

VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021

MERCER-THOMAS BAPTIST NETWORK



TAKE A PEEK!

INSIGHT FROM AMS - 2

CHURCH NEWS/VBS - 3-7

SAVE THE DATE - 9-11

CALENDAR - 12-13

FINANCIAL REPORTS - 14-15

CONTACT INFO - 16

WELCOME TO READ GEORGIA!



Read Georgia is a program where churches partner with local schools to work one-on-one with children on their literacy skills. The goal of Read Georgia is to see children and their families introduced to the love of Jesus and brought to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

<https://missiongeorgia.org/readgeorgia/>





PRAY. LOVE. SERVE.

June 22, 2021

Dear Co-Laborer in Christ,

How has God made you aware that He is always working and is working around you (cf. John 5:19)? How are you responding to God's call and invitation to join Him in what He is doing?

Scripture demonstrates that we are to celebrate and give thanks to the LORD for all He is doing. Many of our churches in the Mercer-Thomas Baptist Network have conducted or will have conducted Vacation Bible Schools in obedience to God's call and instruction. Souls have been saved by believing Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Believers have been challenged, strengthened, and encouraged to follow Christ. The seeds of the gospel have been sown and nurtured. Praise be to God for the work of His gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation (cf. Romans 1:16).

Let me encourage that we each ask the Lord, "What's next?" so that we continue seeking first His kingdom and following Jesus on His terms (cf. Matthew 6:33; Matthew 4:19; Luke 9:23). God will illuminate to each person and congregation His next step(s) according to His plans. We need to ask, seek, and knock (Matthew 7:7-8) until we know from God what to do next.

One 'next step' I pray each person and each church will take is participation in the SPARK Conference coming August 18, 2021. This is an online training event produced by the Georgia Baptist Mission Board (GBMB). Participation is free, but you must register. Click this link for more information: www.thesparkconference.com. There is something for each person in each congregation as we honor God's Word in our lives (cf. James 1:21-22; 2 Timothy 3:15-16).

Part of my responsibilities as your AMS is to provide training and equipping to our churches to assist you in taking the next step(s) God calls you to take. Numerous tools are available for evangelism, discipleship, personal growth, leadership, and more. Help me help your church and you. Let's converse about the tool(s) which will enable and facilitate the next step(s) God is calling your church and you to take for His glory and honor.

One step I exhort you to take daily is praying for each other as co-laborers in God's Kingdom. Pray for others as you would pray for yourself. Pray for others by name. Pray for others because God brings them to mind. Pray for others because of the joy and fulfillment this obedience produces. Pray for God to be visible and exalted in each of us for His glory and honor.

Thankful for you and to labor with you,
Bro. Grant



VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021



VBS 2021



- Friendship
- New Growth
- New Shiloh
- Pineland

July 31 (VBS/Back to School)
 July 14-18
 July 10-11
 July 11-15

VBS Snapshots





VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021

VBS Snapshots





VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021



VBS Snapshots





VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021



VBS Snapshots
more to come in next newsletter!
Send me your pictures!





VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021

This summer I have had the privilege of being a summer intern with the Thomas County Baptist Association. My youth pastor at Thomasville First Baptist Church, Mr. Josh LaJeunesse, told me about this opportunity to serve, and connected me with Mr. Grant Hignight, the Associational Mission Strategist for the TCBA. Mr. Hignight has been in the ministry for many years, and it was enjoyable to talk with him and learn from him as a mentor and as a brother in Christ.

I had the joy of working with First Newark Baptist Church and Big Creek Baptist Church during their Vacation Bible Schools. I still have many fond memories of attending VBS when I was younger. VBS was crucial in helping me memorize passages of scripture and learning that the Bible was the story of God redeeming his people. I am amazed and thrilled that helping with VBS continues to teach me and continues to strengthen and grow my relationship with God.

In both VBSs, I had the opportunity to teach and share with kids key Bible stories and to tell them the epic story of God's unending love. In Matthew 18:3 (NIV) Jesus says "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Something that I noticed while teaching was the large amount of faith the kids had after hearing the lessons. As we get older, it's easier to become skeptical of Biblical truths, because we experience more lies as we go through life. We also learn to check facts before we trust them. While this isn't necessarily a harmful practice, and in many cases it is beneficial, we construct cognitive barriers that make the process of belief much more difficult. However, these young kids are curious and open to the gospel, ready to believe the truth.

