

Washington Baptist Association  
P. O. Box 476  
(615 Highway 24 E)  
Milledgeville, GA 31059

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# The Washington News

Volume 65

Rev. Quillian S. Mercer, AMS

Rachael J. Mercer, Ministry Assistant

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washingtonbaptistassociation.org

washba1828@gmail.com

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Creating Strategic Partnerships between the Association Pastors and the Churches of the WBA to reach our area and beyond with the Gospel and live "On Mission Together."

Get Registered today for this Total Church Equipping Conference! There will be something educational for everyone in your church body!

## Budget Receipts from Churches 5/1/2023 to 5/31/2023

Bethel		Jewell	107.25	PI Grove	118.45
Bethlehem	200.00	Lake Cntry	1015.44	Powelton	
Black Spr		Lakeside (O)	333.00	Ridge Hgt	132.72
Church Ctl		Lakeside (S)	2538.97	Riverside	
Culverton		Lighthouse		S'ville FBC	1416.00
Darien		Long Creek	75.00	Sinclair	250.00
Davisboro		Marshall Mem	175.98	Sisters	1299.66
Devereux		M'ville FBC	645.84	Smyrna	300.00
Fairmount		Mineral Sprgs	250.00	Sparta FBC	75.00
FriendshipG	80.00	Mitchell		Tennille	311.30
FriendshipW		Mosleyville	125.00	Union	
Grace		Mt. Stephens		Victory	
Hardwick	375.00	Northside	989.08	Westview	567.00
Harmony	150.00	Ohooppee	263.00	Word Comm	105.64
Island Creek	1200.00	Olive Hill		*FriendshipS	316.86

SAVE THE DATE!



## TOTAL CHURCH EQUIPPING CONFERENCE

Near You!  
Sunday, August 27 2023



First Baptist Sandersville  
316 Mathis Lane  
Sandersville GA 31082  
4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

### Who is this for?

All Volunteers, Lay Leaders, Children's Workers,  
Youth Workers, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry,  
Pastors and Staff

The Georgia Baptist Mission Board has assembled a diverse team of practitioners prepared to give you insight and wisdom from their fields of expertise. For more details click the link below.

<https://www.thesparkconference.com/2023insider>



The office will be closed the week of WBA Camp, where Q is the Camp Pastor, between July 10-15. If you have an emergency Q will have limited cell phone signal at A.H. Stephens State Park that week. Call or email and he will respond as he is able.



## WBA Trip to Israel with Bro .Q

March 15-23, 2024

Cost \$4,495

More Information:

<http://www.go-yael.com/trips/5512>

Password: mar24

Time to register & pay initial  
\$500 deposit!



### Dates Ahead:

July 10-15 WBA Youth Camp at A.H. Stephens

August 27 SPARK Conference & Executive Committee Meeting,  
First Baptist Sandersville  
Distribution of Backpacks & Shoeboxes Begins

October 8 Annual Meeting at Sparta Baptist Church

November 27-30 Backpacks Drop off at WBA

December 6: UHaul Backpack Loading Day

December 7-10 Whitley City, Kentucky Mission Trip



**Childhood Literacy**

Did you know?

48 of every 100 children in Georgia’s public schools are not reading on grade level.

Research shows that one of the greatest factors for crime and poverty is the inability to read well by 4th grade.

Children not reading on grade level by the 4th grade are 70% more likely to end up in jail or on welfare.

Change this with just 30 minutes a week.

Literacy ministry across Georgia are changing this reality for many children. Working with schools, Georgia Baptists are helping kids succeed in life by helping kids succeed as readers.

For more information from the state level, visit <https://missiongeorgia.org/readgeorgia/>.

Locally, contact Paige Lacey at First Baptist Sandersville to learn about the steps they are taking to implement this Mission: Georgia Literacy Initiative.

**Foster Care & Adoption**

Did you know?

There are over 13,500 children in Georgia’s foster care system. Partner with an organization near you to change this!

