

## ELEVATE

### CHURCH STRATEGY SUMMIT

*A Centennial event to help equip every believer for ministry through the local church*

**April 28, 2018**

**8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Workshops on topics including but not limited to

*Mission Strategy, Sunday School & Small Group  
Mentoring, Reaching the Next Generation,  
Women's Ministry, Caring for the Hurting, Music  
Ministry, Reaching your Community, Church  
Health & Children's Ministry.*



**GA Baptist Children's Home Truck Loading will begin at 7:30 AM at FBC Thomaston.**

**Suggested items for collection:**

**liquid detergent, dish soap, Styrofoam plates/cups, paper goods, plastic utensils & gift cards**

**For more details and to register, visit [www.centennialbaptistassociation.com/elevate](http://www.centennialbaptistassociation.com/elevate) or  
call the CBA office at 706-647-4959**

**This is a free summit for any member of a Centennial church who registers by **April 20th.**  
For all others & at the door, the cost is \$35.**

**Hosted by First Baptist Church Thomaston • 208 S Church Street • Thomaston, GA 30286**

**Sponsored by the Centennial Baptist Association and the Georgia Baptist Mission Board**

Rev. Steve Laughman- Associational Missionary  
Rev. Bill Barber- Moderator  
Rev. Joey Smith- Vice Moderator

Mrs. Marni Laughman- Ministry Assistant & Clerk  
Mrs. Gail West- Treasurer

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## A Word from Your Missionary, Steve Laughman

This is the fourth article in a series related to our new strategy and vision as an association.

Priority Four is to build unity among the churches culturally, racially, and generationally. We are blessed to have churches that understand unity. The cooperative spirit that exists among CBA churches is unlike anything I have experienced in ministry. However, there are still barriers which we struggle to overcome. We understand that the Kingdom of God includes people from every ethnicity, age, and culture, but we do not always know how to bridge our differences effectively.

The question I am asked most often is “How do we reach younger families?” Somewhere along the way we missed raising up a generation to whom we could pass the baton of leadership. There is also a growing concern that our limited amount of diversity fails to reflect God’s plan for His church. As the people of God we are to be on the forefront when it comes to wrestling with the tough questions facing our culture related to race. The Church should demonstrate to the world how people of various backgrounds and perspectives live and thrive together in unity.

The CBA Strategy Team set the following goals related to this priority:

Goal 1: Use Senior Adult Quarterly Fellowship Lunches to create awareness of diverse needs. Whenever I get the chance to address our seniors, whether at the quarterly lunches or in their churches, I remind them of how God entrusted the discipleship of younger people to them. If we are going to reach the next generation, we cannot leave the responsibility to the next generation.

Goal 2: Engage various ethnic congregations and populations by connecting to existing churches or planting new churches. God has opened doors and allowed me to have several conversations with existing Black churches about partnering with Centennial. Pastor Eddie Johnson of Macedonia Baptist Church has been instrumental in helping me understand the challenges we face. In the future we may also see a need to help plant churches for Spanish speakers or other language groups within our region.

Goals 3 & 4: Enlist a team to develop multi-cultural, multi-racial, and multi-generational ministry strategies and then to implement the strategy. As the Strategy Team worked, it became clear that this priority would take more than we could offer. The goal is to enlist a team by our Fall Meeting in October and then to have them develop a strategy by Fall of 2019. There is no quick fix to this complex issue, so we want to dedicate an appropriate amount of time and effort toward addressing it. If you feel called to participate in this process, please let me know.

I pray you will join us at Elevate on April 28 where we will host a panel discussion related specifically to this topic. We are at a critical time when it comes to reaching the next generation and bridging the gaps that exist even among God’s people. Pray with me that we will seek and find God’s will in these matters.

## Dental Assistance for Ministerial Staff and Their Spouses

**May 17-19 New Providence Baptist Church, Smarr, Georgia**

Open to any Georgia Baptist Convention ministerial staff and spouses who do not have dental insurance. For information, questions or to make an appointment, please contact Ted Kandler by calling 912-656-5129 or by email [tkandler@gabaptist.org](mailto:tkandler@gabaptist.org)

**Sept 12-15 Ministers Wellness Retreat, Georgia Baptist Conference Center, Toccoa**

Sponsored by Georgia Baptist Mission Board Church Minister Relations Ministry. Registration is open to any Georgia Baptist Convention minister and spouse who do not have preventive health insurance. Dental service is offered to participants of this event who do not have dental insurance.

Sponsored by the Georgia Baptist Mobile Health Ministry and thanks to your gifts through the Cooperative Program.

