

# **Mell** **BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

## PLANNING AHEAD

**JULY 1**  
**MELL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**JULY 4**  
**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**JULY 4**  
**CITIZENSHIP & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SUNDAY**

**JULY 6**  
**ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING TEAM**

**JULY 12**  
**PASTOR'S PRAYER TIME**

**JULY 15**  
**EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM**

**JULY 18**  
**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DAY**

**JULY 22**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM**

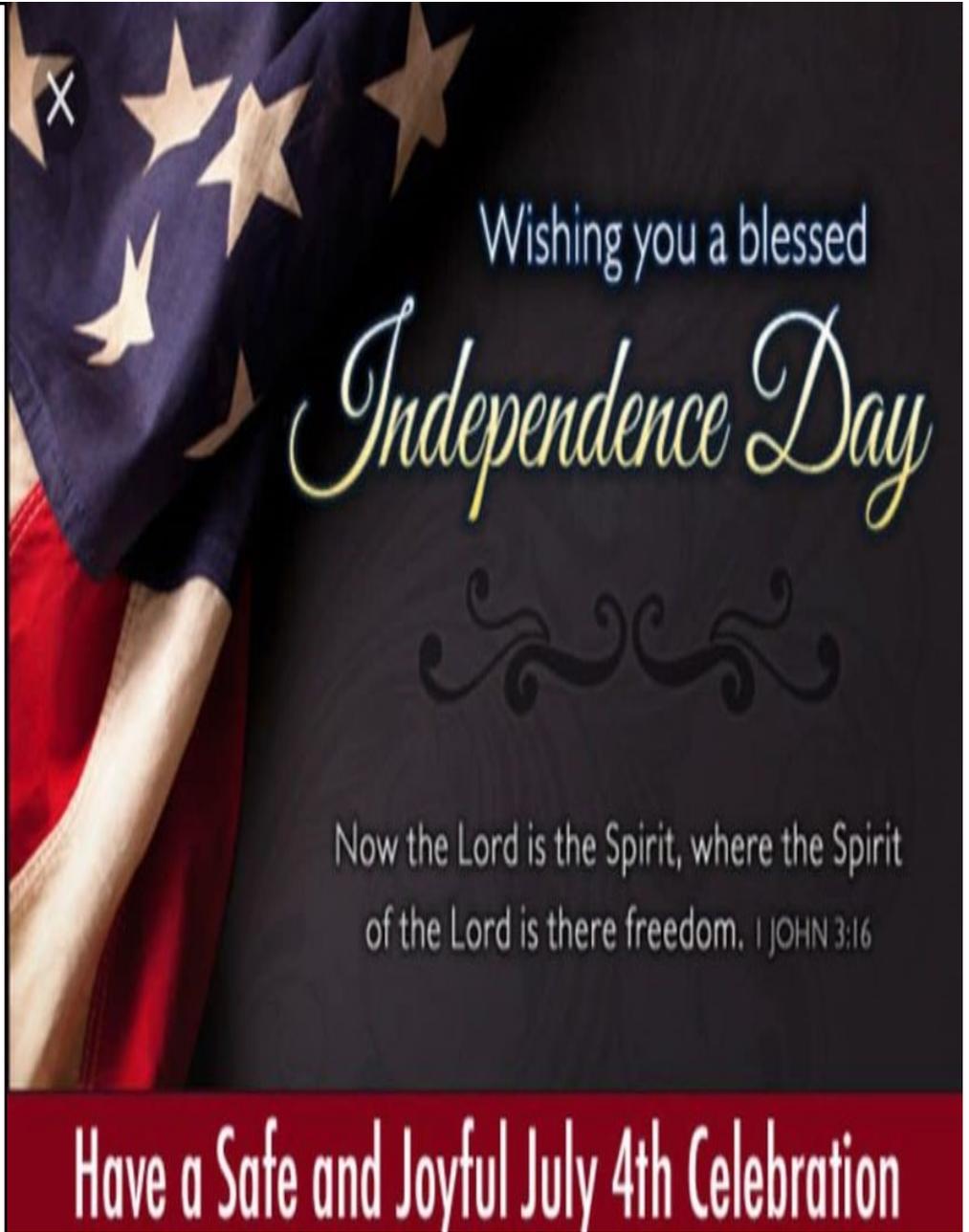
**AUGUST 3**  
**ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING TEAM**

