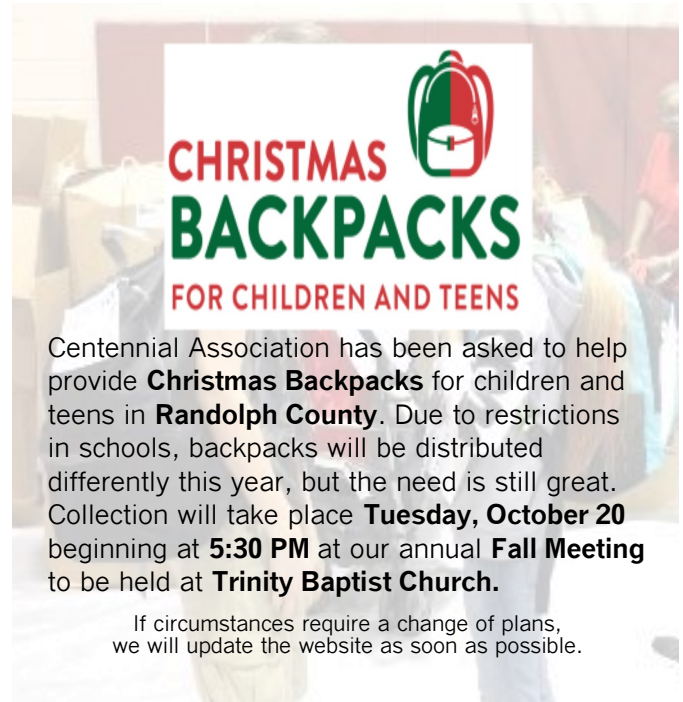


Centennial Baptist Association

## ANNUAL FALL MEETING

- 10-20-2020
- 5:30 Christmas Backpack Drop-off
- 6:00 Business & Worship
- No meal

Location:  
Trinity Baptist Church  
410 S Church Street  
Thomaston GA 30286  
Location/platform are subject to change.  
Check [www.centennialbaptistassociation.com](http://www.centennialbaptistassociation.com)  
for the most updated information.

## CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS

FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

Centennial Association has been asked to help provide **Christmas Backpacks** for children and teens in **Randolph County**. Due to restrictions in schools, backpacks will be distributed differently this year, but the need is still great. Collection will take place **Tuesday, October 20** beginning at **5:30 PM** at our annual **Fall Meeting** to be held at **Trinity Baptist Church**.

If circumstances require a change of plans, we will update the website as soon as possible.

## NEXT GEN ROUNDTABLES

Join us!

10 A.M. - 12 P.M.

### 2020 DATES:

- SEPT. 8 Tabernacle Baptist Church, Cartersville
- SEPT. 10 Prince Avenue Baptist Church, Bogart
- SEPT. 16 Calvary Baptist Church, Jesup
- SEPT. 17 First Baptist Church, Albany
- SEPT. 22 Flat Creek Baptist Church, Fayetteville
- SEPT. 24 Shirley Hills Baptist Church, Warner Robins

Register:  
[gabaptist.org/roundtables](http://gabaptist.org/roundtables)



Focused conversations for both children and student ministry leaders.



# 2020 SPARK CONFERENCE

Ministry Leader or Pastor:

Centennial Baptist Association is thankful for the opportunity to provide video resources for your church through the GBMB Spark Conference. For a full list of available sessions, visit [www.thesparkconference.com](http://www.thesparkconference.com). Until September 23, you can access the full list of sessions through this website. After September 23, CBA will have access to "the Vault" which will make this content available for one year. We have not yet been sent the login information, but will make that available to you once we do.

### SAVE the DATE

Georgia Baptist Convention  
Annual Meeting

November 9th, 2020

Ingleside Baptist Church  
834 Wimbish Road  
Macon GA 31210



Rev. Steve Laughman- Associational Mission Strategist  
Rev. Joey Smith- Moderator  
Rev. Eddie Johnson- Vice Moderator

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

**A Word from Your Mission Strategist, Steve Laughman**

“This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.” James 1:19-20

James, the brother of our Lord, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit had a way of writing practical, punch-you-in-the-gut theology. If I am being completely honest, I have wrestled with James many times. His instructions are not easy, nor do they come naturally even to those who love the Lord passionately. So, let us wrestle with these words for a few minutes.

