

# Mell

## BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### PLANNING AHEAD

**APRIL 5**  
 PALM SUNDAY  
**APRIL 10**  
 GOOD FRIDAY  
**APRIL 12**  
 EASTER  
**APRIL 16**  
 MELL EVANGELISM/MISSION TEAM  
**APRIL 21**  
 MELL MINISTERS' MEETING  
**APRIL 22**  
 ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY  
**APRIL 23**  
 MELL ADMIN. TEAM  
**APRIL 26**  
 COOPERATIVE PROGRAM SUNDAY  
**APRIL 28**  
 MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING  
**APRIL 28**  
 MELL SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON  
**APRIL 30**  
 LEAD LIKE JESUS WORKSHOP  
  
**MAY 3**  
 SENIOR ADULT SUNDAY  
**MAY 7**  
 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER  
**MAY 10**  
 MOTHER'S DAY  
**MAY 19**  
 MELL MINISTERS' MEETING  
**MAY 21**  
 MELL EVANGELISM/MISSION TEAM  
**MAY 25**  
 MEMORIAL DAY (MELL OFFICE  
 CLOSED)  
**MAY 26**  
 MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING  
**MAY 28**  
 MELL ADMIN. TEAM

### A 7-DAY CORONAVIRUS PRAYER GUIDE



#### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pray for those who are sick, and their families, that the Lord would heal and comfort them.

#### PRAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Pray for those on the frontlines treating those who are sick, that the Lord would protect and strengthen them.



#### PRAY FOR THE VULNERABLE

Pray for those who are especially vulnerable to disease, that the sickness would pass over them and that they would rely on others for help.

#### PRAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Pray for those who have lost work, that God would provide through their families and communities.



#### PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Pray for national and local government leaders, that they would have wisdom to do what is best for all.

#### PRAY FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Pray for students who are out of school, and their families, that the Lord would give them patience and discipline.

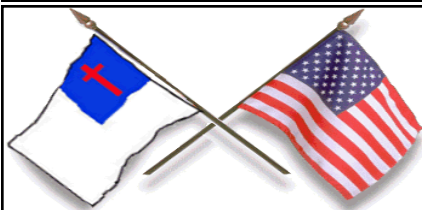


#### PRAY FOR CHURCHES

Pray for churches and ministry leaders, that they would know how to best show the love of Christ in this time.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives.  
 Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful."  
**JOHN 14:27**

LifeWay



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 1887.

Check us out on Facebook

April, 2020

## AM THOUGHTS

As we continue in this time of uncertainty, I wanted to remind you of the instruction from the Bible about fear and worry as an encouragement for us to continually turn to Him.

1. "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." ~ [Isaiah 41:10](#)
2. "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." ~ [Psalm 56:3](#)
3. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." ~ [Philippians 4:6-7](#)
4. "Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid." ~ [John 14:27](#)
5. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." ~ [2 Timothy 1:7](#)
6. "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love." ~ [1 John 4:18](#)
7. "When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought joy to my soul." ~ [Psalm 94:19](#)
8. "But now, this is what the Lord says...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine." ~ [Isaiah 43:1](#)
9. "An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up." ~ [Proverbs 12:25](#)
10. "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." ~ [Psalm 23:4](#)
11. "Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous**. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." ~ [Joshua 1:9](#)
12. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." ~ [Matthew 6:34](#)
13. "Humble yourselves, then, under God's mighty hand, so that he will lift you up in his own good time. Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you." ~ [1 Peter 5:6-7](#)
14. "Tell everyone who is discouraged, **Be strong and don't be afraid!** God is coming to your rescue..." ~ [Isaiah 35:4](#)

Tom

## Community News:

### Sunrise Service

**Unity Baptist Church** at 802 William Gibbs Road, Tifton, Georgia will have Easter Sunrise Services on April 12, 2020 beginning at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast following. Please join us in celebrating the rising of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



### Always Enough

"And Jesus took the loaves; and when He had given thanks, He distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were ser down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would". John 6:11

### 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

### April Birthdays

4	Allen Mullis	Omega
10	Fred Evers	Northside

### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

1	Kevin Kilgore	Northside
23	Glenn Ford	Calvary
26	Rodney Owens	FBC, Ty Ty

### May Birthdays

5	Gail Mullis	Omega
9	Jose Lopez	Vida Abundante
29	Tina Kimbro	Victory

### Anniversaries

11	Rev/Mrs. Greg Love	Crossview
23	Rev/Mrs. Jose Lopez	Vida Abundante

### Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

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

### Food Pantry 2020

January	Liberty
February	FBC, Tifton
March	Zion Hope
April	Oak Grove
May	New River
June	Salem
July	Unity
August	Eastside
September	FBC, Ty Ty
October	Brookfield
November	Northside
December	Brighton Road

The Food Pantry served 16 households in February.

