

Networking churches to make disciples Winter 2022



REFOCUS is an association-wide missions event engaging churches with missionaries who are currently or retired from serving with the

International Mission Board (IMB),

North American Mission Board (NAMB),

and Georgia Baptist Mission Board (GBMB).

April 30– May 1, 2022.

For more details visit: centennialbaptistassociation.com/refocus

What can you do now?

•Contact the CBA office to let us know that your church is participating and wants a missionary speaker. We will need to confirm this as soon as possible so we make sure to have the right number of missionaries with us for REFOCUS.

•Collect a love offering (honorarium) and send it to CBA to be given to the missionary speakers. We ask that you send it to us rather than giving it to the missionaries, so that we can make sure that each speaker receives an equal amount, no matter what church they get to speak at.



Dental Clinic • March 10-12 • Milner Baptist Church

If you or someone you know is interested in attending this free dental clinic, screening appointments will be given on a first call-first serve basis beginning **March 7th at 9:00 AM.** You must speak to someone to schedule an appointment by calling **706-741-7302.**

If you are interested in **volunteering** to help, please contact the Centennial office. We are in need of trained medical professionals to take temperature and blood pressure readings and individuals willing to pray with people. www.centennialbaptistassociation.com/dental-health-ministry

Sponsored by the churches that make up Centennial Baptist Association and the Baptist Mobile Health Ministry of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board.



One of the changes 2022 brought to this office was Mrs. Gail West retiring from her position as Treasurer. She began serving in this role back in 2014. Her attention to detail and exceptional work ethic created an atmosphere I was comfortable serving under. I never worried about "the books" because I grew to trust Mrs. Gail to accurately check my work. If for some reason I had made an error, she would graciously make me aware and offer to help make it right. I will miss Mr. Guy, her husband, driving her to the office and waiting patiently in the car for she and I to sign checks and visit. Together, they are a beautiful example of what a ministry couple should look like. I am happy that she and Mr. Guy will have more time together, and I am thankful to have made a forever friend.

Mrs. Joan German, currently serving as Ministry Assistant at Trinity in Thomaston, has graciously accepted this position. I pray that together we will serve this association with joy as Mrs. Gail and I have always done.

Marni

Rev. Steve Laughman- Associational Mission Strategist Rev. Eddie Johnson- Moderator Rev. Mark Harris- Vice Moderator Mrs. Marni Laughman- Ministry Assistant Mrs. Joan German- Treasurer

A Word from Your Mission Strategist, Steve Laughman

If you're a sports fan in Georgia, you have gotten pretty used

to losing. Whether your team is the Bulldogs, the Braves, the Falcons, or any number of other teams, we all know how it feels to get our hopes up only to be disappointed once again. So, when our team wins the World Series or the National Championship, we are more than a little excited. We celebrate the achievement as if we were on the team and scored the winning points ourselves. It feels good to win.

I am often surprised that so many Christians seem defeated. We walk around with our heads down feeling as though all is lost. We focus on the darkness around us, allowing it to determine our attitude and our mindset. Let me tell you, that is exactly what the enemy wants. If he can convince us that there is no hope, we function as though we are already out of the fight.



"The Bible tells us over and over through example and instruction that our God is victorious over this world."

Praise God that our reality is victory! The Bible tells us over and over through example and instruction that our God is victorious over this world. We are called "more than conquerors." We are told that "our faith is the victory." We

> read about God conquering sin and death. And in Revelation we read about how Jesus returns and defeats Satan with a word. When we feel defeated and broken by this world, we must be reminded that our reality is not what we feel. Will we have times of sadness and grief? Yes, but we are still victorious. Will we be disappointed and discouraged? Yes, but God is still on the throne. Is sin real and are people lost without Jesus? Unfortunately, yes, but we have a Savior and a Gospel message for them.

I do not know what this year holds for you. Centennial has big plans for 2022, and our hope is to reach every goal we set. But even if we don't, we will not lose hope. Our success is based not on what we achieve, but whether we are faithful to the God we serve. To that end, let us focus our minds on being faithful to His calling and purpose.

