# Mell BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## Planning Ahead

### 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)
29-12/6 Week of prayer for International Missions

### December

11/29-12/6 Week of prayer for International Missions
1 Mell Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Noon, MBO
3 Mell Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, 6:30 PM, Brookfield
10 Mell Evangelism/Missions, Noon, MBO
14 Mell Pastor's Prayer, 8:00 AM, MBO
17 Mell Administrative Team, Noon, MBO
18 Santa's Helpers/Toys for Tots Ministry
21-1/3 Christmas Holiday (Mell Office Closed)

### January

4 Mell Office Reopens
5 Mell Encouraging/Strengthening Team, Noon, MBO
11 Mell Pastor's Prayer Time, 8:00 AM, MBO
17 Sanctity of Life Sunday
18 ML King, JR Day (Mell Office Closed)
19 Mell Minister's Luncheon, Noon, MBO
21 Mell Evangelism/Missions, Noon, MBO
28 Mell Administrative Team, Noon, MBO

A man's heart plans his way,
But the LORD directs his steps.
Proverbs 16:9 KJV







Week of prayer for International Missions: November 29-December 6

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Goal: $215 Million

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

"To God be the glory, great things He has done!" are my sentiments after our Mell Annual Meeting. We met for our 140th Annual Meeting on Sunday night October 18 at Lakeview Baptist Church. A big thank you to Rodney Peavy, Pastor, and the members of Lakeview for hosting us in such a wonderful way. Thanks to all of you!

At the Business Session we heard a report on our finances from the Associational Missionary, approved a budget for 2027 of $128,141.00, approved the slate of Officers, Administrative Team Members, Leaders, and Team Members for 2026-2027, and adopted the 2026 Book of Reports. We also had a special time of prayer for those pastors in attendance-- we gathered around them and prayed for them.

The worship time was outstanding. Three 4 One did a wonderful job singing about our Lord and Savior. They were a special blessing! We heard a testimony about the Rogersville Mission Trip from Ben Martin and a testimony about the Mexico Mission Trip from Tonya Irwin. Chris Reynolds (Pastor Wellness, GBMB) brought a powerful message challenging us to share our faith with any and all. The offering taken at Annual Meeting ($1,546) was divided between Three 4 One and our Mell Ramp Build Ministry for materials. Thanks everyone who gave and for your generosity.

A special thanks to all our Program Participants. Thank you for your willingness to take part in our Annual Meeting. A special thanks to Matt Strevel, our Moderator, for a job well done. Thanks also to Kristie Horton (Administrative Assistant, Clerk, and Treasurer) for all of her work in preparing for registration at Annual Meeting. Also, thanks to my wife, Martha, for assisting Kristie at the Registration Table. Again I say "to God be the glory!"

I wanted to call your attention to our Mell Ramp Build Ministry. We have been building handicap ramps for about six years now. This year is our most active one yet as we have built 10 ramps so far this year. We don't charge the homeowner anything to build the ramp—we are providing a ministry! God blessed us with excess funds in the past from the churches' contributions. We are at a point now with the Ramp Build Fund that we cannot do many more. Thanks to the offering provided at Annual Meeting, added to what we already had, we have enough funds to do at least three more. Would you and/or your church consider giving to the Ramp Ministry Fund so that we will have enough funds to continue building ramps in the name of Jesus? Thanks for your prayerful consideration!

Tom

# Events







Sunday, Nov 8, 2026 6:00 PM -
Tuesday, Nov 10, 2026 5:30 PM EST
Second Baptist Church of Warner Robins
Registration:
https://brushfire.com/gabaptist/annualmeetingevents-2026/635747/register







Operation Christmas Child 2026
Collection Week: November 16-23
Order free materials at samaritanspurse.org
Note: Central Drop Off Location: **Eastside Baptist**

For more information or if you would like to volunteer, call Richard Gaines at 229-326-9213 Help collect shoeboxes from our area so that children and their families can experience God's love and salvation in Christ!

Thanks so much,
Richard

# CELEBRATIONS!

## November

### Birthdays

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 12 | Rev. Kiet Le | Vietnamese Mission |
| 23 | Mrs. Sam Harden | Brighton Road |

### Church Anniversaries for Pastors/Staff

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | Rev. Jimmy Parker(2006) | Brushy Creek |

### Wedding Anniversaries

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 6 | Rev. & Mrs. Steve Tucker | Liberty |

## December

### Birthdays

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10 | Rev. Keith Norris | Eastside |
| 11 | Mr. Barry Cook | FBC Tifton |
| 13 | Rev. Rodney Peavy | LakeView |
| 14 | Mrs. Amy Marchant | New River |
| 15 | Rev. Matt Strevel | The Road |
| 21 | Rev. Steve Tucker | Liberty |
| 23 | Mrs. Nerily Lopez | Vida Abundante |
| 30 | Mrs. Sarah Howell | BCM |

### Church Anniversaries for Pastors/Staff

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Rev. Alan Gotthardt (2024) | Journey |
| 15 | Rev. Danny Culpepper (2021) | Eldorado |
| 19 | Rev. Brandon Martin (2021) | Northside |