By watching how they respond to God's word, it motivates me to follow the wisdom of Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV), "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." The importance of trusting God in all circumstances can never be overestimated, and this outreach was an excellent reminder to put my faith in him daily. I am so thankful that I could serve and grow, by helping with another fantastic year of VBS.

Clarke Finger
Summer Intern
TCBA



VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021

Church News

Mercer Baptist Association

- The keynote speaker for the MBA Annual Meeting will be Tim Dowdy. Tim is the Pastor Wellness Lead Catalyst with the GBMB. We are excited to hear what God leads him to share! The annual meeting will be held on October 3rd.

Thomas County Baptist Association

- Midway Baptist Church has called Pastor Dennis Norman as interim pastor.
- **BIG PRAISE FOR VBS!** There have been at least 12 professions of faith during VBS! If your church had anyone saved during your time, please let us know at the TCBA office!
- The keynote speaker for the TCBA Annual Meeting will be JJ Washington, Evangelical Lead Catalyst. The annual meeting will be held October 19th.
- Friendship Baptist, Bro. Mack Beck, has started something new to help keep children in their services. They have set up a table with crayons, paper, etc in the back of the sanctuary. He reports it has gone great! See pictures below.





It's not too early to begin planning for your church's participation in this great project!



Exciting News!

We will be partnering with Operation Christmas Child to serve as the Christmas Shoebox collection center for this area. We are in need of a Site Coordinator.

Please pray about this area of ministry and if you feel God leading you to join with us, contact me! There will be more info coming soon.





OUR TOTAL CHURCH EQUIPPING CONFERENCE IS BACK!

FREE AND 100% ONLINE!

OVER 40 BREAKOUTS COVERING NEARLY EVERY AREA OF LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRY!

KEYNOTES: TONY EVANS, CHARLES LOWERY, DAVID KINNAMAN, BEN MANDRELL

**>> SAVE THE DATE <<
LIVESTREAM AUGUST 12, THEN 3 WEEKS OF FREE ACCESS TO ALL CONTENT!**

**>> SIGN UP AT <<
[HTTPS://WWW.THESPARKCONFERENCE.COM/](https://www.thesparkconference.com/)**

Coasting on pre-pandemic momentum is not an option for ministry today. SPARK is here to deliver "rocket fuel" so that you can equip yourself (and your leaders) in a post-pandemic world. Last year SPARK equipped over 6,500 local church leaders, and this year you can expect an even better conference. Our objective: get your ministry to a level you could only previously dream about.



PASTOR WELLNESS
GEORGIA BAPTIST

TRANSITIONAL PASTOR TRAINING

Aug. 9 – 10, 2021

Bethany Baptist Church, Juliette, Ga.

Register at gabaptist.org/pastorwellness

COST: \$85

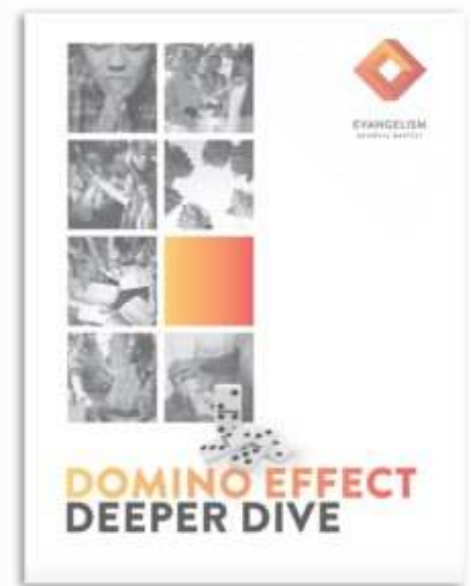
Register for this training here:

<https://gabaptist.org/pastorwellness/>

The Domino Effect outlines seven dominoes every church can push over to develop an evangelistic culture in their respective fellowships. This strategy not only names the dominoes but also walks you through a process of learning how to execute the strategy in your local church.