We know he is addressing believers from his salutation, “beloved brethren.” In other words, these instructions are for us, not the world. We cannot expect people who are dead in their sin to be slow to speak or slow to anger. Lower your expectations of how you think lost people ought to act, and you will be much less surprised when they sin openly. The sinfulness of man is on full display. This grieves the heart of God and should drive every one of us to our knees.

Being quick to hear is a learned skill. Too often we hear sound bites or one side of the story and jump to a conclusion. What would happen if we intently listened to all the information before responding? Would it change the way we process information? Would it give us the time to make sure we are filtering what we hear through a Christian worldview? Do we take into consideration who the information is coming from before we respond? As followers of Jesus we have a responsibility to become better listeners.

Being slow to speak is another skill we should all possess. I have heard that a pitfall of effective communication is when someone begins formulating his response as the other person is still speaking.

As a debater in high school, I was taught to do this. It is a hard habit to break. Christians are to be slow to speak. We are to always speak the truth in love. Truth without love is condemnation. Love without truth is not genuine love. When we are slow to speak, we are able to guard against a purely emotional response. It also gives us the time to ensure our response honors God and respects people.



*“If we master being quick to hear and slow to speak, it will be much easier to avoid anger..”*

Being slow to anger flows from the other two skills. If we master being quick to hear and slow to speak, it will be much easier to avoid anger. However, this is the one that most of us struggle with. There is much in this world to be angry about. Constant lies being promoted as truth. Children being exploited. Violence erupting all around us. It is no wonder James warns against being quick to anger. Paul (Eph. 4:26-27) also warns that in our anger we are not to sin, because it gives the devil an opportunity. He relishes these opportunities to break fellowship, to ruin testimonies, to remind the world that we are sinful, and to create barriers to the Gospel. Be angry at sin, not at those who sin.

Why is all this important? James spells it out: our anger does not achieve the righteousness of God. If our singular goal is to glorify God as we point people to Jesus, we do not accomplish this by being quick to anger. Our anger is counter-productive to our primary task. So, when you read that social media post or view that news broadcast, or when you hear the latest political ad or conspiracy theory, check your response. Ask yourself if you are being quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

Satan would love nothing more than to divide Christians into warring camps, so that our witness is no longer effective. The Gospel is bigger than this world’s conflicts. Find your identity in Christ alone, not a political party or ideology. And when someone disagrees with you, be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger.



Update: Travis & Grace Ross– Pastor of Mobilization and Ministry at Riverbend Church in PA. Please pray for RB as they begin reopening. Their area was effected greatly by Covid-19. CBA is in the third year of a three year partnership with the Ross’.



**PASTORS' ROUNDTABLES**

**UPSON-PIKE ROUNDTABLE**  
SEPT 10TH. 10 AM  
GATHERING GROUNDS

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**WHERE IRON SHARPENS IRON**

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**VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE**  
OCT 8TH. 8 PM  
GoToMeeting code  
CBARoundtable

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**MONROE-LAMAR ROUNDTABLE**  
OCT 6TH. 10 AM  
NEW PROVIDENCE BC

**Centennial Baptist Association exists to network churches through equipping and encouraging them to make disciples.**

CONNECTING YOU TO RESOURCES.

**IMB AFFINITY STATESIDE ASSOCIATES FOR THE AMERICAS**

**Doug & Dana Roberts**

**MINISTERS CONNECTION**

**Country Cupboard in Thomaston**  
**Sept 21st at 12 Noon**



Just a reminder that the Annual Church Reports (ACR) are due. Please make sure your church has filled yours out and sent it back to the GBMB office. The data gained from these reports of GA Baptist churches plays a major role in the direction of ministries our state convention develops.



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

•GOTOMEETING APP OR ONLINE•  
CLICK HERE FOR ACCESS

Sept 10th  
@  
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."

September is...