The number of children in foster care and the stories that go with them are stunning. But it is within the scope of 3600 churches across Georgia to change those numbers and stories.

Whether you drop off a meal, donate pajamas or host a play day for foster kids, your support will make God’s love more real in a child’s life and the families who are serving them.

If you are thinking about becoming a foster parent, our state has many faith-based organizations that can help you step by step through that process. Together, Georgia Baptists can support ministries and provide resources to help improve foster care in Georgia.

**Human Trafficking**

Did you know?

About 374 girls are commercially exploited for sex each month in the state of Georgia.

The exploitation of individuals who are made in the image of God must be confronted by His church. But there are realities the church needs to better understand.

Human trafficking isn’t confined to a street corner or motel in Atlanta. It happens in rural communities and beautiful suburbs and those who are church and unchurched alike are on both sides of this issue.

Georgia has many ministries and community collaborators who are joining together to bring an end to modern slavery.

**Refugees & Internationals**

Did you know?

Over 1 million Georgians were born in another country. Find out how you can best serve them!

Contrary to long standing myths, refugees bring a love of community, hard work and humility.

They have overcome horrific circumstances and live each day as families, students, entrepreneurs and church members – eagerly working to honor the nation that has taken them in.

Although Georgia has seen a drastic reduction of the number of refugees resettled in recent years, many remain, along with immigrant families and individuals. Learn about steps you can take to reach the nations, right here in Georgia.

**Pre- & Post-Natal Care**

Did you know?

About 55% of pregnancy related deaths occur within 42 days of giving birth. You can help these mothers get the care they need!

Hospitable is a well-known adjective describing the people of the state of Georgia, but when it comes to pregnancy, our state doesn’t reflect that reputation. Georgia ranks as one of the worst states for maternal mortality, otherwise known as “death as a result of pregnancy.”

Many women who have faced an unexpected or unwanted pregnancy do so without support or proper care. Others find life changing relationships when they encounter Christians who walk with them.

Serving together, we can make each of our communities a place of compassionate care for expectant and newly-delivered mothers and their children.

Do you want to learn how you can help Mission Georgia's work to support our mission in Georgia? Whether you want to help with literacy, foster care, human trafficking, refugees, or pre/post-natal care, you can begin by completing the following steps:

- Choose an area of need that your church would like to address.
- Fill out our interest form [here](#).
- Mission Georgia will help connect you with an organization near you.
- Gather donation/volunteers
- Celebrate how you were able to serve and plan for your next opportunity.

**Lorna Bius**  
Mission Georgia Mobilizer  
770-936-5326  
[lbious@gabaptist.org](mailto:lbious@gabaptist.org)

Would you like someone from Mission:Georgia to come speak at your church, missions event, conference? Click [here](#) or visit <https://missiongeorgia.org/speaker/>.

*“I have started trying to see every person as having value in God’s eyes. When someone cuts me off in traffic, I think, “Christ died for that person.” When people irritate me or are rude, I try to think “they were made in the image of God and just need an image makeover in this moment.” When I engage in people-watching, I try to breathe a prayer for them instead of critiquing their clothing. I do not always pull this off, but the discipline has begun to change how I view people. It is not easy to consistently view others through the lens of Jesus’ love. But ultimately the Spirit will remind me and my attitude toward the person in question is inevitably changed.” —excerpt from Dave Burchett’s “When Bad Christians Happen to Good People”*

Sometimes it’s not easy to view every person through the lens of Christ’s sacrifice for them, but that’s exactly what we are called to do! Many times the church (collective) argues that mission work doesn’t have to be across the country or across the globe. These people are right! We are called to serve those in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth!

The ministry and mission areas in this month’s newsletter are all initiatives here in our state in which Georgia Baptists and community partners are involved. Do you want to serve? Do you want to strengthen the ways that you see people who might not look, live, or love like you? Mission: Georgia helps you share the Gospel through practical service to some of the most vulnerable in our state. Please reach out to me if you need help beginning one of these ministries in your church body or our community!

