



Mell

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PLANNING AHEAD

NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 6
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL
MISSIONS

DECEMBER 1
MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING
TEAM

DECEMBER 3
MELL MINISTERS/WIVES CHRISTMAS BAN-
QUET

DECEMBER 10
MELL EVANGELISM/MISSIONS TEAM

DECEMBER 17
MELL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

DECEMBER 21-JANUARY 3
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
(MELL OFFICE CLOSED)

JANUARY 4
MELL OFFICE REOPENS

JANUARY 10
SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY

JANUARY 18
ML KING, JR DAY (MELL OFFICE CLOSED)

JANUARY 19
MELL MINISTERS' MEETING

JANUARY 21
MELL EVANGELISM/MISSION TEAM

JANUARY 26
MELL ENCOURAGING/STRENGTHENING
TEAM

JANUARY 26
MELL SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

JANUARY 28
MELL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Merry Christmas



And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

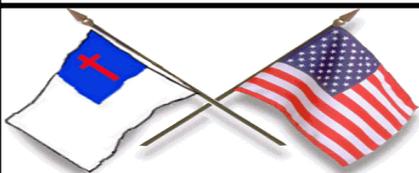
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:10-14



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

Established 1887.

Check us out on Facebook

December 2020

AM THOUGHTS

We had wonderful gifts given to the Food Pantry. Uniform Works on 12th Street (corner of Love Ave) does a food drive annually. We got the call to come pick up the food. It was an amazing amount (filled up the back of my van plus on the middle row seats. She also gave us a check for \$750 for the Food Pantry. A social worker from the Tift County School System the next day brought by five large boxes of food collected by the students. The Food Pantry is the best stocked I have ever seen. To God be the glory for His bounty!

We will again be partnering with Santa's Helpers/Toys for Tots to share the Gospel and give out food boxes from Second Harvest. We have ordered 300 boxes and chicken extra to give to those who receive toys for their children. It will be different this year as it will be a drive thru distribution. Pray for this ministry on December 17.

In a podcast by Thom Ranier on June 25, 2019 he shared about ways church members who are unifying church members pray for their church.

The seven ways to pray for their pastor and staff that were discussed are:

1. **They pray for their protection.**
2. **They pray for their families.**
3. **They pray for their preaching.**
4. **They pray for their physical stamina.**
5. **They pray for their emotional stamina.**
6. **They pray for their walk with God.**

They pray for their clarity of vision.

How do you pray for your pastor and church staff (and/or deacons)?

Martha and I want to wish your and your family a Happy Thanksgiving! We will be on vacation at Panama City Beach. Despite Covid, we have a lot for which to be thankful! Thank you for letting me be your Associational Missionary!

Tom

COMMUNITY NEWS

Position: Executive Director

The position of Executive Director for The Bridge of Tiftarea, Inc. will report to the Board of Directors and have overall strategic and operational responsibility for The Bridge of Tifarea, Inc., a 501c3 and DBA's operating under the umbrella of the corporation. She will initially develop deep knowledge of field, core programs, operations, business plans and mission of the organization.

Interested parties may email resumes to: thebridge602@gmail.com or mail to P.O. Box 7021 Tifton, Ga. 31793

For more information or questions you may call Martine J Hill at 229-382-9010

Why the Christmas Offering is named for Lottie Moon:

While living in China, Lottie wrote letters to the Foreign Mission Board (now the International Mission Board) and to Baptist women. She asked for more missionaries and for money to grow her work among the Chinese.

Because of Lottie's determination, WMU collected a Christmas Offering to give to the Foreign Mission Board. In 1918, at Annie Armstrong's suggestion, WMU named the offering for Lottie Moon.

Today, we still give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in honor of her work and sacrifice to keep our missionaries on the field.

One hundred percent of the offering goes to the missionaries, none to administration.

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

December

Birthdays

8	John Werner	Lakeview
14	Stacy Ring	Salem
21	Steve Tucker	Liberty
23	Nerily Lopez	Vida Abundante
29	Jay Kimbro	Victory

Anniversaries

8	Rev/Mrs. Jay Kimbro	Victory
9	Rev/Mrs. Rodney Owens	Ty Ty, FBC
18	Rev/Mrs. Allen Mullis	Omega

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

2	Jay Kimbro	Victory
28	Les Gilbert	New River

January

Birthdays

2	Dana Hughes	Tifton, FBC
8	Jamie McHann	Alapaha
15	John Hughes	Tifton, FBC
18	Steve Davis	Brookfield

Pastor/Staff Anniversaries

4	Brian Broome	Northside
14	Darryl McHann	Alapaha

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

Food Pantry 2020

December Brighton Road

Food Pantry 2021

January	Liberty
February	Lakeview
March	Zion Hope
April	FBC, Ty Ty
May	New River
June	
July	
August	Eastside
September	Brookfield
October	Northside
November	

The Food Pantry served 10 households in October.

If your church would like to sponsor the Food Pantry for a month in 2021, give us a call at 229-386-0865 and let us know which month you would like to have.



After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."

Rev 7:9

imb

LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of WML®.

Esta guía está disponible en español.

이 가이드는 한국어로 되어 있습니다.