## May Day!

HEAR AND BE HEARD  
Women's Conference



A PRAYER RETREAT

Organized by Maynard Baptist Church

1195 JULIETTE ROAD  
FORSYTH, GA 31029

MAY 5, 2018  
9:30AM-3:00PM

FREE EVENT & LUNCH!  
CHILDCARE UPON REQUEST

Register online at [MaynardBC.com/events](http://MaynardBC.com/events) by April 28th!



Help kids develop

## a LOVE for God's Word

through Bible Skills, Bible reading, and  
scripture memorization at church and home!



**Associational Bible Drill Event Sunday April 15 @ 5:00 PM**  
**FBC Barnesville, 200 Zebulon Street**  
**For more information, contact Kristi Miller 770-358-2353**

## OUR VISION:

*By 2020, CBA will be a unified yet  
diverse network of equipped  
churches moving in a strategic  
missional direction.*

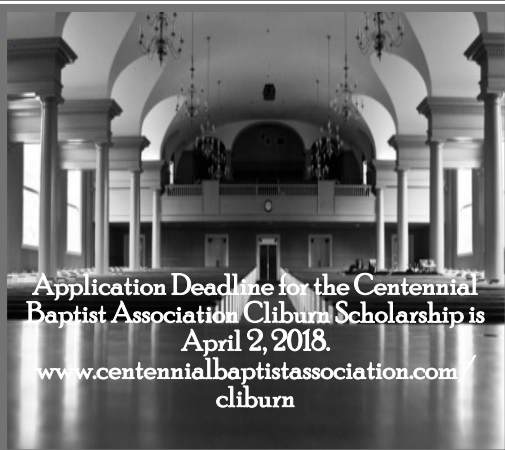
### Ministers Meeting

The Garden Patch  
100 Southland Drive  
Barnesville, GA 30204

**April 16, 2018**  
12 Noon

**\*Please make a note that this  
meeting is a week later than usual.**

All ministers are invited.



Application Deadline for the Centennial  
Baptist Association Cliburn Scholarship is  
April 2, 2018.  
[www.centennialbaptistassociation.com/  
cliburn](http://www.centennialbaptistassociation.com/cliburn)

### Bethlehem, PA Mission Trip April 7-14, 2018

Please pray for the mission team as they  
work alongside Travis Ross, Church  
Planter, and River Bend Church. May  
they build relationships with those who  
call Bethlehem home. Also pray for the  
other ministries in the area as they  
meet the needs of the less fortunate and  
broken. May God go before our team as  
they commit to being the hands and feet  
of Jesus.

### Quarterly Fellowship Lunch

**Camp Kaleo**  
**463 Old Zebulon Rd.**  
**Forsyth, GA**

**May 10, 2018**  
**Noon**  
**\$6 a person**

**We will enjoy a catered meal.**

### Sunday School Mentoring Informational Meeting for Pastors & Sunday School Directors

Monday, May 14 @ 6:00 PM

First Baptist Church,  
Thomaston



## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

### Lamar County

- First Baptist Church, Barnesville, Family Life Center
- Thursday, May 3, 12:10 PM
- Lunch for suggested donation of \$1 for Lamar County Ministerial Association

### Monroe County

- Information unavailable at time of printing.
- The CBA website will be updated with the information as soon as possible.

### Pike County

- Pike County Courthouse, Zebulon (Rain, FBC Zebulon)
- Thursday, May 3, 12:00 PM

### Upton County

- Upton County Courthouse (Rain, St. Michael's)
- Thursday, May 3, 12:00 PM
- Upton County will host a Day of **Bible Reading** beginning at 8:00 AM and will read through the four Gospels. To reserve a time for you or your church to read, contact the CBA office at 706-647-4959 or [centennialbaptistassociation@gmail.com](mailto:centennialbaptistassociation@gmail.com).