2022 Financial Compliance & Giving Seminars

Georgia Baptist Foundation Presents

2022 Financial Compliance & Giving Seminar First Baptist Church Butler February 24, 2022 4:30 PM- 8:30 PM

This seminar is designed to help your church navigate often tedious and complicated financial matters and to provide actionable information to help you and your church make sound financial decisions.

Tickets are \$10. Click <u>HERE</u> to register.



The Centennial Baptist Association established this award in honor of Dr. Ed Cliburn and his years of service to the churches of this association. Our hope is that through this we can assist men and women as they seek to be equipped to serve the Lord in vocational ministry.

Recipients:

2017- Justin Mahaffey now serving FBC of Jamestown in Tennessee.

2018- John Blackmon will be serving in Bangkok, Thailand summer of 2022.

2020- Rebecca Milby currently attending Southern Seminary.

2022- This could be you! Apply today!



GBMB Evangelism Conference (East & Central Regions)

Dates:Sunday, February 27, 5 PM - 8 PM
Monday, February 28, 8 AM - 2 PMLocation:Turning Point at Mable White Baptist ChurchAddress:1415 Bass RD, Macon GA 31210



Dr. JJ Washington Dr. Herb Reavis Rev. Fred Luter Dr. Steve Gaines Rev. HB Charles, Jr. Visit <u>HERE</u> for the full schedule of events.



EXECUTIVE COMMITEE

TRINITY BC, THOMASTON & GOTOMEETING CLICK HERE FOR ACCESS

Feb 17th @ 6:30 PM Membership: "The Executive committee shall be composed of the pastor of each church, one lay member from each church elected by the church, the Moderator, Vice Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, members of the Steering Committee, all Directors and Committee Chairmen, Associational Missionary, and all full-time staff of member churches."

CONNECTING YOU TO RESOURCES.



The **Ministry Leadership Connection** is designed for all people in the local church not just those who are on staff. The goal is to connect those of you giving your time to ministry to other like minded ministry leaders. This monthly meeting is held in various places around the association and all are encouraged to attend.

Casting a missional vision. Providing opportunities for engagement. Praying for the harvest. FEBRUARY 24 The Rock Church 6:30 PM



Mission

Meeting

Team



UPSON-PIKE ROUNDTABLE

ROUNDTABLE MARCH 3RD. 10 AM GATHERING GROUNDS

WHERE IRON SHARPENS

IRON

VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE MARCH 3RD. 8 PM GoToMeeting code CBARoundtable

MONROE-LAMAR ROUNDTABLE MARCH 1ST. 10 AM NEW PROVIDENCE BC

CBA Financials for December 2021

Checking Interest	Dec 2021 1.05	YTD 2021 68.56			
Antioch	639.46	9,211.69			
Bethany	333.33	3,999.96			
Beulah	443.00	2,500.00			
Calvary	0.00	2,300.00			
Clark's Chapel	100.00	1,000.00			
Concord	100.00	1,300.00			
Culloden	0.00 242.20	600.00			
East Thomaston		3,808.17			
Elkins Creek	0.00	0.00			
Emory's Chapel	0.00	0.00			
FBC Barnesville	5,901.84	14,846.24			
FBC Forsyth	100.00	1,200.00			
FBC Thomaston	918.09	12,047.87			
Fellowship	0.00	1539.09			
Garden Hill	75.00	900.00			
Grace Community	0.00	0.00			
GracePoint	0.00	0.00			
Hendricks	0.00	0.00			
Jeff Davis	25.00	275.00			
King's Chapel	0.00	0.00			
Macedonia	150.00	1,650.00			
Maynard	686.10	9,685.77			
Meansville	250.00	3,000.00			
Milner	464.09	5,878.32			
Mount Olive	1,252.68	17,100.39			
Mountain View	2,201.00	25,722.00			
Mt. Pleasant	0.00	300.00			
Mt. Zion	40.00	193.00			
Neal	0.00	500.00			
New Bethel	50.00	600.00			
New Harmony	30.96	534.77			
New Hope Zebulon	260.96	3,734.38			
Pritchett Memorial	129.45	2,276.05			
Russellville	276.12	1,074.77			
Shiloh Lamar	245.00	2,135.00			
Shiloh Upson	50.00	600.00			
Silvertown	173.82	1,674.19			
The Rock	0.00	1,158.90			
Trinity	300.00	3,600.00			
Valley Grove	1,352.84	6,768.55			
Yatesville	175.00	2,100.00			
Total Receipts	16,965.94	143,714.11			

