

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

September 7
Labor Day
(Office Closed)

September 17
Executive Committee Meeting
Mell Baptist Association

September 24-25
New Ministers' Orientation
Norman Park

September 25-27
Georgia Baptist Conference
of the Deaf
Norman Park

October 3
Contagious Youth Rally
Journey Church

October 11
World Hunger Sunday

October 16-17
Soul of the Servant Retreat
Norman Park

October 24
Sunday School Director Seminar
Northside Baptist in Valdosta

October 25
Mell Baptist Annual Meeting
Northside Baptist Church

November 1
Daylight Savings Time Ends



Rev 5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; 12. Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. 13. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. 14. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

The Mell Baptist Association exists to Encourage the Pastors, Strengthen the Churches, and to Build the Kingdom, for the Glory of God. Established 1886.
www.mellbapt.com September 2015



Highlights

Jason Jones, Associational Missionary

A couple of months ago I wrote about making disciples and the general scope of the labor to be done in our association. This morning, a man asked me to explain the purpose of the Mell Baptist Association; so I gave him my standard thirty second statement about "churches coming together to do more than they could alone." Well, that was not good enough for him. He had some time on his hands, but I had to pick up my daughter and get her to school before 8:00 am, so I gave him the five minute version. He wanted to chase a rabbit about why we should not name organizations after individuals because of prestige (because Patrick Hughes Mell is the namesake, and a worthy one at that, for the Mell association).

I told him about some of the things the Mell Association facilitates for our churches, like the van, the evangelism trailer, or training. I explained how six churches came together to form the Mell in 1887. This exchange left me asking myself, what other specifics do we do, not just the Mell association as a whole, but the individual churches of the Mell association? We have association-wide events, but what about multi-church events. I guess I am looking for more inter-associational cooperation, for a greater kingdom impact, at a smaller level. Can we think of specific church events, activities, or partnerships we can share with other individual churches?

We should be opening up our events, ministries, camps, and trips to other churches to participate together (not babysit). Let me put this in the form of an exhortation. We should. One example would be the churches who get together for Winshape Camp. Another being the Mt. Zion Baptist Church trip to the Children's Home twice a year. Another shining example is the forthcoming church plant which will be located at the old Fourth Street Baptist Church site. We have a church that is committed to being the sending church and a church that has promised to be a supporting church. We've also had a church give a donation as a financial sponsor. It's kind of like small groups in your church, except it is small groups of churches. Are their planned revivals that you can partner with a neighboring church? Are their mission trips where you can invite others to join with you? Are their community outreaches that you can work together on with another church?

"Do we have to split the proceeds?" we might ask. "What if the people we reach go to the other church?" might be a concern. I don't know if we would voice that concern out loud, but "Who will pay for this" is a question we ask about everything; the answer—God will. These are all pride-centered, "building our little church kingdom instead of building the King's kingdom" concerns. We need to come together as God's Kingdom workers. Some will bring strengths that may make up for another's weaknesses. So, the next time you plan, include a neighboring church in your thought process.

OK, a couple of quick Mell things to mention. Remember the GBC truck loading beginning on the 14th of September, culminating with our Executive Committee Meeting on the 17th. The Executive Committee Meeting will be at First Baptist Church in Chula at 7:00 PM. Jake's Day is the following weekend at Paradise Lake on Saturday the 26th. CONTAGIOUS 2015 is coming on October 3rd and will be held at the new Journey Church campus. It is expanding to include the entire afternoon. If you didn't get a flyer, let us know, or contact your youth leader. Finally, the annual meeting is going to be a combined worship service! We will have a combined choir from association churches. We will hear testimonies from several pastors about what God is doing throughout the county. Ike Reighard will be our keynote speaker and should be awesome! What I like for all of our churches to do is to move your Sunday evening services on Oct 25th to Northside Baptist Church. It would be wonderful to see the church packed out. Plan now to be there and come prepared to worship God with the gathering of people known as the Mell Baptist Association!

Brother Jason

Lifehouse Ministries Annual Banquet

November 12, 2015
UGA Conference Center
Featuring Gianna Jessen



Make your reservations now: 229/402-3794
larae@sgmlifehouse.org
<http://www.sgmlifehouse.org>



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 Convention
<https://gabaptist.org/>
Mell Baptist Association
<http://mellbapt.com/>

CELEBRATIONS

September

Birthdays

- 1 Pete Jones
- 2 Brad Baker
- 2 Cindy Evers
- 15 Dillard Ensley
- 20 Jason Jones
- 20 Kevin Harris
- 20 Susan Roe
- 25 Jimmy Parker

Wedding Anniversaries

- 4 Rev. & Mrs. Don Harris
- 21 Rev. & Mrs. Kevin Kilgore

Church Anniversaries

- 2 Kevin Harris/Oak Grove 2012

October

Birthdays

- 8 Britni Rowland
- 9 Chad Hall

Wedding Anniversaries

- 3 Rev. and Mrs. Pete Jones
- 8 Rev. and Mrs. Jim Donovan Jr.
- 14 Rev. and Mrs. Jimmy Parker
- 21 Rev. and Mrs. Gary Cadwell

Church Anniversaries

- 14 Jason Jones/Mell 2013
- 24 John Hughes/FBCT 2005

"Coping with Loss" John Patten, Leader

This ten week grief support group will provide the environment for **men and women** who are walking through life with diverse life experiences of grief and loss.

Thursdays, 11:45
AM August 27—November 19
First Baptist Church Family Life Center
Patio Room

Food Pantry

2015

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| September | TyTy |
| October | Oak Grove |
| November | Northside |
| December | OPEN |

Churches can reserve a month in 2016 now.