### Wedding Anniversaries

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11 | Rev. & Mrs. Danny Culpepper | Eldorado |
| 14 | Rev. & Mrs. Brandon Martin | Northside |

## January

### Birthdays

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | Rev. John Smith | FBC Ty Ty |
| 11 | Rev. Clark Harden | Brighten Rd |
| 18 | Rev. Steve Davis | Brookfield |
| 20 | Mrs. Zalana Roig | Salem |

### Church Anniversaries for Pastors/Staff

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Rev. Keith Norris (2017) | Eastside |
| 8 | Rev. Steve Davis (2018) | Brookfield |




## 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.

Ty Ty First Baptist Church is searching for a Minister of Music and Worship. Please send Resume and Statement of Faith to searchtytyfbc@gmail.com

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.

## Useful Links

Southern Baptist Convention
www.sbc.net

North American Mission Board
www.namb.net

International Mission Board
www.imb.org

Georgia Baptist Mission Board
www.gabaptist.org

Mell Baptist Association
www.mellbapt.com

Christian Index
www.christianindex.org

## Food Pantry

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 36 Served | July | 35 Served |
| February | 40 Served | August | 29 Served |
| March | 41 Served | September | 49 Served |
| 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.

## Mell Monthly Financial

September 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Funds Received: | $ | 7,709.94 |
| Actual Budgeted Expenses: | $ | 14,222.71 |
| Budget Needs: | $ | 10,362.57 |

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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Tifton, GA 31794
Permit No. 18

## ABAC BCM Meal Schedule

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

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| November | 2 | Salem/Omega | December | 2 | BCM |
| | 9 | FBC Tifton | | 7 Officer's Christmas Party | BCM |
| | 16 | Inaha | | | |
| | 23 | Friendsgiving | | | |
| | 30 | BCM | | | |

Matt Howell
ABAC Campus Pastor
Phone #: (229) 873-1153 Email: mhowell.bcm@gabaptist.org

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

# God Showed Up at Confluence

A Record Weekend...

Grace upon grace... Earlier this month, we took ABAC students to Confluence, the Georgia Baptist Mission Board's college ministry conference. In our last newsletter, I shared that we had already passed 50 students after the first week of signups. God was not finished. By the time the bus pulled out, we were bringing over 100 students, a new record for ABAC BCM. Last year, we brought just over 60.

I do not want to rush past that, but I also know the number is not the point. Every one of those students is a name, and every name is a soul God loves. Over that weekend, we witnessed 5 students place their faith in Jesus Christ. Five students who got on that bus one way and came home made new. Heaven rejoiced, and so did we.

Thank You, Local Church!

None of this happens without you. Because so many local churches gave, ABAC BCM was able to rent a charter bus to get our students to Confluence. To every church and every person who contributed, thank you. Every seat on that bus was a gift, and some of those seats carried students home as new creations in Christ. You did not just pay for a ride, you had a part in eternity.

This is what I mean when I say the church must be the church outside of the church. When you give, show up, and pray, students at ABAC see the body of Christ at work. We need you. We do not exist without you.

God Is Still Moving on Mondays...

We are still excited about the turnout on Monday nights. Students keep coming, keep asking honest questions, and keep sitting under the Word. It is evident that God continues to reveal Himself on this campus, and we get a front row seat. You are always invited to join us every Monday at 6pm.

Please pray for our 5 new believers as they take their first steps of faith, and pray that each of them will be rooted in a local church for a lifetime. It is all about Jesus, and I am grateful to be on this mission with you.

The best is yet to come,

Matt Howell

# MELL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume 10, Number 11 November 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 Liberty Baptist Church (Steve Tucker, Pastor), Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Emory Lussi, Interim Pastor), and New Bethel Baptist Church (Bobby Pittman (Pastor).
3. Pray for the churches without pastors: Mt. Zion and 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.
6. Pray for those affected by the numerous natural disasters here in the U.S.
7. Pray for the revival of God's people and the spiritual awakening of our nation and the world.
8. 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 the Middle East 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 27 volunteers from four of our churches who ministered at J.A.K.E.S. Day September 26.
2. Praise the Lord for 122+ who attended our Annual Meeting October 18 at Lakeview—53 messengers from 15 churches, 54 others.
3. Praise the Lord that our Mell Ramp Builders have built 10 ramps so far this year and have a waiting list of nine.

DAY OF PRAYER

# FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

The Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church is **November 1, 2026**. Use the resources below to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters.

## PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH GLOBALLY

- Ask God to comfort and strengthen persecuted believers who "are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:8-9).
- Pray for the Church to be confident in Christ's ultimate victory on the cross, remembering John 16:33 – "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."
- Pray God will give persecuted believers the perspective and grace to "count it all joy" and trust "that the testing of [their] faith produces steadfastness" (James 1:2-3).
- Pray for believers around the world who endure persecution to continue speaking God's Word "with all boldness" (Acts 4:29).
- Ask God to use their witness to draw many people to Himself.

Join us in a month-long prayer journey with IMB's PrayerPoints newsletter. Download or subscribe: **imb.org/prayerpoints**

imb.org/persecuted