

# **BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

## **PLANNING AHEAD**

SEPTEMBER 3  
LABOR DAY (MELL OFFICE CLOSED)

SEPTEMBER 13  
THRIVE ROUNDTABLE

SEPTEMBER 18  
MELL MINISTERS' MEETING

SEPTEMBER 20  
MELL EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM

SEPTEMBER 22  
JAKE'S DAY

SEPTEMBER 25  
MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING TEAM

SEPTEMBER 27  
MELL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

OCTOBER 1  
ANNUAL CHURCH REPORTS DUE

OCTOBER 11  
THRIVE ROUNDTABLE

OCTOBER 16  
MELL MINISTERS' MEETING

OCTOBER 18  
MELL EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM

OCTOBER 21  
MELL ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 23  
MELL SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 25  
MELL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



**What: Jake's Day**

**When: Saturday, September 22, 2018  
8:00 to 3:00**

**Where: Paradise Public Fishing Area  
Volunteers are needed!!**



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

Established 1886.

September 2018

## AM THOUGHTS

Acts 1:8 (KJV) says "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." What does that mean for you, your church, and the association? It is an important question for us to answer individually, as a church, and as an association because it will determine how and to whom we minister as Christians, as a church, and as an association. I would like to provide some thoughts about this verse.

First, it is a statement of fact that we are to be witnesses after the Holy Spirit has come upon us. We won't be effective witnesses without the Holy Spirit controlling us. What does it mean to be a witness? A witness is someone who shares what he has seen, knows, or has experienced. That is exactly what God expects of us in sharing with others. The whole object of our "ministries" to the community (homeless, poor, any in need) is to share what we know about Jesus Christ and the Gospel. That is why the Mell Evangelism/Missions Team is working hard to make all the ministries sponsored by our association evangelistic as a part of that ministry whether it be the Food Pantry, Jakes' Day, Downtown Holiday Christmas Celebration, mission trips, or area wide crusade. Whether it be backpacks for Appalachia or weekend food bags for food deficient children here or in Decatur, Georgia, the purpose should be to share the truth of the Gospel! That is why I, as a senior adult, went on a mission trip to Decatur, Georgia, and to the Olympics in South Korea, participated in Jake's Day ministry, and the Downtown Holiday Christmas Celebration ministry. I want to be a witness for the Lord here and abroad!

Second, this statement of fact to be witnesses has a local/global emphasis. It is not just local (our Jerusalem) or global (the uttermost part of the world). The emphasis must be on our Jerusalem (local), Judea (example: Georgia), Samaria (example: outcasts of society), and the uttermost (global) all at the same time. We will not have been accomplishing this if we only do one of these at a time or concentrate on only one! My prayer and dream for every church and our association is that we will have mission teams and/or individuals being witnesses in our town/area, the state of Georgia, somewhere else in North America, and internationally. Our Evangelism/Missions Team has goals for us to sponsor mission teams to somewhere in Georgia, somewhere in North America other than Georgia, and overseas. We will not see this come to pass unless we take seriously the truth of Acts 1:8. We must keep looking for ways that we can be witnesses here locally as well as outside our area and around the world.

I pray and hope that you will want to be a part of what God will lead us as churches and as an association to do to do Acts 1:8 as well as obey the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

I hope that if you are a teacher/leader in your church's Sunday School that you will take advantage of the Sunday School Leader Training that the association has planned for Saturday, September 8, at FBC Tifton. We start with registration at 8:30 AM and conclude at noon. There will be breakout sessions for Pastors/Directors, Adults, Youth, Children, and Pre-school. Please register by calling 386-0865 or emailing [thocutt@gmail.com](mailto:thocutt@gmail.com).

We do not have a church that has agreed to host our next Senior Adult Luncheon, Tuesday, October 23. Please call or email me if your church would like to host this great time of food, fellowship, and fun for our senior adults. Neither do we have any churches signed up for hosting the luncheons for next year—January 22, April 23, July 23, and October 22.

Tom

## Community News:

### **Sunday School Leadership Training**

Saturday, September 8, 2018  
First Baptist Church Tifton

Registration begins at 8:30  
General Sessions began at 9:00 with  
Breakout Sessions beginning at 9:30

There is on cost, but, please register by  
Thursday, September 6, by emailing:  
[thocutt@gmail.com](mailto:thocutt@gmail.com) or calling (229) 386-0869

### **"GEORGIA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES" "Truck Loadings"**

**"A New Day, A New Start, and A  
New Life through Jesus" Christ"**

September 10-13, 2018  
Mell Baptist Association  
817 N. Central Ave.  
Tifton, Georgia 3174



### **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/>

Christian Index  
<http://christianindex.org>

## CELEBRATIONS

### September

#### Birthdays

1	Pete Jones	Enigma
2	Cindy Evers	Northside
19	Courtney Devereaux	Ty Ty, First
20	Susan Roe	Tifton, First
25	Jimmy Parker	Brushy Creek

#### Anniversaries

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

#### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

10	Allen Mullis	Omega
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### October

#### Birthdays

8	Britni Rowland	Journey
19	Leigh Ann Werner	Lakeview
21	Darryl McHan	Alapaha

#### Anniversaries

2	Rev/Mrs. Justin Devereaux	Ty Ty, First
3	Rev/Mrs. Pete Jones	Enigma
8	Rev/Mrs. Jim Donovan	Tifton, First
14	Rev/Mrs. Jimmy Parker	Brushy Creek

#### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

4	Barol Bailey	Ty Ty, First
24	John Hughes	Tifton, First

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

### Food Pantry 2018

September	Ty Ty
October	New River
November	Northside
December	Brookfield

### Food Pantry 2019

January	Liberty
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	Unity
July	
August	

The Food Pantry served 17 households in July.