**AUGUST 9**  
**PASTORS' PRAYER TIME**

**AUGUST 17**  
**MELL MINISTERS' LUNCHEON**

**AUGUST 19**  
**EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM**

**AUGUST 28**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM**



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

Established 1887

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

July 2021

## AM THOUGHTS

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! My heart is full of the way God was manifest in our Mell Mission Trip to Mexico July 19-26, 2021. God's blessings began with the First Baptist Tifton providing a bus to transport us to and from the Atlanta airport. Wayne Roe took us up there and Charlie Taylor brought us back to Tifton. Many thanks to them for taking time out of their schedules to provide this ministry to us!

A second blessing was the mission team God put together. We had three pastors with us—Steve Davis (Brookfield), Jay Kimbro (Victory), and Greg Love (CrossView) and members from those three churches. There was a father and daughter, someone who spoke Spanish (a real blessing), and five who had never been on a foreign mission trip. This was a fantastic team—cooperative, flexible, hardworking, fun, and eager to share the Gospel.

We had a delay out of Houston so did not arrive in Merida, Mexico until after 11 pm. We did not get to the Mission House in Ichmul, Mexico, until 3 am. A long day and short night. I had a God encounter on the plane from Houston to Merida. I had planned to try to sleep, but God had other plans. The lady by me asked were we visiting Merida. She and her daughter next to her were speaking Spanish, so I did not think I would be able to talk to her, but she spoke good English. Long story short, she and her daughter were going to Merida to see her brother who was in ICU with Covid and was not expected to make it. She found out during her layover in Houston (from Los Angeles) that he had passed away. I was able to let her talk and encourage her for the entire flight (over and hour). I had prayer with her and her daughter before we landed. Thank you Lord for divine encounters!

We stayed at the facility called Mission House in Ichmul which had dormitory type room with bunk beds (one for men and another for women). It also had showers and toilets connected to each room. The rooms were air conditioned! There was a sports area (concrete slab) covered with a dome where we ate and had meetings. The Mission House also had a swimming pool which I used every night! We ate all our meals there (breakfast, lunch, and dinner). The food was filling and good! The three Mell pastors and I met with local pastors three mornings for a time of sharing with them and encouraging them. We shared our experiences in the areas of discipleship, leader training, counseling, and other topics. The last two times we met, there were many questions that they asked us about various topics. This was a special time with us getting to know them and their struggles. They seemed to really identify with us when we shared our personal experiences and difficulties. Our leader, Eli Castillo, told us that they had never had a team with 4 pastors before and he wanted us to encourage the local pastors. There were from 4 or 5 pastors and pastors in training with some of their wives at each session.

While the Mell pastors and I were sharing with the local pastors, the other eight went door to door in Ichmul learning the culture, praying with the residents, and sharing the Gospel. They were able to lead one person to the Lord!

On Sunday afternoon after siesta (a must for everyone) we all went to San Francisco (yes, that is the name of the village) to go door to door meeting the people and inviting them to church at 5 pm and also to the Thursday big, combined worship service. Greg Love preached at this church. After the service a lady provided all of us empanadas (corn tortilla with chicken inside). She wanted to express her appreciation for our team.

On Monday afternoon we went to Chickenzanot to dig a ditch and four holes (almost 3 feet deep) for a foundation and support poles for the roof of a future church building. We got the trench dug and one hole before we gave out! The church building will have a concrete floor, a 3 feet rock wall, and a thatch roof or corrugated thick tar sheets. It may be open on sides or have small poles for the sides either vertical or like lattice work.

Tuesday afternoon after siesta we finished the three holes and gathered 150 rocks (20-30 pounds) for the sides. We were happy campers to see that project completed.

