

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

JULY 4

INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 9

MELL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JULY 16

MELL EVANGELISM/MISSION TEAM

JULY 19

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DAY

JULY 23

MELL ADMIN. TEAM

JULY 28

MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING
TEAM

JULY 28

MELL SENIOR ADULT LUNCH

AUGUST 1

PRAYER WALKING AT SCHOOLS

AUGUST 18

MELL MINISTERS' MEETING

AUGUST 20

MELL EVANGELISM/MISSION TEAM

AUGUST 25

MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING
TEAM

AUGUST 27

MELL ADMIN. TEAM

AUGUST 28

SPARK CONFERENCE



Mell Executive Committee Meeting

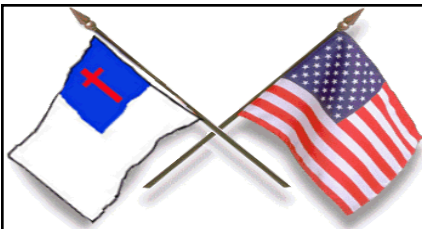
Thursday, July 9, 2020

7:00 PM

Eastside Baptist Church

1490 Kennedy Road, Tifton, Georgia

Social Distancing will be required



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

Check us out on Facebook

July, 2020

AM THOUGHTS

I came across an article written June 28, 2018 and published in *Facts & Trends* entitled "10 Ways Church Members Undermine Their Credibility." Here are those ten ways:

1. Gossiping about the pastor. (Tom's addition-not talking to the pastor privately about the gossip FIRST).
2. Passive-aggressive posts on social media about mistakes that church leaders make.
3. Complaining about "problems in the church," then not supporting the church's ministries.
4. Wanting change in the church without seeking change in their own lives.
5. Weaponize financial giving by withholding tithes and offerings when the member does not like the pastor's vision or church direction.
6. Using the five minutes prior to or just following a worship service to complain to the pastoral staff about issues that could be talked about another time.
7. On Sunday mornings, asking the pastor about toilet paper or any number of issues that have nothing to do with Jesus, God's glory, the church's worship, or a sinner's salvation.
8. When parents or children and/or students complain about the respective ministries, but then refuse to serve in those ministries.
9. Expecting the pastor to visit every person in a hospital or homebound member but refusing to simply to it yourself.
10. Stat that you want growth but complaining about messy kids, loud teenagers, unruly families, and generally bad behavior by the unchurched when they finally show up for a church service.

Food for thought as churches begin to go back to some regular in person activities.

I want to encourage you to participate in our Mell Prayer Waling of our area schools on Saturday, August 1, at 9 am. Please choose a school near you or one that your children or grandchildren attend, and prayer walk that school. Please let me know (thocutt@gmail.com) which school you prayer walked, your church, and how many prayer walked with you. You will see some suggestions for ways to pray while you are prayer walking on the insert (back of Prayer Update).

The GBMB will have an all-inclusive church leader training event, Spark Conference (previous GoGeorgia) on Friday, August 28 online. We encourage you to take advantage of this. You will be hearing more information and how to register in the coming days.

I hope that you have a wonderful July 4th with family and friends. May we remember how our nation was established and the principles that guided our forefathers. Remember to pray for a spiritual awakening to sweep our nation.

Tom

Community News:

GRIEF SHARE

A grief support group for those with a significant loss in recent years.

Thursday, 4:00 pm
Family Life Center
First Baptist Church Tifton
For more information, please contact
John E. Patten
229-300-3182



July 19, 2020
Children's Ministry Day
And
Send Relief Sunday

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

July Birthdays

| | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------|
| 7 | Mark Myers | FBC, Tifton |
| 8 | William Fogarty | Unity |
| 15 | Casey Kilgore | Northside |
| 20 | Glenn Ford | Calvary |

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

| | | |
|----|--------------|----------------|
| 1 | Jose Lopez | Vida Abundante |
| 1 | Wayne Roe | FBC, Tifton |
| 3 | Sam Jones | Northside |
| 21 | Carl Metzger | Lenox |

August Birthdays

| | | |
|----|---------------|-------------|
| 20 | Leslie Broome | Northside |
| 21 | Brian Broome | Northside |
| 25 | Nancy Hughes | FBC, Tifton |
| 27 | Wayne Roe | FBC, Tifton |

Anniversaries

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| 3 | Rev/Mrs. Steve Davis | Brookfield |
| 4 | Rev/Mrs. Wayne Roe | FBC, Tifton |
| 7 | Rev/Mrs. Darryl McHan | Alapaha |

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

| | | |
|---|-------------|----------|
| 1 | John Werner | Lakeview |
|---|-------------|----------|

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



Calling All Seniors!