If your church would like to sponsor the Food Pantry for a month in 2019, give us a call at 229-386-0865 and let us know which month you would like to have.

## Lifehouse Ministries presents



**John Felts**  
Comedian

Join us for our  
9th Annual  
FUNDRAISER

## September 20, 2018

Thursday @ 6:30 pm  
UGA Conference Center

**FREE** Banquet and meal  
Reservations Required

For Reservations:

Call 229-402-3794 or 229-396-5433

email: [larae@sgmlifehouse.org](mailto:larae@sgmlifehouse.org)

Lifehouse  
Ministries



*You're Invited!*

Discover how God used an Operation Christmas Child shoebox in my life...



### **OCC Missions Night**

Date: Sunday, September 30 2018

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Eastside Baptist Church  
1490 Kennedy Rd, Tifton, GA 31794

Growing up in an orphanage in Honduras, speaker Yuri Lopez was separated from her family and had to care for the children around her instead of being cared for herself. Lopez received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift at the age of 6, which provided the encouragement she needed at a critical point in her life.

Also, hear from local college student, Kaycee Aultman, who recently traveled to Cebu, Philippines to distribute shoeboxes as a part of Operation Christmas Child's Student Vision Trip 2018. Aultman experienced firsthand the mission God is accomplishing through OCC shoeboxes around the world.



Yuri Lopez



### Annual Church Reports (ACR)

Churches, I mailed ACR packets to your clerks, please ensure the information is completed and posted on the GBMB iGO website (<http://igo.gabaptist.org>) by on or before September 28, 2018. This will allow time for the data to be available for the Mell Association annual meeting on October 21, 2018.

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.



## BCM NEWS

The semester just started and things are crazy! This past month we prepared 600 Welcome Bags and placed them on all the freshman rooms with info about BCM, we passed out 380 water bottles with our info during the first day of class as we answered questions about where classes were located, we worked Movin Day, and talked with students at Town and Gown. If a student does not know about BCM, it is not because they have not been told. After we had done all we could do to get the word out we just had to wait and see what the response would be. At our first Thursday meeting we had to compete with dorm meetings and yet we still had a good crowd. Our first social on Friday night had around 35 people and that was good. We experience our first Monday tomorrow! From the very beginning we have let them know what we are about. We are here for fellowship and it is important that they make Christian friends, but we have told them our main goal is to share the gospel, see students saved, and encourage growth in the Christians.

At first you never know who is here because of the food; who is here to look for a good guy or girl to date; who is seeking Christ and not really sure how; and who is here because they want to grow in their relationship with God. We welcome all these folks! We want those who do not know Christ to keep coming and hear the gospel, those who are seeking to grow to be challenged to grow, and those who are just here for who knows what to continue to come because only God knows when a word will be spoken, it will hit home, and change their life!

I do have one student, in particular, I want you to pray for. This young lady has had a hard life and her Christian walk has faltered due to guys and friends. Well, she has come back this semester bound and determined to walk closely with Christ. Her whole demeanor seems changed. Please pray that she will continue to seek God diligently and not get distracted. Please pray she will stay in the Word and grow more in her love for God. Right now she is seeking some godly friends who will hold her accountable and challenge her to grow. Please pray she will find them and not revert back to her old ways.

Pray for us as we continue to seek God's wisdom in finding ways to reach out to the students on this campus. I appreciate you folks and the churches in our association. If I could, I would love to come to your church on a Sunday night or Wednesday and thank your people. I would only take a few minutes, because we would not be here without you and you are appreciated!

**Penny**

Mell Baptist Association  
817 North Central Ave.  
P.O. Box 1547  
Tifton, GA 31793  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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

Non-Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 5

## FALL SUPPER LIST 2018

AUG. 20 - BCM  
AUG. 27- BCM  
SEPT. 10 - Northside  
SEPT. 17 - CrossView  
SEPT. 24-New River Baptist  
OCT. 1 – FBC Tifton  
OCT. 8 – Calvary Baptist  
OCT. 15 – Fall Break  
OCT. 22 – Eastside Baptist  
Oct. 29 – FBC Chula  
NOV. 5– Mt. Zion Baptist  
NOV. 12 - TY TY  
NOV. 19- CrossView  
NOV. 26 - BCM

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**

## Mell Monthly Financial

(July, 2018)

Budget Needs:	\$9,718.09
Funds Received	\$8,329.70
Expenses:	\$5,958.30

## **MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE**

Volume 2, Number 8, September 2018

### **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 exist 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 Lenox Baptist Church (no pastor), Liberty Baptist Church (Steve Tucker, pastor), and Vida Abundante Baptist Church (Jose Lopez, pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Brookfield, Eldorado, Journey, Lenox, Mt. Zion, New River, Oak Grove, and Victory.
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 monthly THRIVE Roundtables that God would equip those attending to move their churches toward being healthier.
12. Pray for Mell's Sunday School Leader Training September 8.
13. Pray for Mell's Jake's Day Ministry September 22. Volunteers are needed!

### **State**

1. Pray for our state government officials.
2. Pray for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board: its Executive Director (Robert White), its ministries, and other State Missionaries.
3. Pray for this Search Team's selection, Thomas Hammond, and the process of him being approved as the new Executive Director for the GBMB.

### **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; Augie Boto, Acting CEO of the Executive Committee; and J. D. Gear, 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 (David Platt), staff, and missionaries.
2. Pray for the 1.6 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 the Shower Trailer for Tapestry Church, Atlanta, being picked up and it now being in service!