WORSHIP

Dr. Wayne Roe, pastor of First Baptist Church in Tifton, delivered a sermon on worship during one of the Monday Night Live services held in July. I don't remember the individual points the pastor spoke to, but I do remember the one that landed a punch square to my jaw. It's not about whether I got anything out of the worship service, but whether or not I truly worshipped my Savior.

Sounds simple enough. Everyone knows that we come to church to worship Jesus, right? No matter the manner in which the service is conducted, it's all about Jesus, right? No matter the style of music being sung or played, it's all about Jesus, right? No matter how congregants dress, it's all about Jesus, right? No matter the method of the sermon presentation, it's all about Jesus, right?

I don't know how many times I've heard comments like: "I just didn't get anything out of the sermon today," or, "the music just didn't help me get ready for worship." Other times someone might complain about it being too hot or too cold in the building, or maybe that the music was too loud. Maybe it's too crowded and all the "good" seats were taken. How about those times when all you could think about was how much longer the preacher would speak so you could get home for lunch or to watch the ballgame. I confess, I'm guilty of some of these.

Dr. Roe, in his sermon, made it clear that when we come to church, we are not there to be entertained. The audience, in fact, is not the congregation, but heaven itself. Jesus is the audience and we are performers. Our responsibility is to worship Jesus and point all others toward His worthiness through that worship. As with any performance, it is the responsibility of the performer to come prepared and ready. It is our responsibility to be in a spirit of worship before we arrive at the church. We shouldn't expect the choir, orchestra, or band to prepare our hearts for worship.

Here are some ideas to help us be ready to worship when we arrive at church. 1) Get up 10 minutes earlier than normal and read scripture. Maybe, each Sunday read a different Psalm. In fact, go ahead and do this every day and you will see your life being transformed by God's Word. 2) Listen to a praise and worship CD instead of watching the news or some other Television show. 3) Don't leave home if there are any unresolved issues with your spouse or children. Your presence in church is of no consequence if you are incapable of worship because you came unprepared.

In other words, come to church prepared to worship Jesus. Come ready to proclaim His greatness and goodness. Announce to the world that He alone is worthy of praise. Glorify Christ for who He is—that is worship. Lester Potts



National Sunday School Director Seminar

October 24, 2015 (Saturday)

Valdosta, GA: Northside Baptist Church

<http://www.lifeway.com/Event/Leadership-Training-National-Sunday-School-Director-Seminar-2015-Valdosta-GA>



GUEST SPEAKER
GARY PERMENTER



WORSHIP BY
AUSTIN FRENCH

MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS

CONTAGIOUS

OCTOBER 3RD 2015
1 pm - 8 pm

JOURNEY CHURCH
TIFTON CAMPUS



Men's Ministry

November—Vacant

If you would like to host one of the quarterly events during 2016, please contact this office.

Feb—May—Aug—Nov

Mell Baptist Association
400-A North Central Avenue
P.O. Box 1547
Tifton, GA 31793
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PH: 229-386-0865
mellbapt@friendlycity.net
www.mellbapt.com
Jason Jones, Associational Missionary
Cell: 229-339-1383
sabsp4hm@gmail.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Chula, GA 31733
Permit No. 5

BCM NEWS

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, Eph. 3:20.

This is definitely true about this semester. We have had record numbers we haven't seen in years! God has truly blessed!! But, with these great numbers come great responsibility and handling this great number is something we can't do without you to help us! We desperately need your support and prayers!

The leadership team and I have met several times and have decided that the things these students desperately need are tools that will help them stand firm in in this crazy world we live in today. As one student put it, "Some days I feel as if I am in a sea of craziness and I am dog paddling to stay afloat!" It is as if the world is doing all it can to suck them into a sea of distractions, wrong thinking, and compromising of Biblical truths. In a day of computers, google, youth leader Christians, and books it would take a lifetime to read – I am amazed at how ignorant some of these students are! I talked with one sweet freshman girl the other day about her quiet time. (Now understand this kid grew up in church with a youth program and was saved at a young age) She said she still does the verse of the day on the internet and the flip and point method to study the Bible! NOW WHERE IS THE MEAT IN THAT!! She has been saved for years and still in diapers when it comes to studying the Word! We must teach them how to get the MEAT of the Word in order for them to survive and grow and lead the church of tomorrow!

In an effort to fight Satan, we are concentrating this month and next on teaching the need for the Word of God, how to actually study the Bible, the power of prayer, and the need for confession of sin. Today we really are equipping students to fight in a war. They just need to realize that if they are Christians they have through the Holy Spirit all they need to stand firm! Please pray for us as we try to get these points of truth across to these young minds!

We are starting small groups in mid-September. I still need some students who are willing to lead a group and willing to take the time to get involved in their group's lives. Pray God will convict some to lead and that they will be obedient to the calling! I truly understand where Jesus is talking about the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few! Please pray for us!

Penny Chestnut
Baptist Collegiate Ministries



Impact Training

Sep13th, 20th, and 27th
Oct 4th, Oct 11th, and 18th.
2:00-6:00 PM.

Northside Baptist Church
4605 Murray Avenue
Tifton, GA

Childcare is provided at no cost upon request.

<http://www.fbctifton.org/calledtocare>

BCM Meal List 2015

FALL SUPPER LIST

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|--------|--------------------------------|
| SEP 14 | First Baptist Church of Tifton |
| SEP 21 | Northside |
| SEP 28 | New River |
| OCT 5 | First Baptist Church of Chula |
| OCT 12 | BCM |
| OCT 19 | Fall Break |
| OCT 26 | Crossview |
| NOV 2 | Calvary |
| NOV 9 | Mt. Zion |
| NOV 16 | TyTy |
| NOV 23 | BCM |