Mell Seniors Adult Luncheon

July 28, 2020

12:00 pm

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

No charge for the meal, please call the church to let them know how many will be attending.

Phone Number: 229-382-1516

Food Pantry 2020

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

The Food Pantry served 2 households in May.

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.

2020 SPARK CONFERENCE

**Strengthen Your Church To Advance A
Disciple-Making Movement
A One-Day Total Church Equipping Online Conference
Premiers August 28, 2020**

We've assembled a diverse team of practicing leaders prepared to give you best practices in their field of expertise. Every part of the gathering - from our keynote speakers to our SPARK breakout sessions - has been intentionally designed by our team to equip and inspire your !

To register go to: [gabaptist.org/Evangelism/Georgia Baptist Premier Events](http://gabaptist.org/Evangelism/Georgia%20Baptist%20Premier%20Events) and click on Spark Conference



BCM News

When I first met Josh 2 years ago, he backed me into a corner and told me more about chickens than I would want to know in a lifetime. I listened and acted interested because you could tell this was important to him. He did this to everyone his first year. His plan was to come to ABAC for two years, transfer to UGA for a Poultry Science degree and work with chickens till the day he died. Well, as time went on, he spoke less and less about chickens and more and more about Jesus and his desire to share Christ with people on campus. This past weekend he told me that he could not get seminary out of his mind and he really wants to now graduate from ABAC and go to seminary to preach. He went from raising chickens to fishing for men!

Another young man has spent a lot of his time with the COVID lockdown writing sermons. He has gone from hunting to fishing for men and will be at New Orleans in the Spring studying to be a pastor! Another of my girls feels called to ministry and just graduated and was pulled between going straight to seminary or working to pay off debt so she could go to seminary and then to the mission field with little debt. Well, just this past week she got a job teaching near a family member so she can work, live free, pay off debt and head to the mission field. Another former student, who was saved while at ABAC, is waiting for the COVID ban to lift so she can go lead a youth group on the other side of the world. We also have a couple more you can just see God's pull and right now they are fighting, but it is evident that eventually they will give in and follow the call to full time ministry.

From ABAC we have 6 in seminary and another one who just graduated in May, and at least 4 more who will be there soon. This is a lot from our small school, and I want you to know that you guys played a part in what they will be doing in the future. Because of your financial gifts, your precious prayers, encouragement, and wonderful food; you have played a part in discipling these students in their walk. I hope it brings joy to your heart to know this! As we look to the beginning of another year, it is exciting to think about who will be the next to follow the call! Please pray that with all the COVID issues we will still be able to teach and train the next group of young people!

BCM leadership met this week and the goal the students set for BCM is to teach students to:

Make sure you are truly saved.

Make sure they understand the importance of prayer and personal Bible study.

Make sure they know the importance of sharing the gospel.

Make sure they understand that God is calling them as Christians to disciple others and we are to teach them the tools to do so.

If students can just grasp these concepts, then their lives will change and they can reach the world for Christ!

We are not sure about how we will meet in the fall, due to COVID so we don't know what to do about suppers, but we will keep you posted. Thanks.

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
U.S. Postage Paid
Chula, GA 31733
Permit No. 5

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 (May, 2020)

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Funds Received: | \$6,453.43 |
| Expenses: | \$7,033.91 |
| Budget Needs: | \$9,776.00 |

MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume 4, Number 6, July 2020

Urgent Prayer Needs

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.
4. Pray for the families of those that have lost loved ones to Covid-19.
5. 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 Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Aaron Frasier, pastor), New Bethel Baptist Church (Bobby Pittman, pastor), and New River Baptist Church (Michael Marchant, interim pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Eldorado, 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 BGMEA, 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 for the Mell Senior Adult Luncheon July 28 at noon at Mt. Zion BC.

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), P. J. Dunn (Discipleship), Chris Reynolds (Pastor Wellness), and Tim Williams (Evangelism).
4. Pray for the Spark Conference (formerly GoGeorgia) August 28 online.

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

1. Praise the Lord for Enigma Baptist Church calling John Falotico as pastor.