Wednesday afternoon we went to San Marcos for a worship service there. There were many, many children. We played with them before the service and I made balloon dogs for almost all of them! Steve Davis preached at this service. They had a class for children and Greg Love presented the Gospel to them and three raised their hands indicating that they were committing their lives to Christ! PTL!

Thursday morning Eli took the three Mell pastors and I to Tiholop at the request of the pastor to visit (expecting to make 3 or 4 visits). The first visit was to the church site. They are meeting in a lady's home. She and her sister-in-law and some children were present. We learned some about them and prayed for both of their health issues. Jay shared the Gospel with one young man (a grandchild) and he

(Continued in next column)

## CHURCH NEWS

**CrossView Baptist Church** is looking for a qualified Part-time Music Leader. This is a paid position. Contact Pastor Greg Love, (912) 230-6014 or email [greglove4@gmail.com](mailto:greglove4@gmail.com)

**Liberty Baptist Church** is seeking a bi-vocational Minister of Music. Must be able to read and teach music, and, preferably, be able to play an instrument. Salary is negotiable. Contact Pastor Steve Tucker, (229) 450-4553 or email [libertytifton@gmail.com](mailto:libertytifton@gmail.com)

**Liberty Baptist Church** is hosting Awana Leader Basic Training on July 17th, Saturday, from 9am to 1pm.

We'll serve light refreshments and sandwiches. The training is free of charge just let us know via email your church name and how many will attend.

[Libertytifton@gmail.com](mailto:Libertytifton@gmail.com)

Churches wishing to inform the public of upcoming events, please send the information about the event to our office by the **20th** in order for it to be included in the newsletter.

### **Our mailing address is:**

Mell Baptist Association

P.O. Box 1547

Tifton, GA 31793

[mellbapt@friendlcity.net](mailto:mellbapt@friendlcity.net). Or call (229) 386-0865

professed faith in Christ. Another 16 year old girl had come in and Jay also led her to the Lord. The first lady and sister-in-law requested prayers for their alcoholic husbands. So, we prayer for that stronghold to be broken. Some of us had gone outside thinking the visit was over, but Eli called us back in to tell us that another relative (a lady) wanted to hear some more about the Lord. Greg witnessed to her and asked if she was ready to profess faith in Christ, but she was reluctant. We found out later her husband also has a problem with alcohol and is into witchcraft. She was afraid of what he might do to her. That was the only visit we got to make, but it was definitely a divine appointment!

(Continued on Page 3)

## CELEBRATIONS

### July Birthdays

7	Mark Myers	FBC Tifton
8	William Fogarty	Unity
15	Corey Kilgore	Northside
20	Glenn Ford	Calvary

### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

1	Jose Lopez	FBC Tifton
1	Wayne Roe	FBC Tifton
3	Sam Jones	Northside
21	Carl Metzger	Lenox

### August Birthdays

25	Nancy Hughes	FBC Tifton
27	Wayne Roe	FBC Tifton

### Wedding Anniversaries

3	Rev/Mrs Steve Davis	Brookfield
4	Rev/Mrs. Wayne Roe	FBC Tifton
13	Rev/Mrs. Tom Hocutt	Mell

### Pastor/Staff Anniversary

1	John Werner	Lakeview
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Thursday afternoon was the large joint worship service. There was a Christian band who set up a stage, lighting, and huge speakers! A large Mission House bus and two vans went to the other villages to transport people to the event. We estimated over 200 people attended the service. The presence of the Lord was real in the time of praise and worship! The 16 year-old lady was baptized. Jay Kimbro brought the message. At the invitation 30 people committed their lives to Christ and gave their names and villages for follow-up. Two of our guys cooked 280 hamburgers from 3 pm to 7 pm in order for us to feed everyone who attended. The buns had to be sliced (that was done earlier) and mayo, ketchup, cheese, tomato, lettuce, and a hamburger patty placed in the bun. Our team had an assembly line of sorts to get them ready for our team to serve everyone. When I finished my part, I made balloons until all the kids left. A great day and God's manifest presence! Nothing better!