# MISSION GEORGIA Month

Gospel-centered care for every Georgia community

### AREAS OF FOCUS:

[PROJECT: Well Fed](#)

[Human Trafficking](#)

[Pre/Post Natal Care](#)

[Childhood Literacy](#)

[Refugees & Internationals](#)

[Foster Care & Adoption](#)

2020 Pastors and Wives Retreat!  
Join us at Epworth by the Sea ♦ St. Simons Island, GA

**SPACE IS LIMITED!**

October 16-18, 2020

*Refuel.  
Relax.  
Refresh.*

 FEATURED SPEAKER	 WORSHIP LEADER	 RETREAT LEADER	 RETREAT SPEAKER	 RETREAT SPEAKER
<b>Johnny Hunt</b> Senior VP of Evangelism and Pastoral Leadership North American Mission Board	<b>Matt Duren</b> Worship Pastor Eagles Landing First Baptist Church McDonough, GA	<b>Tim Dowdy</b> Lead Strategist Georgia Baptist Mission Board	<b>Shawn DorrOUGH</b> Representative Guidestone	<b>Tanaya Meaders</b> Health & Wellness Georgia Baptist Mission Board

Register online today!  
[gabaptist.org/event/pastorsretreat](https://gabaptist.org/event/pastorsretreat)

Gifts of Georgia Baptists through the Cooperative Program enable us to partner together in fulfilling the Great Commission.



who's your **ONE?**

**TOUR**

[https://events.whosyourone.com/tour\\_stop/dublin/](https://events.whosyourone.com/tour_stop/dublin/)



**Dublin, Ga.**

Two Days of Inspiration and Training • October 11 & 12, 2020



### Ministers Dental Projects 2020

These dates are open to any GBMB Minister and spouse and retirees who do not have dental insurance. For appointments and information regarding these events, contact Laura Gray 706-936-5364 or email Ted Kandler at [tkandler@gabaptist.org](mailto:tkandler@gabaptist.org).

Sept 9-11 Toccoa Baptist Conference Center, Toccoa, GA

Oct 28-31 Danielle Baptist Association, Ailey, GA

For the latest Coronavirus Resources & Updates from the GA Baptist Mission Board visit <https://gabaptist.org/covid19>

**Income for July 2020**

	July 2020	YTD 2020
Checking Interest	7.16	49.70
Antioch	505.35	5,018.97
Bethany	333.33	2,333.32
Beulah	413.00	741.00
Calvary	0.00	0.00
Clark's Chapel	100.00	700.00
Concord	700.00	700.00
Culloden	300.00	450.00
East Thomaston	351.88	2,341.09
Elkins Creek	0.00	0.00
Emory's Chapel	0.00	0.00
FBC Barnesville	1,375.94	10,224.54
FBC Forsyth	0.00	0.00
FBC Thomaston	1,405.92	6,919.50
Fellowship	150.00	350.00
Garden Hill	75.00	525.00
GracePoint	0.00	0.00
Hendricks	0.00	0.00
Jeff Davis	0.00	150.00
King's Chapel	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	150.00	1,050.00
Maynard	858.11	6,134.68
Meansville	250.00	1,750.00
Milner	388.98	3,238.32
Molena	0.00	0.00
Mount Olive	2,556.37	10,513.04
Mountain View	4,083.00	15,947.00
Mt. Pleasant	300.00	300.00
Mt. Zion	110.00	289.00
Neal	50.00	350.00
New Bethel	50.00	350.00
New Harmony	59.03	361.85
New Hope Zebulon	413.14	1,348.72
Pritchett Memorial	227.67	1,600.97
Russellville	68.15	612.78
Shiloh Lamar	250.00	1,050.00
Shiloh Upson	50.00	350.00
Silvertown	260.45	1,062.15
The Rock	156.64	497.21
Trinity	300.00	2,100.00
Valley Grove	639.00	2,689.13
Yatesville	350.00	1,225.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>17,288.12</b>	<b>83,322.97</b>

<b>Disbursements for July 2020</b>	
Administrative Expenses	843.30
Associational Programs	0.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00
Organizational Expenses	0.00
Pastorium Maintenance	313.72
Salaries and Allowances	7,181.58
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditures</b>	<b>8,338.60</b>
Designated Accounts Expenses	0.00
<b>Monthly Surplus/Shortfall</b>	<b>8,949.52</b>

**Opportunities & Church News**

**Concord** is seeking someone to oversee all aspects of **music and worship**. Contact Bob Hurd at 770-656-5447 or email [bobhurd5@gmail.com](mailto:bobhurd5@gmail.com).

