

Merry Christmas
from our family to yours...

And the angel said to them,
“Fear not, for behold, I bring
you good news of great joy that
will be for all the people. For
unto you is born this day in the
city of David a Savior, who is
Christ the Lord.

~ Luke 2:10-11

The Bethel News
December
2016

Bethel Baptist Association

*"Strengthening Churches
in Sharing Christ"*



Ministers & Spouses
Annual Christmas Fellowship

Thursday, December 8th at 6:30 P.M.
Faith Baptist Church

Cost: \$10 per person Catered: by Jerry's Meats & Catering
Special Music: South Georgia Quartet
(Childcare provided)

RSVP by December 5th by calling the
Assoc. Office 229-835-2887 or
Bro. James at 229-723-1375

166 South Webster Street
Cuthbert, GA 39851
229-732-3829

Missionary Musings

We have just returned from a wonderful three days in Savannah, Georgia with over a thousand Georgia Baptists as we celebrated another year of God's working through the 3,600+ churches of our state convention. This year's Georgia Baptist Convention was especially meaningful to me as my wife and I were both able to attend. It has been several years since Mary has attended a state convention with me because of her work schedule(s). In fact, we think the last time was when our little girl Kara was about 3 years old! (Our little girl is 30 now.) Yes, it's been a while!

It's always uplifting to experience the times of worship at these meetings, when God's people gather from every corner of our great state to get together and unite their voices in praise and worship. What powerful music,

and what powerful preaching! I hope that all members of our Bethel Association churches have the opportunity to attend at least one of the annual conventions. It really helps you to see the big picture of what God is doing beyond the walls of your local church and beyond our own neighborhoods. As cooperating Southern Baptists, we are all vitally linked in the grand enterprise of taking the Gospel to all the world.

The Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons are great times to be more purposefully involved in the Great Commission. Three avenues for involvement that immediately come to mind are the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** for International Missions, Georgia Baptists' own **"Backpacks for Appalachia"** initiative, and **"Operation**

Christmas Child" through Samaritan's Purse. Also, there are many opportunities during December for your entire family (including the children!) to be involved in ministries to hurting people in your own local community.

In short, I want to encourage you all to expand your missions horizon during this Holiday Season. Christmas is much more than just sharing love and good times with your family and friends. It's also about sharing good tidings with the whole world.

*"For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
(Luke 2:11, NASB)*

Merry Christmas!
Bro. James

LMCO

—
LOTTIE
MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®
2016

the gospel resounds



Your giving enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God.

100% of your gift through the **LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®** supports missionaries and their work.

THANK YOU
FOR GIVING!



Bethel Baptist Association Churches collected 514 backpacks for needy children in Appalachia this year! Praise the Lord!

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Oct. 26, 2016 - Nov. 22, 2016

Arlington	826.81
Bethel	
Beulah	180.54
Blakely FBC	1,642.69
Bluffton	326.77
Carnegie	
Coleman	
Colomokee	482.20
Cuthbert FBC	512.50
Damascus (E)	
Damascus (R)	333.42
Edison	138.14
Enterprise	
Faith	
Fort Gaines	610.68
Georgetown	500.00
Leary	
Milford	
Morgan	
Morris	
Mt. Gilead	
Mt. Hebron	198.24
Mt. Vernon	
New Bethel	
New Hope	
New Zion	
Rehoboth	
Salem	
Shellman FBC	
Shiloh	708.00
Southside	
Sowhatchee	
Springvale	
Vilulah	
Individuals	
TOTAL	6,459.99
Balances Nov.22,2016	
General Fund	18,748.71
Designated Fund	8,042.12
New Work Fund	7,499.30

Thank you!

Fully Prepared 2017 Luke 6:40

To bring a disciple making atmosphere to the churches, small groups and Sunday school classes of SW Georgia by helping them implement biblical disciple making strategies.

Featuring Speakers Cheri Holcomb and Herb Hodges. Also featuring Keith Stewart and Mike Brandenburg.

Lunch & Childcare provided!
Registration \$10 - Call 229.310.7902

**March 10-11
Deadline is
March 1**

The Camerata Chorus & The Eufaula Men's Chorus
present

A Christmas Concert
Ronnie Marshall, Director Cynthia Balkcom, Assistant
Cara Hutto & Ann Mitchell, Accompanists

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Eufaula, Alabama
Sunday, December 4
5:00 & 7:00 pm (CST)

FORT GAINES UMC
Fort Gaines, Georgia
Monday, December 5
7:30pm (EST)

BLAKELY UMC
Blakely, Georgia
Tuesday, December 6
7:30 pm (EST)

The next
**Missions Coordinating
Committee Meeting**

January 17th at 6:30 pm.
Assoc. Office.
(Project Proposals and Funding
Requests must be turned into the
Assoc. Office by Thursday,
January 12th)



**"Barnabas
Group"
Meeting**

Tuesday, January 3rd
11 am
Assoc. Office.

Mt. Gilead Baptist Church

Pastor Ralph & Mrs. Rachel Estes
invite everyone to experience their annual
ōFestival of Lightsö open - Dec. 31
6:00 pm to midnight
GA Hwy 39, five miles north of Ft.
Gaines COME ONE COME ALL

Administrative



**Meeting 6:30 pm
Thursday Jan. 12
BBA Office**

Bethel Baptist
Association
124 Bay Ave.
PO Box 398
Edison, GA
39846

Change Service
Requested

The Bethel Baptist Association

Dr. James Holloway, Associational Missionary
Kathy Hardwick, Ministry Assistant
Joyce Jarrett, Financial Assistant
Phone 229.835.2887
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Permit # 7

December 2016

- 8 Ministers/Spouses Christmas Banquet - Faith BC
6:30 pm
26-30 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS (Assoc. Office Closed)

January 2017

- 1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
3 %Barnabas+Group - Associational Office, 11 am
9 New Zion Steering Committee - Freeman Rd., 6:30 pm
12 Administrative Team - Assoc. Office, 6:30 pm
17 Missions Coordinating Committee - Assoc. Office 6:30 pm
18 %Revitalization Roundtable+- Assoc. Office, 10 am
23 BBA Executive Committee - Assoc. Office, 7 pm

February 2017

- 5 BBA Children's Racer Derby - 2 pm (Place TBA)
6-8 Bro. James away at AM's Workshop
10 Church Music Workshop - Edison BC (pm)
11 SW Ga. Regional Racer Derby - Tifton FBC
14 %Barnabas+Group - Assoc. Office, 11 am
18 State RA Racer Derby at Camp Kaleo
21 BBA WMU Meeting - Fort Gaines BC, 7 pm

Upcoming Events

