

**SAREPTA**  
Baptist Missions Network



**VISION**

newsletter  
JANUARY 2024

WE CAN DO MORE TOGETHER

**HAPPY**  
**2024**  
**SAREPTA'S**  
**225<sup>TH</sup>**

**YEAR IN EXISTENCE!**



"EMBRACE THE CALL - HOLD ON"

# MINISTRY WIVES' RETREAT

January 18-20

Lanier Islands Legacy Lodge



Designed specifically for women whose husbands serve in a GBMB church or ministry capacity. It is a time to be renewed and fed spiritually, emotionally, and physically.

Pricing includes all meals, lodging, and healthcare services.

Guest Speaker: Ruth McWhite

PLEASE CONTACT LORETTA CROW AT [LCROW@GABAPTIST.ORG](mailto:LCROW@GABAPTIST.ORG) OR (770) 936-5232 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR IF THE RETREAT IS COMPLETELY BOOKED AND YOU'D LIKE TO BE PUT ON A WAITING LIST.

Pastor to Pastor  
TRAINING NETWORKS | P2P

## Pastor2Pastor Panama Pastors Meeting

Monday, January 29th

Purpose: To provide information for pastors who would like to teach in Panama.

Lunch provided with a presentation to follow.

Contact Sarepta to reserve your spot.

## A Line from Lex

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Missions and Ministry Focus - Last fall our annual meeting took on a “new name” when we changed it to Sarepta’s **Missions and Ministry Celebration**. As we embark on a new year, Missions and Ministry will be the focus of what we will be doing. Let me give you a few examples:

- Ongoing Ministry Projects:
  - Local Refugees Projects (Rice and Beans Collection)
  - Foster Families Projects (Pajamas)
  - Disaster Relief (as needs arise)
  - Bi-Vocational Pastor Pipeline Training (adding more courses for prospective pastors to be involved in)
  - Baptist Collegiate Ministries
- Ongoing Missions Projects:
  - New Hampshire Mission Partnership Continues
  - Panama Mission Partnership Continues

There will be other projects and opportunities that arise throughout the year, these are merely examples. As we approach our “Missions and Ministry Celebration” this October, we will be hearing from various churches who were involved in these ministries.

Ministers Focus - As we embark on the new year, we are always looking for ways to meet the needs of our pastors and staff. This year is no different. The focus of these opportunities will be more practical. Here are a few examples:

- Minister’s Retirement Planning - There will be information from Guidestone as to how to prepare for retirement and a pastor can never start too early.
- Pastor’s Monthly Meeting - This is a new opportunity we are going to provide for pastors to get to know each other better. The focus of this will be meeting those pastors who have recently arrived over the past couple of years. Each month a pastor will be introducing himself and sharing a devotional message to his fellow pastors.

Church Focus - Periodically we will be providing specialized training for various aspects of local church ministry. A few examples of this would be as follows:

- Deacon’s Training
- Sunday School Training
- VBS Training
- Strategic Planning for individual churches

2024 is going to provide opportunities for our churches to do more together than we can individually. I am always open to suggestions of ideas to consider, so please feel free to make any suggestions that you would see beneficial. Happy New Year!





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Athens, GA 30607  
706.549-5872  
[www.SareptaBaptist.com](http://www.SareptaBaptist.com)

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**With a new year comes a new semester and we are excited and ready to see who God will bring to the English program this semester. We already have some new students registered. We will have some new refugees, new visiting scholars, new-to-us people who have been in our community for a long time but haven't been to our program before.**

**We pray that they will see God's goodness through us. Please pray that they will. Some of these students will have a major crisis this semester and we will be there. Some will have major successes, pray that we will be there for those, too, celebrating with them and cheering them on.**

**We have become aware of food insecurity among some of our students, particularly among the refugee students, and we appreciate Sarepta's Mission GA team coming alongside to help provide food for them. We will be able to distribute that food at our English program, meeting multiple needs at the same time. We so appreciate this partnership and support! We truly can do more together!**

Amy Wheeler-Sullivan  
Director, International Friends English Program  
706.424-1891 [AthensEnglishClasses@gmail.com](mailto:AthensEnglishClasses@gmail.com)