Download here:

<https://gabaptist.egnyte.com/dl/YdQKUKW4Nx/?>



Mercer Baptist Annual Meeting

October 3, 2021

4:30 pm

Pauline Baptist Church

Thomas County Baptist Annual Meeting

October 19, 2021

5:30

Boston Baptist Church



VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021

THU JUL 1, 2021

ALL DAY YOUTH CAMP - FBC QUITMAN - TENNESSEE

10AM PASTORS PRAYER TIME

TCBA OFFICE, 1020 REMINGTON AVE, THOMASVILLE

6PM VBS @ UNION BAP CH

FRI JUL 2, 2021

ALL DAY YOUTH CAMP - FBC QUITMAN - TENNESSEE

SAT JUL 3, 2021

ALL DAY YOUTH CAMP - FBC QUITMAN - TENNESSEE

TUE JUL 6, 2021

7PM MBA BUDGET MEETING @NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8559 US-84, QUITMAN

WED JUL 7, 2021

9:30AM SW REGION AM ZOOM PRAYER MEETING

THU JUL 8, 2021

10AM PASTORS PRAYER TIME @TCBA OFFICE, 1020 REMINGTON AVE, THOMASVILLE

SAT JUL 10, 2021

9AM VBS & FELLOWSHIP @ NEW SHILOH

SUN JUL 11, 2021

8:45AM VBS & FAMILY FELLOWSHIP W/OLD FASHIONED SING @ NEW SHILOH

11AM REVIVAL @ SALEM BAP CH

5:30PM VBS @ NEW GROWTH

5:30PM VBS @ PINELAND BAP CH

7PM REVIVAL @ SALEM BAP CH

MON JUL 12, 2021

5:30PM VBS @ NEW GROWTH

5:30PM VBS @ PINELAND BAP CH

7PM REVIVAL @ SALEM BAP CH

TUE JUL 13, 2021

5:30PM VBS @ NEW GROWTH

5:30PM VBS @ PINELAND BAP CH

7PM REVIVAL @ SALEM BAP CH

WED JUL 14, 2021

9:30AM SW REGION AM ZOOM PRAYER MEETING

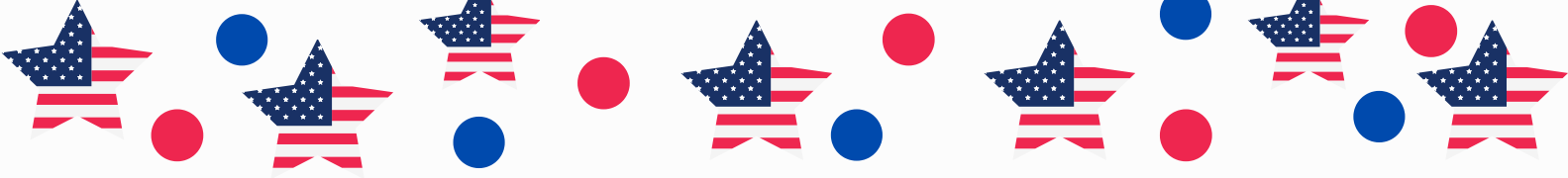
5:30PM VBS @ NEW GROWTH

5:30PM VBS @ PINELAND BAP CH

7PM REVIVAL @ SALEM BAP CH



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VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021

