

# Mell

## BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### Planning Ahead

#### August

- 4 Mell Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Noon, MBO
- 10 Mell Pastor's Prayer, 8:00 AM, MBO
- 20 Mell Evangelism/Missions Team, Noon, MBO
- 25 Mell Minister's Luncheon, Noon, MBO
- 27 Mell Administrative Team, Noon, MBO

#### September

- 1 Mell Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Noon, MBO
- 7 Labor Day (Mell Office Closed)
- 11-12 Dental Clinic Ministry
- 14 Mell Pastor's Prayer, 8:00 AM, MBO
- 15 Mell Minister's Luncheon, Noon, MBO
- 17 Mell Evangelism/Missions, Noon, MBO
- 24 Mell Administrative Team, Noon, MBO
- 26 J.A.K.E.S Day Ministry

#### October

- 6 Mell Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Noon, MBO
- 12 Mell Pastor's Prayer, 8:00 AM, MBO
- 15 Mell Evangelism/Missions, Noon, MBO
- 18 Mell Annual Meeting, 5 PM, Lakeview
- 20 Mell Minister's Luncheon, Noon, MBO

#### November

- 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 3 Mell Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Noon, MBO
- 3 Election Day
- 9-10 GBMB Annual Meeting
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 12 Mell Evangelism/Missions, Noon, MBO
- 16 Mell Pastor's Prayer, 8:00 AM, MBO
- 17 Mell Minister's Luncheon, Noon, MBO
- 19 Mell Administrative Team, Noon, MBO
- 26 Thanksgiving (Mell Office Closed)



**It is time for the Annual Church Profile (Report).  
It is due by Thursday, September 24, 2026!**

The ACR is the way that our churches get counted as a member of the Mell Baptist Association, Georgia Baptist Mission Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention. The time frame for the statistics is September 2025-August 2026. The ACR information may be entered online (information on doing this is included in the materials provided to each church) or by completing a hard copy.

The hard copy needs to be brought to the Mell Office as soon as possible. Hard copies of the ACR will be mailed to each church by the GBMB. Tom will send an email to every pastor with the same information in attachments. An additional attachment was included which needs to be completed in a hard copy and sent to the Mell Office. It includes information about deceased members, significant historical events in the past year, and elected Mell Executive Committee member.

The Mell Baptist Association was established in 1887 and exists to encourage churches, strengthen churches, and partner with churches to reach people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## AM Thoughts



We want to welcome our newest pastor, Rev. Tim Harris, who was voted on as pastor of Lenox Baptist Church recently with a unanimous vote. Please pray with me that God will use him mightily to lead the church to advance God's Kingdom in Lenox and surrounding area.

Praise the Lord for the ten volunteers from four of our churches (Brookfield, Calvary, Enigma, and Salem) who built a ramp on July 18. We have a waiting list of ramps to build. Our next ramp-build will be Saturday, August 8. This will be a very long ramp and we will need lots of workers for this project. Let me know if you can help.

The Mell Baptist Association will conduct a Dental Clinic for lower income and with no dental insurance Friday and Saturday, September 11-12, 2026, at Eastside Baptist Church. Tom is recruiting dentists, dental assistants, dental hygienists, nurses, and other volunteers to help with this ministry. We need volunteers who will share the Gospel with those who come. Please let me know if you can help with this ministry.

Mell's Ministry at J.A.K.E.S. Day will be Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Paradise Lakes from 7 am-2 pm. We distribute water to the patrons as well as Gospel tracts and have Bibles available. We also take our Event Trailer and set up the two inflatables (slide and bounce house). We need lots of volunteers to set up the inflatables, tables for popcorn and sno-cone machines, and then pop the popcorn and make sno-cones. We then need volunteers to take all of the above down and pack it neatly back into the Event Trailer. Please let me know if you can help. This is a great ministry for youth groups!

It is time for the Annual Church Profile (Report) or ACP(R) again. The association will mail a hard copy to the church this week with an additional form that needs to be completed and returned to us by September 24, but you can login to iGo and complete the statistical and leadership form online anytime prior to September 24. If you do not have your login from last year, call the office or email me for it. The church year to be covered is September 2025-August 2026. Let's have 100% completion by the deadline this year. Thank you for your cooperation!