# SAVE THE DATES



**REFRESH-RESTORE MINISTRIES**  
*Annual Conference*

**DR. MAC BRUNSON**

**ANDREW & MARYBETH JONES**

**A TIME OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

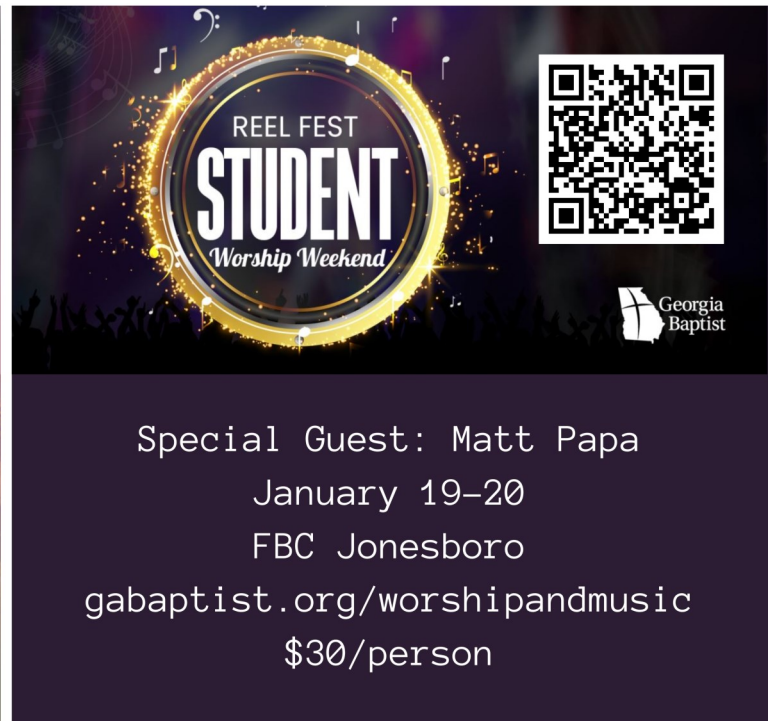
- PASSIONATE PREACHING
- AVAILABLE RESOURCES
- EXCELLENT MEALS

**FEBRUARY 2ND-3RD**  
6:30 PM & 9:00 AM

**SCAN TO REGISTER**

WWW.REFRESHRESTORE.ORG

8875 HIGHWAY 82 SPUR, MAYSVILLE, GA 30558



**REEL FEST STUDENT**  
*Worship Weekend*

**Georgia Baptist**

Special Guest: Matt Papa  
January 19-20  
FBC Jonesboro  
[gabaptist.org/worshipandmusic](http://gabaptist.org/worshipandmusic)  
\$30/person

## Get Ready For CFC<sup>24</sup>

### Church Financial Conference 2024 (CFC24)

Prince Avenue Baptist Church  
Bogart, GA  
MARCH 7  
3:30-7:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$20

#### EVENT DESCRIPTION

The Georgia Baptist Foundation presents the second annual Church Financial Conferences in 2024 (CFC<sup>24</sup>). Breakout sessions dive into topics that your congregation will benefit from: investment plans for church personnel, methods for church members to maximize giving in retirement years, strategies to maintain church financial integrity, how to make your church's reserve fund more fruitful, and guidance on proper compensation packages for pastors.

Get your tickets at the early-bird rate of \$20, which includes admissions, a conference packet, dinner, and more. The price will increase on January 5th.

#### Breakout Sessions

- o Ideal Compensation Package for Pastors
- o Personal Investing and Retirement Planning
- o Internal Controls to Protect the Church's Finances
- o QCD's Made Easy
- o Strategy to Maximize Your Church's Reserve Funds





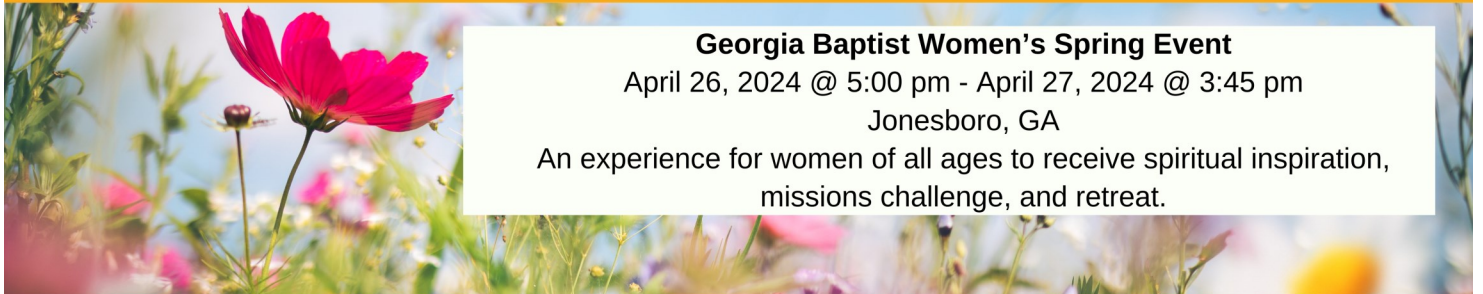
# SAVE THE DATES



## 2024 EVANGELISM CONFERENCES



FEB 25-26 FBC CONYERS



### Georgia Baptist Women's Spring Event

April 26, 2024 @ 5:00 pm - April 27, 2024 @ 3:45 pm  
Jonesboro, GA

An experience for women of all ages to receive spiritual inspiration,  
missions challenge, and retreat.

 MISSION GEORGIA

## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. CONFERENCE 2024



**SEPTEMBER 6 & 7**  
**FBC DULUTH**

[missiongeorgia.org/conference](https://missiongeorgia.org/conference)



## 2024 Kids' Ministry Summit

February 1-2, Jekyll Island Club Hotel

[gabaptist.org/kids-ministry-summit/](https://gabaptist.org/kids-ministry-summit/)