THU JUL 15, 2021

10AM PASTORS PRAYER TIME-TCBA OFFICE, 1020 REMINGTON AVE, THOMASVILLE

5:30PM VBS @ NEW GROWTH

5:30PM VBS @ PINELAND BAP CH

FRI JUL 16, 2021

5:30PM VBS @ NEW GROWTH

SUN JUL 18, 2021

11AM PREACH @ ELAM COMMUNITY BAP CH

TUE JUL 20, 2021

9AM BROOKS COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION @FBC QUITMAN, 509 W SCREVEN ST, QUITMAN

7PM MBA CALENDAR PLANNING MEETING @NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8559 US-84, QUITMAN

WED JUL 21, 2021

9:30AM SW REGION AM ZOOM PRAYER MEETING

THU JUL 22, 2021

ALL DAY VBS @ COOLIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOC

10AM PASTORS PRAYER TIME @TCBA OFFICE, 1020 REMINGTON AVE, THOMASVILLE

FRI JUL 23, 2021

ALL DAY VBS @ COOLIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOC

SAT JUL 24, 2021

ALL DAY VBS @ COOLIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOC

SUN JUL 25, 2021

11AM PREACH @ ELAM COMMUNITY BAP CH

MON JUL 26, 2021

ALL DAY KIDS DAY CAMP @DAWSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 1025 N DAWSON ST, THOMASVILLE

TUE JUL 27, 2021

ALL DAY KIDS DAY CAMP @DAWSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 1025 N DAWSON ST, THOMASVILLE

WED JUL 28, 2021

ALL DAY KIDS DAY CAMP @DAWSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 1025 N DAWSON ST, THOMASVILLE

THU JUL 29, 2021

ALL DAY KIDS DAY CAMP @DAWSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 1025 N DAWSON ST, THOMASVILLE

10AM PASTORS PRAYER TIME @TCBA OFFICE, 1020 REMINGTON AVE, THOMASVILLE

FRI JUL 30, 2021

ALL DAY KIDS DAY CAMP @DAWSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 1025 N DAWSON ST, THOMASVILLE



Mercer Baptist Association Giving Report
January 1-May 31, 2021

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	July-Sep	Oct-Dec	YTD
Barney Baptist	\$ -				\$ -
Barwick Baptist	\$ 488.45	\$ 355.98			\$ 844.43
Beulah Baptist	\$ -				\$ -
Dixie Baptist	\$ 903.60	\$ 883.32			\$ 1,786.92
Elam Baptist	\$ 392.30	\$ 125.21			\$ 517.51
Evergreen Baptist	\$ 243.62	\$ 166.58			\$ 410.20
First Baptist	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 750.00			\$ 3,750.00
Friendship Baptist	\$ 200.00	\$ 423.00			\$ 623.00
Morrison Baptist	\$ 314.07	\$ 154.95			\$ 469.02
Morven Baptist	\$ 1,148.28	\$ 294.84			\$ 1,443.12
Northside Baptist	\$ 405.41	\$ 259.59			\$ 665.00
Ochlawilla Baptist	\$ 800.00	\$ 500.00			\$ 1,300.00
Okapilco Baptist	\$ 527.00				\$ 527.00
Pauline Baptist	\$ 873.12	\$ 683.87			\$ 1,556.99
Philadelphia Bapt	\$ -				\$ -
Union Baptist	\$ 300.00				\$ 300.00
Totals	\$ 9,595.85	\$ 4,597.34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,193.19

**Thomas County Baptist Association Giving Report
January 1-May 31, 2021**

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	YTD
Antioch Baptist	\$ 1,943.15	\$ 720.73			\$ 2,663.88
Barnetts Creek Baptist	\$ 483.36	\$ 355.68			\$ 839.04
Big Creek Baptist	\$ 454.77	\$ 355.83			\$ 810.60
Big Ochlocknee Baptist	\$ 300.00	\$ -			\$ 300.00
Boston Baptist	\$ 506.02	\$ 103.75			\$ 609.77
Coolidge Memorial Baptist	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -			\$ 3,500.00
Dawson Street Baptist	\$ 3,014.88	\$ 2,009.92			\$ 5,024.80
Enon Baptist	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00			\$ 300.00
Thomasville First Baptist	\$ 4,167.33	\$ 6,252.00			\$ 10,419.33
First Newark Baptist	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,000.00			\$ 5,000.00
Fredonia Baptist	\$ 380.34	\$ 297.26			\$ 677.60
Friendship Baptist	\$ 75.00	\$ 50.00			\$ 125.00
Gatlin Creek Baptist	\$ 738.48	\$ 802.81			\$ 1,541.29
Little Ochlocknee Baptist		\$ -			\$ -
Meigs Baptist	\$ 1,768.34	\$ 1,007.50			\$ 2,775.84
Merrillville Baptist	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
Midway Baptist	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
New Day Christian	\$ 75.00	\$ 25.00			\$ 100.00
New Growth Baptist	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -
New Shiloh Baptist	\$ 557.78	\$ 89.42			\$ 647.20
Ochlocknee Baptist	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00			\$ 700.00
Pavo Baptist	\$ -	\$ 300.00			\$ 300.00
Pineland Baptist	\$ 1,249.98	\$ 416.66			\$ 1,666.64
Salem Baptist	\$ 1,001.40	\$ 936.36			\$ 1,937.76
Summerhill Baptist	\$ 219.00	\$ 77.00			\$ 296.00
Totals	\$ 24,134.83	\$ 16,099.92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,234.75



VOLUME 7 • JULY 2021



ASSOCIATIONAL CONTACT INFO

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