**High Falls Baptist Church** is seeking a **pianist** for Sunday services. Compensation is negotiable. Contact 478-733-1955.

**Neal** is seeking a **Children & Youth Minister** to grow those ministries. Please submit resume, statement of faith and recommendation from current pastor/church to [nealbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:nealbaptist@gmail.com).

**Shiloh Upson** seeks a **PT Music Director** to lead blended worship services and who is proficient in Media Shout. This position will report to the Pastor and Deacon Board. Responsibilities will include but are not limited to choosing service songs and soloists while coordinating with pianist and leading choir and holiday presentations. Send resumes to [shilohbaptist1@windstream.net](mailto:shilohbaptist1@windstream.net).

**September 2020**

1-30	Mission Georgia Month		
10	Upson-Pike Roundtable	Gathering Grounds	10:00 AM
10	Executive Committee	GoToMeeting	6:30 PM
21	Ministers Connection	Country Cupboard	12 Noon

**October 2020**

6	Monroe-Lamar Roundtable	New Providence	10:00 AM
8	Virtual Roundtable	GoToMeeting	8:00 PM
18-25	Week of Prayer for Associational Missions		
20	CBA Annual Fall Meeting	Trinity Baptist	5:30 PM

Hello everyone. I usually dedicate this space to one of our pastors, but I am having a hard time. If you know me, you know that I wear my heart on my sleeve, and you can tell exactly what I am thinking. I was told once that I might want to stop singing in the choir. Corporate worship is my favorite, so I asked this sweet friend why she would suggest such a thing. She told me that if the pastor ever said anything I questioned, I would lick my finger and start flipping pages in my Bible. (The choir would stay in the choir loft during the sermon due to lack of seating in the sanctuary.) I was mortified and realized she was right. As a young twenty-something bride, I received her rebuke. I have tried to tame my facial expressions but have not mastered these wretched brows!

So much has been postponed or cancelled. Meetings are scheduled on digital platforms. Media perpetuates a narrative. Social media is dictated by algorithms. People are mourning loved ones distanced instead of at bedsides. Computer screens are replacing classrooms. Cities are burning. Crime and death rates have skyrocketed. And it's an election year. There is so much turmoil and hurt. How can I manage to maintain my facial expressions through it all? I fall short. I wish I could say that the joy of the Lord is always my strength. I wish I could say that my thoughts never entertain the "what ifs" and the "but onlys". I am fallen and flawed.

BUT, I have a Savior that knows my need. He speaks to me through Scripture and calms my soul! There is nothing quite like challenging the Father with my wretched thoughts and grabbing my Bible in search of answers. The Word soothes me like nothing else. I love how consistent Scripture is. I believe that is what comforts me the most. Nothing is as sure to me as the Word. The Spirit will rightly divide my thoughts and the attitude of my heart. If I willingly receive Him, He will comfort me with a promise and show me His steadfast love. As I read about King David and Mary Magdalene, King David makes me feel normal, and I am confident that God's love has no limits. Mary Magdalene was given space with Jesus and was delivered of much. I am no different than these in many ways. I have grown to trust God with my doubts and failures, because He has proven Himself to be trustworthy with my faith. He owes me nothing, yet He calls me His own and adores me. I am His favorite... and so are you. In the climate of our country, so many do not realize they are longing for this. People are fighting for a place to belong and space to be loved. If only they knew that God through Christ desires them in the same way. It's a literal match made in heaven.

Believers, we shall press on and run this race, fighting the good fight and sharing the Good News. It is why there is still breath in our lungs. So, step away from your screens and pray for a divine encounter. Take that leap of faith and engage those in your path. Let's pray for each other. The days are long but God is greater! Much love for each of you!

Marni, Your Assoc. Min. Asst.