## Ladies Night Fellowship Baptist Church

**May 12<sup>th</sup> @5:00 PM**

**Dress Up. Dine Out. Discover**

**Dinner- Your Choice of Pork Loin, Chicken or Salad Bar**

**Entertainment- Caitlynn Weeks**

**Worship- Front Porch Worship**

**Speaker- Lisa Thompson- President of GA W.M.U/W.E.M**

**Tickets- \$10.00 Each or TWO- \$15.00, Age 18 & Up**

**"Come Alive"**

## Income for February 2018

	Feb 18	Jan18 – Feb18
Checking Interest	5.57	11.52
Antioch	655.17	1,352.95
Bethany	250.00	500.00
Beulah	175.00	473.00
Calvary	0.00	0.00
Clark's Chapel	0.00	100.00
Concord	200.00	400.00
Culloden	0.00	150.00
East Thomaston	293.55	704.56
Elkins Creek	0.00	0.00
Emory's Chapel	0.00	0.00
FBC Barnesville	1,020.80	5,040.26
FBC Forsyth	0.00	0.00
FBC Thomaston	728.03	1,985.74
Fellowship	534.56	1,178.56
Garden Hill	0.00	0.00
GracePoint	0.00	0.00
Hendricks	0.00	0.00
Jeff Davis	25.00	50.00
King's Chapel	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	0.00	0.00
Maynard	632.00	1,266.99
Meansville	241.66	483.32
Milner	422.74	923.44
Molena	0.00	0.00
Mount Olive	840.09	2,160.13
Mountain View	2,096.00	3,771.00
Mt. Pleasant	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	75.00	182.00
Neal	50.00	150.00
New Bethel	50.00	100.00
New Harmony	27.97	95.04
New Hope Thomaston	0.00	0.00
New Hope Zebulon	171.72	380.02
Pine View	0.00	0.00
Pritchett Memorial	0.00	0.00
Russellville	56.19	56.19
Shiloh Upson	50.00	100.00
Shiloh Lamar	0.00	260.00
Silvertown	105.35	452.30
The Rock	21.74	52.44
Trinity	300.00	600.00
Valley Grove	335.88	1,136.88
Yatesville	0.00	200.00
<b>Total Church Receipts</b>	<b>9,358.45</b>	<b>24,304.82</b>
<b>Disbursements for February 2018</b>		
Administrative Expenses		1,933.84
Associational Programs		390.34
Miscellaneous Expenses		0.00
Organizational Expenses		252.82
Pastorium Maintenance		0.00
Salaries and Allowances		6,902.04
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditures</b>		<b>9,479.04</b>
Designated Accounts Expenses		300.00
<b>Monthly Surplus/Shortfall</b>		<b>(120.59)</b>
<b>YTD Surplus/Shortfall</b>		<b>3,864.95</b>

## Opportunities & Church News

**Macedonia** invites you to attend Revival services, April 2-4, 7:30 nightly. Pastor Derick M. Dumas of Greater Lizzieboro Baptist Church, Macon, will be our Guest Minister.

**New Hope** is seeking a *pianist*. If you are interested in applying, please email your resume to [newhopebaptist1@windstream.net](mailto:newhopebaptist1@windstream.net)

**Silvertown** is searching for an Associate Pastor of Music. This is a bi-vocational position requiring approximately 12-16 hours per week. Visit [www.silvertownbc.com/staffneeds](http://www.silvertownbc.com/staffneeds) for details and application instructions.

**GracePoint** is seeking a *pianist*. Contact Derrick Keeter at 678-898-9864 if you are interested in applying.

*If your church would like to post a ministry opportunity or an event, please contact the CBA office by the third week of the month to get it into the next month's newsletter.*

## Calendar of Events

### April 2018

1	Resurrection Sunday		
2	Cliburn Scholarship Application Deadline		
7-14	Bethlehem, PA Mission Trip	Bethlehem, PA	
16	Ministers Meeting	Garden Patch	12 Noon
28	Elevate Church Strategy Summit	FBC Thomaston	8 AM - 3 PM

### May 2018

3	National Day of Prayer		
10	Upson Pike Roundtable	Macedonia	10:00 AM
10	Quarterly Fellowship Lunch	Camp Kaleo	12 Noon
10	Steering Committee	Milner	6:30 PM
13	Mother's Day		
14	Ministers Meeting	Garden Patch	12 Noon
14	SS Mentoring Info Meeting	FBC Thomaston	6:00 PM
15	Monroe Roundtable	New Providence	2:00 PM

## Shepherd Stories

Dr. Jeff Morgan is a man who loves his family. In fact, I don't remember having a conversation with Pastor Jeff when he didn't talk about his children or his wife, Claire. The Morgans have faithfully served Antioch Baptist Church for over 21 years.



My first encounter with Pastor Jeff was when he took Steve and me to lunch prior to us being called to serve Centennial. As the Chairman of the Search Committee, he met with us to cover some details and ask us some hard questions. Jeff was very thorough and attentive, despite dealing with a health issue that made it uncomfortable for him to be there. If I remember correctly he ended up having surgery soon after. When I found this out I knew how dedicated he was to doing his job well. His faithfulness extends beyond his family and his church to this association and beyond. I have always appreciated his mentoring spirit and the great encouragement he is to Steve and me.

This month Steve and a team from Centennial will be heading to Jeff's hometown of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, for a mission trip. It was there in Bethlehem where Jeff accepted Christ and we are very thankful that God brought him here to serve. Join me in thanking God for Pastor Jeff Morgan.

Marni

P.S.—Happy Resurrection Sunday!