備有中文版手冊

imb.org/lmco

10 Things you should know about Lottie Moon:

1. Lottie was born in Virginia on December 12, 1840.
2. Her name was Charlotte Digges Moon, but everyone called her "Lottie."
3. She was 4'9" tall.
4. Before she became a Christian while in high school, Lottie missed required chapels 26 times.
5. Lottie loved to pull pranks on others. Once, when asked what the "D" stood for in her middle name, she replied, "Devil."
6. Lottie was appointed to China as a missionary at age 33 and served there 39 years, primarily in Tengchow and Pingtu.
7. She wore Chinese clothes and lived like her Chinese neighbors.
8. Lottie had several nicknames in China—foreign devil, foreign lady teacher, heavenly book visitor, and the cookie maker. (Lottie baked cookies to win the hearts of the children and families who were frightened of her.)
9. Lottie led in the campaign to end the practice of bound feet. The Chinese believed small feet made a woman more beautiful, so girls' feet were bound tightly with cloth. Girls with bound feet could hardly walk, and infections, gangrene, and even death were common side effects of this practice.
10. In 1912 at the end of her career, famine, flood, and war encircled her China. her friends were starving. In a final act of empathy, Lottie stopped eating and gave all her food away. When her friends realized the depth of her sickness, they put her on a boat to return to the United States. Lottie died on Christmas Eve while en route to the U.S.



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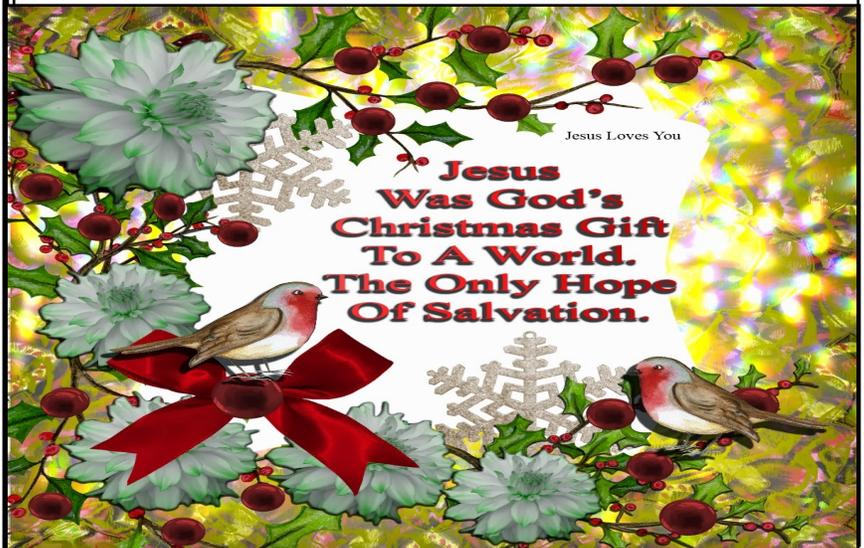
BCM News

Last night was our last big gathering of the semester and we did it outside under the light of tiki torches. It felt like the Children of Israel with the Fire that hovered over them at night. The Spirit of God was there in a powerful way. As I looked over the crowd and shared a Word of Thanksgiving, my heart was moved and I understood the joy that Paul talked about when he thought about the new Christians. I looked in one corner and there was a group of students that at the beginning of the semester struggled with even knowing if they were saved, and now they are filled with assurance and were sitting with some new friends they had met while reaching out to others sharing the love of Christ. I saw the faces of some students who have prayed and cried over lost friends and family. There were the faces of several who have struggled for years with porn addiction and now they are into the Word of God and He is helping them conquer this consuming sin! Some struggled with peer pressure to be a part of the drinking crowd and have found a friend group that will hold them accountable and point them to the Word of God and they now walking toward Christ. Many struggle with abuse and feelings of being unlovable and now they are beginning to understand the unconditional love of Christ. I also saw the faces of two who will be in seminary next semester. Some in the crowd have recently been baptized a few are waiting on their church to appoint a time for them to be baptized. The Spirit was so sweet, it was like being in the middle of a Hallmark movie! What a picture of the transforming power of God!

Association, I want you to know, that without God using you with your prayers, words of encouragement, food, and finances, this moment would not have happened! God has used you in a powerful way. I am overwhelmed with thankfulness and gratitude of the season towards you! But, don't quit, there is still work to be done! Many are still struggling with trying to understand salvation and what that means. It is an everyday struggle for some of them to deal with abuse, understanding God's love in the middle of it, and realizing He can use a broken vessels! We are meeting and planning over the break for next semester and hope and pray for God's wisdom to lead in a way that is pleasing to Him. We still need your prayers!

Twice a week it is at least a 5 hour ordeal to set up, meet, and take down each meeting, not counting the cooking. In an effort to help us, we are asking, if you feel comfortable, let me know if your church is willing to help with meals. Several have already contacted me and want to help. Thank you and I will get with you a scheduled time.

Penny



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

Mell Monthly Financial

October (2020)

Funds Received:	\$11,131.88
Expenses:	\$ 7,642.14
Budget Needs:	\$ 9,775.83

MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume 4, Number 11 December 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 Brookfield Baptist Church (Steve Davis, pastor), Brushy Creek Baptist Church (Jimmy Praker, pastor), and Calvary Baptist Church (Glenn Ford, pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: 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 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), Will Graham, and the churches as we prepare for the Tiftarea Celebration with Will Graham, February 5-7, 2021.
12. Pray for the Prayer Rally for the Tiftarea Celebratio with Will Graham December 1 at 7 PM at First Church of the Nazarene.

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 GBMB Evangelism Conference January 25-26, 2021.
5. Pray for our national government leaders.
6. Pray for the North American Mission Board, its president (Kevin Ezell), staff, and its missionaries.
7. Pray for the Southern Baptist Convention; Ronnie Floyd, CEO of the Executive Committee; and J. D. Grear, SBC President.
8. Pray for the revival of God's people and the spiritual awakening of our nation and the world.
9. 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 His faithfulness through this difficult time.