



The Bethel News

"Strengthening Churches in Sharing Christ"

May 2017

Children's Summer Camps 2017

Kolomoki Mounds State Park
Camp Hicita

Day Campers-June 21-23
ages 4 thru completed
2nd grade, Cost: \$40

Overnighters-June 21-24
completed 3rd grade thru
7th grade, Cost: \$70



**Deadline for
all Camp
Reservations is
Thursday, May 25th**

Summer Camp Planning Meeting

Sunday, May 21st @ 2:30 pm
Associational Office





Missionary Musings

Time marches on, and soon another school year will be drawing to a close. I am always reminded of the fleeting nature of time around this season of the year, because it was in April of 1999 that I came to Southwest Georgia to serve as missionary for the Bethel Baptist Association. God has richly blessed me and my family during these first 18 years as we have witnessed a family of churches work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation for the spread of the Gospel from our own communities to the ends of the earth.

Year #19 promises to be an exciting one, as well, with our **Children's Summer Camps** returning to Kolomoki, and our partnership with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board in offering "**Backpacks of Hope**" to the children of our six counties this Christmas Season. As we have sent volunteer mission teams across our nation and around the world over the past 18 years, we have been praying that others would see the great missions needs in our area of Georgia, and that someday the Bethel Association could become a missions

destination as well as a sending point for worldwide missions. With the 2017 Backpacks of Hope for children in Appalachia and Southwest Georgia project, I feel that we are beginning to see that vision become a reality. Let me encourage you to do all that you and your church can to promote and participate in this groundbreaking missions project for our area this year. If you have any questions about how and where you can help, please contact our Mission Team Leaders, Kenny and Melanie Williams, or the Backpacks of Hope coordinator (s) for your county:

- Early County - Darrell and Sondra Alexander*
- Clay County - Heather Harrell*
- Calhoun County - Martha Bell and Becky Avera*
- Baker County - Karin Tabb*
- Randolph County - Ben and Kim Crowdis*
- Quitman County - Lisa Hagler*

Georgia Baptists statewide goal for collecting backpacks for distribution within the Bethel Baptist Association this Christmas season is **5,200 backpacks**. Soon you will be seeing publicity from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board appearing statewide, encouraging Baptist Churches all over Georgia to participate in this as well as the

Appalachian project. We hope and pray that some long-term partnerships between Bethel Association churches and other churches throughout Georgia will develop as a result of this short-term project.

Thank you all again for 18 wonderful years. Let's trust God for even greater things in the days ahead!

In His Service,

Bro. James



*Memorial Day
Monday, May 29th*



*What does the Lord require of you,
but to do justice, love kindness and
walk humbly before your God.*

Micah 6:8



**“Barnabas”
Group Meeting**
Tuesday, May 9
11:00 am.
Assoc. Office

UPDATE on our **Special Offering**
for Bethel Associational Missions!
Received to date: **\$5,545.00**
(our 2017 Special Offering Goal was
\$6,000.00)

Praise the Lord and thank you all for your
partnership in the Gospel!

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Mar. 30 - Apr. 20

Arlington	690.00
Bethel	
Beulah	324.74
Blakely FBC	1,227.49
Bluffton	
Carnegie	
Coleman	
Colomokee	335.01
Cuthbert FBC	512.50
Damascus (E)	
Damascus (R)	291.24
Edison	127.20
Enterprise	1,192.96
Faith	
Fort Gaines	1,612.66
Georgetown	
Leary	146.54
Milford	
Morgan	
Morris	
Mt. Gilead	
Mt. Hebron	
Mt. Vernon	276.21
New Bethel	
New Hope	60.83
New Zion	
Rehoboth	
Salem	
Shellman FBC	300.00
Shiloh	708.00
Southside	340.00
Sowhatchee	384.14
Springvale	
Vilulah	50.00
Individuals	
TOTAL	8,579.52
Balances Apr. 20 (2017)	
General Fund	21,523.85
Designated Fund	75,203.99
New Work Fund	7,521.77

Bethel Baptist Association Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, June 26th, Assoc. Office at 7 pm



To the following churches for earning certificates of
recognition from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board
for 2016 (based on information turned in on the 2016 ACR):

Bethel Baptist Association's...

- Largest contribution to the **Cooperative Program**
Cuthbert First Baptist Church
- Largest percentage contributor to the **Cooperative Program**
Milford Baptist Church
- Leading contributor per resident member to the **Cooperative Program**
Bluffton Baptist Church
- Largest contributor to the **2016 State Missions Offering**
Cuthbert Baptist Church
- Leading contributor per resident member to the **2016 State Missions Offering**
Morris Baptist Church
- Highest number of baptisms
Southside Baptist Church
- Leading ratio of baptisms to resident members
New Zion Baptist Church

**177th Homecoming
Anniversary**



*Shiloh Baptist Church
Fort Gaines, GA*

Sunday, May 7th
11:00 am
(covered dish
fellowship 12 noon)

May 5th 7-10 pm
May 6th 7-10 pm
May 7th 4-7 pm

**Dothan AL
Civic Center**

WILL GRAHAM CRUSADE

Thank you!

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

Change Service
Requested

The Bethel Baptist Association

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Kathy Hardwick, Ministry Assistant
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Permit # 7

May

- 5-7 Will Graham Crusade in Dothan, AL.
- 9 %Barnabas+Group - Assoc. Office 11 am
- 21 Camp Planning Meeting - Associational Office, 11 am
- 25 **Deadline for All BBA Camp Reservations!**
- 29 MEMORIAL DAY (Assoc. Office Closed)

June

- 5-11 Bro. James away on Vacation
- 21-24 BBA Children's Camps - Group Camp Hicita, Kolomoki
Mounds State Park
- 26 Executive Committee - Assoc. Office, 7 pm

July

- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY (Assoc. Office Closed)



UPCOMING EVENTS