	Northside
November	Oak Grove
December	Brighton Road

Food Pantry 2020

January	
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	Unity
August	
September	
October	Brookfield
November	
December	

The Food Pantry served 18 households in July.
If your church would like to sponsor the Food Pantry for a month in 2020, give us a call at 229-386-0865 and let us know which month you would like to have.

Annual Church Reports (ACR)

Churches, please have your ACR information completed and posted on the GBMB iGO website (<http://igo.gabaptist.org>) by on or before September 23, 2019. This will allow time for the data to be available for the Mell Association annual meeting on October 20, 2019.

Clerks, if you have any questions or need help please call the Mell Office at 229-386-0865.

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



"RELIGION THAT IS PURE AND UNDEFILED BEFORE GOD THE FATHER IS THIS: TO VISIT ORPHANS AND WIDOWS IN THEIR AFFLICTION, AND TO KEEP ONESELF UNSTAINED FROM THE WORLD." JAMES 1:27

Foster Care Information Meeting

Join us to learn about the Georgia Foster Care system and how YOU can answer the Call to Care as a Foster Parent.

Topics Include:

- Types of Foster Care
- How to Begin the Process
- How to become licensed in GA.
- Using DFCS, Private, or Child Placing Agencies

Presentation from Camp Rock of Georgia which is the only faith-based foster care organization in our Region.

If you have ever felt the Lord stirring your heart about opening your home to foster children, then this meeting is for you. Married Couples, Singles, Divorced, Widowed- if you are over 21 years old then you qualify! We want to explain the process, discuss the opportunities and help answer your questions. There is no commitment necessary at this meeting, it is simply about obtaining the information. So, step out in faith, and trust that God will do the rest!

Location: Alapaha Baptist Church
22308 Main Street
Alapaha, GA 31622

Time: 6:00pm

Date: September 10, 2019



Mell Baptist Association
817 North Central Ave.
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

BCM News

This year has started with a whirlwind! We have been in class for over a week now and our first meetings and weekend activity have been overflowing! Last Thursday, I had one guy after the meeting after talking about leaving a legacy for Christ while at ABAC, say, "It was as if God was speaking directly to him". He felt as if God wanted to use him as a witness on this campus! We talked about different ways to share the gospel and he left with a list of names to reach out to! WOW, a freshman with a heart for the gospel! I wonder what God will do through him during his time at ABAC!

I also have a young man who has been here for years and this year is so different. He is an avid hunter and fisherman. I mean the type who spends every waking moment in the woods. Friday night he said that he was not going to the hunting ground this weekend to work on his plots because he wanted to finish a Bible study he was working up to share at BCM. If you just knew this guy, you would know that God has performed a miracle on this young man's heart for him to do that!

Please continue to pray for us. Again, while I was writing this, a student walked in who has been battling something for a while and said that God was convicting her to get it right. Something is happening around here so please pray that we will seek God's wisdom in guiding these students in their walk with Christ.

Penny

FALL SUPPER LIST 2019

SEPT. 9 - Northside
SEPT. 16 - New River
SEPT. 23- FBC Chula
SEPT.. 30 - Crossview
OCT. 7 - FBC, Tifton
OCT. 14 - Fall Break
OCT. 21 - EASTSIDE
Oct. 28- Calvary
NOV. 5- BCM
NOV. 12 - Crossview
NOV. 19- BCM
NOV. 26 - BCM

Please let me know if you need to make changes. We are thankful for your hard work! We could not do this without you!

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

Mell Monthly Financial

(July, 2019)

Funds Received:	\$8,046.96
Expenses:	\$8,029.03
Budget Needs:	\$9,673.42

MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume 3, Number 8, September 2019

Urgent Prayer

1. Pray for a spirit of prayer to sweep through our churches that would usher in true repentance and revival.

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 Oak Grove Baptist Church (Gary Cadwell, interim pastor), Omega Baptist Church (Allen Mullis, pastor), and Pine Grove Baptist Church (Gerald Mallard, pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Eldorado, Enigma, New River, and Oak Grove.
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 Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Evangelism/Missions Team, and Administrative Team.
9. Pray for the Mell Baptist Association staff (Tom Hocutt and Charlene Fogarty).
10. Pray for the Baptist Campus Ministry at ABAC and Penny Chesnut as she leads.
11. Pray for the Leadership Team, Bob & Kristin Hickling (Celebration Director), and preparations that will need to be made for the Tiftarea Celebration with Will Graham March 20-22, 2020.
12. Pray for the Launch Event for the Tiftarea Celebration September 26 with Will Graham and his wife speaking.
13. Pray for the Mell Annual Meeting, Sunday, October 20, at 5 pm at Eastside BC with Gordon Fort, Ambassador for the President, IMB, preaching.

State

1. Pray for our state government officials.
2. Pray for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board: its Executive Director (Thomas Hammond), its ministries, and other State Missionaries.
3. Pray for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board personnel in the transition to a new structure.
4. Pray for the Georgia Baptist Annual Meeting November 11-12 Fayetteville.

Nation

1. Pray for our national government leaders.
2. Pray for the North American Mission Board, its president (Kevin Ezell), staff, and its missionaries.
3. Pray for the Southern Baptist Convention; Ronnie Floyd, CEO of the Executive Committee; and J. D. Grear, SBC President.
4. Pray for the revival of God's people and the spiritual awakening of our nation and the world.
5. Pray for the protection and support of our law enforcement, fire fighters, and EMS personnel.

World

1. Pray for the International Mission Board--its president (Paul Chitwood), staff, and missionaries.
2. Pray for the 1.8 billion Muslims of the world that they would come to an understanding of who Jesus Christ is.
3. Pray for the Gospel of Christ to be shared to the unreached people groups in the world.
4. Pray for the protection of Israel, wisdom for Israel as they deal with their enemies, and for the peace of Jerusalem.
5. Pray for protection for our armed forces in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and around the globe.
6. Pray that the people of Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and North Korea would have stable governments and that they would have an opportunity to hear the Gospel and respond.
7. Pray for the persecuted Christians of the world.

ANSWERS TO PRAYER

Praise the Lord for 106 who registered from 13 of our churches attending the Mell Senior Adult Luncheon at CrossView BC July 23. This was the largest ever attendance for our Senior Adult Luncheons!