Friday was our fun day. We went shopping for souvenirs and went swimming in a huge sink hole where the water was 160 or more feet deep. We had to wear a life jacket. It was very refreshing. Then we ate a huge buffet and enjoyed different kinds of Mexican dishes. We then came back to Mission House and played volleyball against a team that one of the members of the Mission House team is coaching. We had fun!

We had our final worship time (we had one each night other than Thursday night) and debriefing and enjoyed birthday cake for Greg Love. We then packed and had a short night as we left the Mission House at 3 am Saturday morning. Our flights home were uneventful (comparatively). We arrived back in Tifton around 8 pm tired but rejoicing in what God had done in Mexico. To God be the glory!

**Tom**

### USEFUL LINKS:

<p style="text-align: center;">Southern Baptist Convention <a href="http://www.sbc.net/">http://www.sbc.net/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">North American Mission Board <a href="http://www.namb.net/">http://www.namb.net/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">International Mission Board <a href="http://www.imb.org/">http://www.imb.org/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Georgia Baptist Mission Board <a href="https://gabaptist.org/">https://gabaptist.org/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mell Baptist Association <a href="http://mellbapt.com/">http://mellbapt.com/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christian Index <a href="http://christianindex.org">http://christianindex.org</a></p>
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### *Sunday School* **LEADERSHIP TRAINING**



8:30 AM	Registration
9:00 AM	General Session Including Keynote Address by Steve Parr (see info below) for Everyone
9:30 AM	Breakout Sessions: General Leaders (Pastors and SS Directors) led by Steve Parr, Gwinnett Metro Baptist Assoc Adult Teachers/Leaders led by John Spencer, Sherwood BC, Albany Youth Teachers/Leaders led by Garrett Grubs, Sherwood BC, Albany Children Teachers/Leaders led by Tina Kimbro, Victory BC, Tifton Preschool Teachers/Leaders led by Jenni Carter, GBMB
10:30 AM	Break
11:00 AM	Breakout Sessions (Continuation of first Breakout Sessions)
12:00 PM	Dismiss

There will be no cost, but please register by Monday, September 13,  
by emailing [thocutt@gmail.com](mailto:thocutt@gmail.com)  
or calling 386-0865 so that we will have enough refreshments

**Saturday, September 18, 2021**

**Northside Baptist Church, Tifton**

### Food Pantry 2021

July	Victory
August	Eastside
September	Brookfield
October	Northside
November	FBC, Tifton
December	Salem Baptist

**The Food Pantry Served 9 Families in June**



Mell Baptist Association  
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 P.O. Box 1547  
 Tifton, GA 31793  
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 mellbapt@friendlycity.net  
 www..mellbapt.com

## BCM News

This past month, someone gave BCM money to buy a bike for an International student. I took him to Walmart to buy the bike and afterwards we went out to eat. Before our meal I told him I would like to say the Blessing. He looked rather odd and stated that he had never prayed and was not sure what to do, so I prayed and he just sat there. Afterwards, we began to talk about God. I explained that the lady that bought his bike did it because she loved God and wanted to help him because he was so far away from his family and they could not help him. I also said that God had been good to her and loved her so she wanted to share that love with others. He was intrigued by this notion. Can you imagine not knowing what prayer really is? I was thinking if he did not know that much about prayer, then no one taught him about it so there may be a chance that during his 19 years, no one had ever really prayed for him. Can you imagine a life like that? I told him that he may think that he was sent to America to play sports, but I believe he was sent to America to hear about God. Please pray for this young man! He knows very little so it will take time for him to understand the things of God. Pray we will be patient and that people will take the time to reach out to him and share. It is our hope that before he leaves for home, he will know Christ.

If your church has students who will be leaving for college this fall or you have family members who will, please send me their name, phone number and email and I will see that a BCM at their school contacts them. It is very important for them to make contact with a Christian community. College is crazy and they need someone pointing them toward Christ during these formative years!