Annual Meeting is just around the corner! Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 18, 2026, at Lakeview Baptist Church, and plan to attend. It is going to be a great time of business and worship! The singing group, Three 4 One, is going to be with us again and Chris Reynolds (GBMB) will be preaching!

Tom

## Georgia Baptist Foundation



Disaster Relief Introduction: Sandersville  
(For First Time Attendees/Recertification/Cross Training)  
Aug 7, 2026 - Aug 8, 2026 • Sandersville, Georgia

When & Where  
First Baptist Church  
316 Mathis Lane  
Sandersville, Georgia 31082  
Aug 7, 2026 - Aug 8, 2026

## Georgia Baptist Mission Board

For more information on events visit:  
<https://gabapt.org/events/>



Date: Sunday, September 27, 2026  
Time: 3:45 PM - 8:15 PM  
Location: Crossroads Baptist Church  
Address: 3001 Country Club Dr, Valdosta, GA 31602  
Cost: Only \$15 per person

For: Lay Leaders, Children's Leaders, Women's Ministry Leaders, Men's Ministry Leaders, Missions Coordinators, Student Pastors, Worship Leaders, Sunday School Leaders, Small Group Leaders, Pastors... anyone involved in ministry and equipping.

### Schedule:

03:45 PM - Doors open/Registration  
04:30 PM - Worship and Message - Jimmy Scroggins  
05:35 PM - Dinner and Meal & Learn  
06:25 PM - Breakout #1  
07:25 PM - Breakout #2  
08:15 PM - Dismiss

# CELEBRATIONS!

## August

### Birthdays

|    |                       |            |
|----|-----------------------|------------|
| 2  | Rev. Brad Baker       | Zion Hope  |
| 3  | Mrs. Sherri Contable  | Victory    |
| 11 | Rev. Michael Marchant | New River  |
| 13 | Rev. TJ Mauldin       | FBC Tifton |
| 28 | Rev. Scott King       | Alapaha    |
| 30 | Mrs. Natalie Martin   | Northside  |

### Church Anniversaries for Pastors/Staff

|    |                                         |            |
|----|-----------------------------------------|------------|
| 2  | Rev. Terry Smith (2023)                 | Omega      |
| 12 | Mrs. Kristie Horton (Admin Assist 2024) | Mell       |
| 15 | Rev. Kiet Le(2008)                      | FBC Tifton |

### Wedding Anniversaries

|    |                          |               |
|----|--------------------------|---------------|
| 2  | Rev. & Mrs. Rodney Peavy | Lakeview      |
| 13 | Rev. & Mrs. Tom Hocutt   | Mell          |
| 20 | Rev. & Mrs. Mark Myers   | FBC Tifton    |
| 23 | Rev. & Mrs. Clark Harden | Brighton Road |

## September

### Birthdays

|    |                    |              |
|----|--------------------|--------------|
| 4  | Rev. Bobby Pittman | New Bethel   |
| 9  | Mrs. Lisa Patillo  | Oak Grove    |
| 10 | Rev. Tom Hocutt    | Mell         |
| 11 | Mrs. Hope Falotico | Enigma       |
| 25 | Rev. Jimmy Parker  | Brushy Creek |

### Church Anniversaries for Pastors/Staff

|    |                          |            |
|----|--------------------------|------------|
| 6  | Rev. Mike Patillo (2020) | Oak Grove  |
| 19 | Rev. Kenny Miller (2018) | FBC Tifton |

### Wedding Anniversaries

|    |                            |           |
|----|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1  | Rev & Mrs. Daniel Hardy    | Northside |
| 2  | Rev. & Mrs. Alan Gotthardt | Journey   |
| 18 | Rev & Mrs. John Smith      | FBC Ty Ty |
| 28 | Rev & Mrs. Brian Jones     | CrossView |
| 29 | Rev & Mrs. Mike Patillo    | Oak Grove |

## October

### Birthdays

|    |                    |            |
|----|--------------------|------------|
| 3  | Mrs. Allyson Cook  | FBC Tifton |
| 10 | Mrs. Bambi Loggins | FBC Chula  |
| 15 | Mrs. Brandi Smith  | FBC Ty Ty  |
| 23 | Rev. Mike Patillo  | Oak Grove  |
| 28 | Rev. John Falotico | Enigma     |

