

Bethel Baptist Association



hello
November

2018

The Bethel News

"Strengthening Churches in Sharing Christ"

Pre-Convention Rally, Nov. 11
Preaching Conference, Nov. 12
GBC Annual Meeting, Nov. 12-13

The 2018 GBC Annual Meeting

is a yearly event to conduct the business of the Georgia Baptist Convention in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Convention. In addition, the Annual Meeting serves to provide inspiration for messengers from the member churches of the Convention as well as provide opportunities for networking among the member church representatives. It provides the opportunity for the Georgia Baptist Mission Board staff to increase the awareness of the ministries and resources available to the churches of the Georgia Baptist Convention.



Second Baptist Church Warner Robbins, 2504 Moody Rd Warner Robins, GA



Please join us for the Bethel Baptist Assoc.
Ministers/Spouses Christmas Fellowship



CHRISTMAS

fellowship

Thursday, December 6th @ 6:30 pm

Faith Baptist Church
166 South Webster Street ! Cuthbert, GA 39840

Musical Entertainment by Mike English

(Childcare Provided at church)



RSVP to The Bethel Baptist Association by Dec. 3 at 229-835-2887

"Missionary Musings"



They say there is a first time for everything. Well, for the first time in its 185 + year history, the Bethel Baptist Association did not hold an Annual Fall Meeting in 2018. Our Fall Meeting, which had been scheduled for Sunday evening, October 14th at Blakely First Baptist Church, was pre-empted by **Hurricane Michael**, the worst storm to hit SW Georgia since 1898!

On the evening of October 10, 2018, Michael cut a wide swath of destruction through most of our associational area. Sustained winds were estimated at 115 mph when the storm reached Blakely, making Michael a still-Category 3 hurricane this far from its initial landfall on the Florida Gulf Coast! From Blakely, it worked its way in a northeasterly direction that took it through Edison and the heart of the Bethel Baptist Association. All of our communities and towns in our six county area were impacted by this historic storm. As I write this today, two weeks after Michael, there are still members of Bethel Association churches in the rural areas who are without electricity. Even the *old-timers* in our area say that they have never seen anything like it!

At times like these we are overwhelmed with physical exhaustion and a wide-range of emotions. At the top of our list is our **thankfulness to God** for His mercy and protection on us even in the midst of the storm. When we consider the scenes of destruction that greeted our eyes on the morning of October 11th, we cannot help but marvel at the fact that no lives were lost in our Bethel Association area, and that only one person

(that we know of) was injured during the storm! His hand of protection was undeniably present.

The next emotion that overflows during these days is **gratitude** for the self-less service of the **utility workers** and **disaster relief volunteers** who have converged on SW Georgia over the past two weeks. Our electrical power grid and other utilities are being restored at an unbelievable pace, and these professional linemen and other technicians have exceeded all expectations in bringing the citizens of this vast rural area back *on line*. And the volunteers, especially those friendly folks in the yellow t-shirts of the **Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams**, have been awesome! We currently have DR teams from three different states doing clean-up and recovery (chainsaw and tarp) work in our associational area. The Kentucky Baptist DR crews are working out of Blakely, while Virginia Baptist Teams are deploying out of Dawson and teams from Mississippi are based in Albany. All of these folks have been heaven-sent bearers of hope and healing in our communities.

And there are more on the way. Chainsaw crews from the South Carolina Baptists are coming into Early county this weekend to take up and continue the work begun by the Kentucky teams. And several Georgia Baptist Associations in areas not affected by the storm have reached out to me with offers of assistance. We are now in the process of partnering GB Associations with specific counties in our area for long-term recovery efforts.

In short, I praise the Lord for His **g o o d n e s s**, and for the goodness of His people as they seek to be His hands and feet in times of hardship and disaster. What a wonderful testimony of God's grace and love is being brought before an unbelieving world in these days of *post-Michael* recovery! **P r a i s e H i s N a m e !**

I hope to be able to share a statistical summary of some of the ministries of our Disaster Relief volunteers here in the next Newsletter. In the meantime, we will take care the business that had been slated for our Fall Meeting in a special called meeting of the **Executive Committee** on **Monday evening, November 5th, at 7 pm** at **Morgan Baptist Church**. And we have been receiving the items which our churches collected for the Georgia Baptist Children's Home at our office in Edison. We will transport those items to the GBCH Warm Springs campus after the first of November.

*There is a first time for everything.
And God has a purpose for all things.*

May you have a Blessed Thanksgiving,

Bro. James

Happy Thanksgiving

"I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth."
Psalm 34:1

(office closed Wed.
Nov. 21 - Fri. Nov. 23)



Continue in prayer
& watch in the same
with thanksgiving

Colossians 4:2

hello November

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

September 26—Oct. 29, 2018

Monday, Nov. 5th @ 7 pm
Morgan Baptist Church

Executive Committee Meeting



“Barnabas” Group Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 6th 11 am Assoc. Office



Christmas at the Fort - ÷Out-Reach÷

Saturday, November 17th, 9 am - 4 pm
We will have the ÷Baby Station÷ set-up,
please volunteer for just on hour. Contact
Gay Crowdis at (229-310-0607)

Thursday, November 1st, is the last day to receive
÷Christmas Backpacks÷ at the Assoc. Office.

BACKPACKS for Appalachia



IN CONCERT ÷ The Troy Burns Family, Gospel Group

Saturday, Nov. 3rd @ 6:00 pm

Shiloh Baptist Church - 1974 Cotton Hill Rd. Fort Gaines, GA

Arlington	720.48
Bethel	
Beulah	284.53
Blakely FBC	1,460.63
Bluffton	429.72
Carnegie	
Coleman	
Colomokee	345.75
Cuthbert FBC	512.50
Damascus (E)	
Damascus (R)	639.78
Edison	109.14
Enterprise	1,156.43
Faith	
Fort Gaines	875.02
Georgetown	416.66
Leary	184.09
Milford	555.00
Morgan	
Morris	
Mt. Gilead	
Mt. Hebron	200.00
Mt. Vernon	244.32
New Bethel	
New Hope	825.28
New Zion	
Rehoboth	
Salem	52.72
Shellman FBC	200.00
Shiloh	1,416.00
Southside	225.00
Sowhatchee	
Springvale	
Vilulah	
Individuals	
TOTAL	10,853.05
Balances Oct. 29 (2018)	
General Fund	15,258.53
Designated Fund	11,816.05
New Work Fund	7,604.11

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
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Permit # 7

Calendar of Events



November

- 1 Last Day to receive Backpacks and Children's Home Items!
- 5 Called Executive Committee Meeting - Morgan BC, 7 pm
- 6 ELECTION DAY
 - oBarnabasö Group - Assoc. Office, 11 am
- 12-13 Georgia Baptist Convention - Second BC, Warner Robbins, GA
- 17 oChristmas at the Fortö (outreach) - Fort Gaines, 9 am - 4 pm
- 21-23 Thanksgiving Holidays (Assoc. Office Closed)

December

- 1 oChristmas Backpacksö Distributions - Baker, Clay, & Early counties
- 6 Ministers/Spousesö Christmas Fellowshipö Faith BC, 6:30 pm; RSVP by Monday, Dec. 3rd, call 229-835-2887 Assoc. Office
- 8 oChristmas Backpacksö Distributions - Calhoun, Early, Quitman, & Randolph counties

24-Jan. 1 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS (Assoc. Office Closed)

January, 2019

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY (Assoc. Office Closed)
- 8 oBarnabasö Group - Assoc. Office, 11 am
- 27 Associational Choir Fest - TBA
- 28 Executive Committee - Assoc. Office, 7 pm