Disbursements for December 2021			
Total Budgeted Expenditures	9,416.80		
Designated Accounts Expenses	2,000.00		
Monthly Surplus/Shortfall	7,550.19		

 Opportunities & Church News
 (Full job descriptions and other positions are listed HERE)

 Bethany is seeking a PT Children's Director. For more information or to apply contact the church office at 478-974-0002.

 FBC Thomaston is seeking a full-time Financial Secretary with other responsibilities to work 30hrs a wk. Contact Ted Kandler at kandler@gmail.com

 Concord is seeking a full-time Minister to Students and Family. Send resumes to:

 jeff.yearwood@fnf.com

 FBC Orchard Hill is seeking a part-time Music Minister. Located at 205 Swint Road, Griffin. Details about this position can be found at www.orchardhillfbc.com.

 Oak Hill is seeking a full-time Children's Minister. Contact Chuck Johnson to submit resumes and for more information. chuck@oakhillchurch.com

February 2022					
17	CBA Executive Committee Mtg	Trinity & GoToMeeting	6:30 PM		
27-28	GBMB Evangelism Conference	Macon	5-8 PM		
March	2022	•	-		
1	Lamar Monroe Roundtable	New Providence	10:00 AM		
3	Upson Pike Roundtable	Gathering Grounds	10:00 AM		
3	Virtual Roundtable	GoToMeeting	8:00 PM		
6-13	Week of Prayer for North American Missions				
7	Dental Clinic appointments open	706-741-7302	9:00 AM		
7	Unity in the Community Mtg	The Pie, Thomaston	6:30 PM		
10-12	Dental Clinic	Milner Baptist Church			
14	Ministry Leaders Connection	Jonah's on Johnston, Forsyth	12 Noon		

Shepherd Stories

Don't mind me, I'm just over here crying tears of joy and pricing plane tickets to Bangkok, Thailand for 2024.

I remember where I was standing at Meansville BC after meeting John and Cheryl Blackmon for the first time when the Holy Spirit whispered, "They won't be here long. We are

sending them to preach the Gospel to all the world." I told Steve about it that night as we were walking back to the car. It was January 23, 2013. I always thought that word was for me to guard my heart or perhaps a warning not to get too attached. I was wrong. He was inviting me to deeply love four people who would be called to serve Calvary International Baptist Church in Bangkok, Thailand.

Late-summer 2022, John, Cheryl, Lillie Jo and Josiah will be packing necessities and

moving overseas where John has been called to serve as associate pastor. The family will attend language school as they settle into life in Thailand. I feel confident that Cheryl will also be used to serve one of the largest deaf and hard of hearing communities in the world there in Thailand. Currently, John is finishing up his doctoral dissertation about the doctrine and celebration of marriage by the Reformers, and plans to submit that in a few weeks. The Blackmons will stay in the area until the beginning of March then will head to Mississippi until they leave for Thailand.

I refuse to be sad although this transition will be hard. I know the Father has planned this. I mean, He told me so 9 years ago. I trust these

> dear friends, who feel more like family, to follow the call of the Father with diligence and zeal. I trust the Father in His call on their children, because He loves them more deeply than I can. May their testimony of faith draw the unbelieving to hunger and thirst for repentance and the believing to run this race with diligence. Please pray for them as they prepare to go. They are raising financial support while fully trusting that God will provide for them. I am thankful Centennial has been

entrusted as their sending association, and I am excited for what the future will bring.

Please pray for Meansville as they begin this new chapter and move forward in seeking a pastor to lead them.

> Your Associational Ministry Assistant, Marni Laughman