My email is: [pchesnut2011@gmail.com](mailto:pchesnut2011@gmail.com).

Also, it seems that this fall we will be back to normal and can have BCM suppers again!! The students are excited; they got tired of my cooking! I have included a supper list and if you can support us on this date please let me know. If you can't that is fine. I am going on the old list of churches that helped in the past. If you are not on the list and want to help, please let me know. We have moved our meeting to 7:00 so we don't have to get the food till around 6:00.

Thanks, guys, you are awesome! Ladies, we sure missed your delicious entries! We have a whole group of freshmen who have been deprived!

**Penny**

### Fall Supper List 2021

AUG. 16 - BCM	OCT. 4- CROSSVIEW
AUG. 23- BCM	OCT. 11 - FBC TIFTON
AUG. 30 - BCM	OCT. 18 -CALVARY
SEPT. 6 - BCM	OCT. 25 - EASTSIDE
SEPT. 13 - NORTHSIDE	NOW. 1- CALVARY
SEPT. 20 - NEW RIV	NOV. 8- MT. ZION
SEPT. 27- FBC CHULA	NOV. 15 - CROSSVIEW
	NOV. 15- 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!*

*Penny*

**Baptist Collegiate Ministries  
 Club Advisor  
 Penny Chesnut  
 ABAC 595  
 2802 Moore Highway  
 Tifton, GA 31793-2601**

### Mell Monthly Financial

May (2021)

Funds Received: \$9,318.49  
 Budget Expenses: \$7,947.39  
 Budget Needs: \$8,827.23

## **MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE**

Volume 5, Number 6 July 2021

### **Urgent Prayer Needs**

1. Pray for a spirit of prayer to sweep through our churches that would usher in true repentance and revival.
2. Continue to pray for churches to keep safe as they continue to meet in person and wisdom as they consider opening other church activities.

### **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 New River Baptist Church (Michael Marchant, pastor), Oak Grove Baptist Church (Mike Patillo, pastor), and Pine Grove Baptist Church (Gerald Mallard, pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Alapaha, Eldorado, New River, and Northside.
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 Beverly Bradford).
10. Pray for the Baptist Campus Ministry at ABAC and Penny Chesnut as she leads.
11. Pray for the Mell SS Leader Training September 18 at Northside BC.

### **State and U.S.**

1. Pray for our state government officials.
2. Pray for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board: its Executive Director (Thomas Hammond), its ministries, and staff.
3. Pray for our GBMB Southwest Regional Consultants: Samuel Ayala (Missions), P. J. Dunn (Discipleship), Lee Hill (Worship and Music), Chris Reynolds (Pastor Wellness), and Tim Williams (Evangelism).
4. Pray for our national government leaders.
5. Pray for the North American Mission Board, its president (Kevin Ezell), staff, and its missionaries.
6. Pray for the Southern Baptist Convention; Ronnie Floyd, CEO of the Executive Committee; and Ed Litton, SBC President.
7. Pray for the revival of God's people and the spiritual awakening of our nation and the world.
8. 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**

1. Praise the Lord for four Mell pastors coming together to pray June 14.
2. Praise the Lord for Beverly Bradford becoming our Mell Administrative Assistant.



*Sunday School*  
**LEADERSHIP TRAINING**



**Saturday, September 18, 2021**  
**Northside Baptist Church, Tifton**

**leadership** passion  
motivation  
dedication drive discipline  
excellence heart

- 8:30 AM Registration
- 9:00 AM General Session Including Keynote Address by Steve Parr (see info below) for Everyone
- 9:30 AM Breakout Sessions:  
General Leaders (Pastors and SS Directors) led by Steve Parr, Gwinett Metro Baptist Assoc  
Adult Teachers/Leaders led by John Spencer, Sherwood BC, Albany  
Youth Teachers/Leaders led by Garrett Grubs, Sherwood BC, Albany  
Children Teachers/Leaders led by Tina Kimbro, Victory BC, Tifton  
Preschool Teachers/Leaders led by Jenni Carter, GBMB
- 10:30 AM Break
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