### Church Anniversaries for Pastors/Staff

|    |                            |            |
|----|----------------------------|------------|
| 2  | Rev. TJ Mauldin (2013)     | FBC Tifton |
| 5  | Rev. Matt Howell (2018)    | FBC Tifton |
| 10 | Rev. Stacy Phillips (2021) | Northside  |
| 23 | Rev. Barry Cook (2017)     | FBC Tifton |

### Wedding Anniversaries

|    |                           |              |
|----|---------------------------|--------------|
| 14 | Rev. & Mrs. Jimmy Parker  | Brushy Creek |
| 26 | Rev. & Mrs. Jim Constable | Victory      |
| 29 | Rev. & Mrs. Terry Smith   | Omega        |

## Church News

Victory Baptist Church is seeking a Minister of Music as well as a pianist. Must be able to read and teach music. Salary is negotiable. Leave message at church (229) 382-2211 or email resume to jamie@vbctifton.org.

Churches wishing to inform the public of upcoming events, please send the information about the event to our office by the 20th in order for it to be included in the Newsletter.

Our contact information is:  
Mell Baptist Association  
P.O. Box 1547 Tifton, GA 31793  
mellbapt@friendlycity.net  
or call (229)386-0865

## USEFUL LINKS:

Southern Baptist Convention  
[www.sbc.net](http://www.sbc.net)

North American Mission Board  
[www.namb.net](http://www.namb.net)

International Mission Board  
[www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org)

Georgia Baptist Mission Board  
[www.gabaptist.org](http://www.gabaptist.org)

Mell Baptist Association  
[www.mellbapt.com](http://www.mellbapt.com)

Christian Index  
[www.christianindex.org](http://www.christianindex.org)

## FOOD PANTRY

|          |           |           |            |
|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| January  | 36 Served | July      | 35 Served  |
| February | 40 Served | August    | FBC Chula  |
| March    | 41 Served | September | FBC Ty Ty  |
| April    | 36 Served | October   | Brookfield |
| May      | 37 Served | November  | Northside  |
| June     | 45 Served | December  | Mt. Zion   |

Please let the office know ASAP if there is a problem with these schedules.

## RAMP BUILDERS

Our ramp builders ministry has grown!

The Mell Baptist Association builds handicap ramps for those in need for those in the Tift area at no cost to the homeowner. We have a team of volunteers who give their skills, tools, and time to build these ramps. The Association provides the materials.

We currently have a waiting list!

If you would like to contribute to cover the cost of materials or volunteer contact the office for more information.



## BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

Summer may be slow for the school system, but it has sure not been slow for ABAC BCM! During the summer the local students have met and averaged from 15-20 students each week for Bible Study and fellowship. One of the meetings centered on "How to Share Your Faith" and praying for "Your One" with whom to share the gospel. It has been heartwarming to see students pray and be broken to reach friends and family for Christ. Please pray for God to fan the flame on this desire during the upcoming school year. This summer over 20 students are serving as summer missionaries by serving at various summer camps, church positions, their church mission trips, and at Camp Chula. Several had the opportunity to share the gospel for the first time and some experienced seeing someone give their life to following Christ. Can you imagine the thrill of this event in your life?

School starts with Freshman move in on August 13th and officer training with our first meeting on the 17th. Please feel free to come to our first meeting and reach out to the students. We will have a cookout outside and hopefully we can house the church booths on the inside. If you are interested, please contact our BCM President, Jacob Wingard, at jaybirdwingard@gmail.com, or call or text him at 334-465-9598. Due to our expectations of vast student numbers, we ask that you bring your own table if possible.

We are excited to have Matt Howell as our new Campus Minister. He will begin on August 1 hitting the ground with both feet! The students have planned an eventful Fall, and we need lots of prayers. Please pray for us to desire to love God and His Word more each day and to share with others out of our love for God.

AS ALWAYS, WE CAN NOT THANK THE MELL ASSOCIATION ENOUGH FOR YOUR PRAYERS, FINANCIAL SUPPORT, AND AWESOME MEALS! THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US TO REACH ABAC FOR CHRIST!!