**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.**

## PASTOR WELLNESS

Pastors have the most important job in the state. The balancing act is demanding and never stops. We will support pastors in these areas of health: Spiritual, Vocational, Relational, Physical, and Financial.

Rebel. Relax. Refresh.

2020 Bi-Vocational Pastors Retreat!

Join us at Epworth by the Sea • St. Simons Island, GA

May 1-3, 2020

SPACE IS LIMITED!

MORE INFORMATION

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

It's all about the **gospel**

100% of your gifts support North American missionaries

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North American Mission Board



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

“All things work together for the good for those who are called according to His purpose.” I have seen God take a terrible thing for the students and turn it into a good thing in so many ways!

Last week graduating seniors found out that their time with their friends was now over and they did not even get to say Goodbye! There will be no graduation so many left with no closure. Many of the other students were devastated that they had made great friendships and they would not see them for at least several months. Please pray for these students this is has been hard on so many of them. Some come from bad homelives and school has been their safe haven.

This has been a time where we have been able to reach out to them and let them know that God still cares and if they turn to Him, He will get them through. We did a meeting video on Facebook and more people than ever viewed it. We are reaching out in snap chats and texts and people are encouraging each other in a way I have never seen before. We have encouraged them to instead of wallowing in self-pity to seek God’s guidance into what He may be wanting to teach them during this time. This is an excellent time for them to spend time in the Word. We also encouraged them to seek out those God may want them to be His hands and feet to reach right now! It may sound weird, but I think this may be a blessing in disguise.

I do have a salvation to share with you. This is a young man I talked to about a month ago. I heard through the grapevine he doubted his salvation, so I took him out to eat with another friend (students listen better when you feed them) and shared the gospel. I told him that if he doubted, he was saved, he could ask God to show Him and He would. I told him he could sit in his room alone or just accept Him right now. I asked him to write down his sins look at the list, and decide if he is willing to give up these sins and ask God to forgive him and be his LORD. This would mean reading the Bible, going to church, fellowshiping with other Christians, and as the Holy Spirit laid on his heart what God would have him to do, he would follow God’s lead and not his own desires. If He was willing to “... confess with your mouth – Jesus is Lord- and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” He left lunch and did not accept Christ but later in his room he said the thought of not knowing Christ ate him alive and he did just that. He realized God was more important than anything in his life and he needed to let God be His Savior and LORD! His friend told me this later and assured me that the young man is a different person now. God is in the business of changing lives.

Please pray for this young man because he is graduating and I will not be there to disciple him as I should but his friend will reach out to him.

I know that for many of you this is a hard time in many ways, if there is anything I or my students can do let us know. I have several that are local and willing to be God’s hands and feet. It has blessed my heart to see how God is using these hard times to bring glory to Him. Thanks for your prayers for our students. Since things have slowed some I have realized the power of prayer and its importance. I see many of you around town and many of our older people have said all I can do at my age is pray for you guys! I want you to know that that is one of the most important things you can do for us and it is greatly appreciated.

Penny

FYI: All BCM meals will be canceled since school is canceled for the rest of the year.

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

### Mell Monthly Financial (February, 2020)

Funds Received:	\$11,292.94
Expenses:	\$ 8,024.51
Budget Needs:	\$ 9,738.62

## MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume 4, Number 3, April 2020

### Urgent Prayer

1. Pray for a spirit of prayer to sweep through our churches that would usher in true repentance and revival.
2. Pray for those infected by the coronavirus and protection for those of us not infected so far.
3. Pray for the doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff at local hospitals treating those infected and other patients.

### 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 First Baptist Church Chula (Brian Allen, pastor), First Baptist Church Tifton (Wayne Roe, pastor), and First Baptist Church Ty Ty (Rodney Owens, pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Eldorado, Enigma, New River, and Oak Grove (has called pastor, but not on field yet).
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 wisdom for BGEA, the Celebration Leadership Team, Bob & Kristin Hickling (Celebration Director), and Will Graham, as they work to reschedule the Tiftarea Celebration with Will Graham.
12. Pray wisdom as to whether we should have the Mell Senior Adult Luncheon April 28 at Mt. Zion BC.
13. Pray for the Lead Like Jesus Encounter for pastors/ staff April 30 at the Mell Office.

### State

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) and Tim Williams (Evangelism).

### 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. 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 (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 the 20 representing ten of our churches who attended the Mell Executive Committee meeting February 27.