Mell Baptist Association  
817 North Central Ave.  
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Tifton, GA 31793

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Tifton, GA 31794  
Permit No. 18

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

## ABAC BCM Meal Schedule

|           |    |             |          |    |               |
|-----------|----|-------------|----------|----|---------------|
| August    | 17 | BCM Cookout | October  | 5  | Mt. Zion      |
|           | 24 | Zion Hope   |          | 12 | New River     |
|           | 31 | Northside   |          | 19 | Fall Break    |
|           |    |             |          | 26 | Calvary       |
| September | 7  | Labor Day   | November | 2  | Salem         |
|           | 14 | FBC Tifton  |          | 9  | BCM           |
|           | 21 | FBC Chula   |          | 16 | Inaha         |
|           | 28 | Eastside    |          | 23 | Friendsgiving |
|           |    |             |          | 30 | BCM           |

"BCM" dates are open. Contact us ASAP to provide food and/or serve meals to college students during the school year.

ABAC Campus Minister  
To be announced.

We are thankful for your faithful support and could not do this without you!

### Mell Monthly Financial

May 2026

|                           |    |           |
|---------------------------|----|-----------|
| Funds Received:           | \$ | 10,322.14 |
| Actual Budgeted Expenses: | \$ | 3,888.95  |
| Budget Needs:             | \$ | 10,362.57 |

## **MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE**

Volume 10, Number 8

August 2026

### **Urgent Prayer Needs**

1. Pray for a spirit of prayer to sweep through our churches that would usher in true repentance and real revival.

### **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 pray for our churches and pastors by an alphabetical list of churches. Pray this time for Eldorado Baptist Church (Danny Culpepper, Pastor), Enigma Baptist Church (John Falotico, Pastor), and First Baptist Church Chula (Jason Loggins, Pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Pine Grove.
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 our teams: Encouraging/Strengthening, Evangelism/Missions, and Administrative.
9. Pray for the Mell Baptist Association Associational Missionary, Tom Hocutt, and Kristie Horton, Administrative Assistant.
10. Pray for the Baptist Collegiate Ministry at ABAC and the new BCM Campus Minister, Matt Howell.

### **State and U.S.**

1. Pray for our state government officials.
2. Pray for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board: its Executive Director (Thomas Hammond), its staff, its ministries, and our GBMB Southwest Regional Consultants: Samuel Ayala (Missions), Jason Jones (Pastor Wellness), Chandler Wright (Music and Worship), and Steven Wright (Evangelism).
3. Pray for our national government leaders.
4. Pray for the North American Mission Board, its president (Kevin Ezell), staff, and its missionaries.
5. Pray for the Southern Baptist Convention: Jeff Iorg, CEO of the Executive Committee, and Willy Rice, SBC President.
7. Pray for those affected by the numerous natural disasters here in the U.S.
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 2 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, for the peace of Jerusalem, for the hostages and their families, and pray for the people of Gaza.
5. Pray for protection for our armed forces in Iraq, Syria, and around the globe.
6. Pray for the situation in Iran that God's will be done.
7. 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.
8. Pray for the persecuted Christians of the world especially in China, Nigeria, and Syria.
9. Pray for the cessation of hostilities in Ukraine, the Ukrainian refugees, those ministering to the refugees, and the believers in Ukraine.

### **ANSWERS TO PRAYER**

1. Praise the Lord for the ten volunteers from four of our churches who built a ramp on July 18.
2. Praise the Lord for Lenox Baptist Church calling Rev. Tim Harris as their pastor with a unanimous vote!
3. Praise the Lord for the GBMB selecting Matt Howell as the new ABAC BCM Campus Minister.



**J.A.K.E.S. Day Ministry**  
**Saturday, September 26, 2026**  
**Paradise Public Fishing Area,**  
**Enigma, Georgia**  
**8 am - 1 pm+**



**The Mell Baptist Association has once again been asked to participate in this terrific outdoor event. The Mell Baptist Association provides FREE bottles of water to everyone that attends. This is a great opportunity to share Jesus Christ! With every bottle of water, we provide a Gospel Tract and for those interested, engage them in a Gospel centered conversation to share the love and salvation of Jesus Christ.**

**We need volunteers also for setting up the two inflatables, monitoring the use of the two inflatables, setting up and manning the popcorn machine and sno-cone machine. This is a great mission project for a youth group!**

**Please let us know if you plan to volunteer by emailing [thocutt@gmail.com](mailto:thocutt@gmail.com) or calling 229-733-8911.**