

(228) 832-4311 Email- Robin@gulfcoastba.com The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association March 2025 Vol. 61 No. 3

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Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association | Facebook

Annie Armstrong STEP INTO THE For Information and Resources **Click Here**

YOUR GIFTS TO THE ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING:

Support over 3,000 missionaries and their families.

Enable **hundreds** of churches to be planted and **thousands** of disciples to be made.

Continue the SBC's **180-year** commitment to North American missions.

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Upcoming Events in Your Association

Monthly Minister's Meeting GCBA Training Center 10:30am - Mar 11

Book Reading Group Lunch GCBA Training Center 11:30am - Mar 18

Associational Bible Drill - New Hope B.C. 2:30pm - Mar 23

Hancock County Cluster - Mockingbird Café 8:15am - Mar 24

Harrison County Cluster - Cracker Barrel 8am - Mar 25

Stone County Cluster - Gateway Christian Academy 8:30am - Mar 26

Book Reading Group Lunch GCBA Training Center 11:30am - Apr 1

Monthly Minister's Meeting GCBA Training Center 10:30am - Apr 8

Hancock County Cluster - Mockingbird Café 8:15am - Apr 14

Harrison County Cluster - Cracker Barrel 8am - Apr 15

Stone County Cluster - Gateway Christian Academy 8:30am - Apr 16

Office Closed for Easter - Apr 17

GCBA Executive Board Meeting GCBA Training Center 6pm - Apr 28

Staff:

Dr. Brian Rushing-Executive Director/Treasurer

Rev. Grayson Orman-Missions & Discipleship Associate Robin Knapp - Executive Ministry/ Financial Assistant

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"Serving as Good Senders"

As I write this article on a Tuesday morning, several of us have just finished our monthly Minister's Coffee Meeting at Cracker Barrel. And even though Grayson completed his work with us at the Association, he joined us for breakfast to visit and connect one more time before he and Karen fly out to Thailand next week. During his final days in the office, Grayson and I were able to have an exit interview to discuss his thoughts on where the Association currently is and



where he hopes it is going. One of the items we talked about was in regard to our churches being good partners to specific missionaries.

One of the ways our Association has shown itself to be a good partner to the Ormans is in providing opportunity for Grayson to speak and preach in so many churches. From the moment Grayson announced that God was calling them back to overseas, cross-cultural missions, our churches began asking him to come and share. Thank you for such an amazing show of support! He was able to speak in 1/3 of our churches. And he would have been able to speak in more of our churches, except that his departure date arrived.

As Grayson shared in each church, he talked about what God was teaching him about mission partnerships through his study of Philippians. And as I heard him share on multiple occasions, what I most appreciated about his message was his statement that no matter whether a church supported him or not, each church should find a missionary to develop a good partner relationship with. I think he is spot-on!

No matter who your church decides to connect with for missions, I also want to recommend that you develop a partnership-mindset with a specific missionary. This has been lacking in many churches in the past, and I want to help us become better partners in the future. My hope is for each church to partner with a missionary family as part of their Sending Team. There are a number of ways that this can be done. For example, the IMB wants to connect your church with one of our SBC International Missionaries in an on-going partnership. (I can help you connect with them, as I currently have contact info for 10 IMB missionaries looking for partners.) Or you may already have a natural connection with someone in missions (such as the Ormans), but haven't considered yourself part of their on-going Sending/Support Team. (I can help you brainstorm ways to partner with individual missionaries.)

Partnering well with a missionary can be transformative for a church family, and it certainly will be life-giving for our front-line missionaries. I'm excited about how God will help more of us become better partners and senders in the missionary task He has given us.

Grateful again for you being so gracious to the Ormans during their Thailand Launch! **Brian**





February 20, 2025 was Grayson's last day in the office. During the monthly minister's meeting our pastors and leaders gathered to thank Grayson for his 7 years of ministry with GCBA.

Grayson will leave March 4 for his new missionary position as Associate Pastor of Outreach and Evangelism with Calvary Baptist International Church in Bangkok, Thailand.

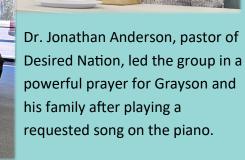


On behalf of the Association, Brian presented Grayson with a monetary gift of appreciation, as well as, "a tasty one", as Grayson always says.



To find out more about Grayson's new missionary role in Thailand visit: ormanfamilythailand.com

Leading up to his departure, Grayson spent a great deal of time educating the churches about missionary opportunities in Thailand and sharing how God is moving throughout his time of preparation for the mission field.



Contributions for January 2025

Contributions	or January 20	
CHURCH	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bay St Louis	\$2,198.00	\$2,198.00
Bay Vista	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bayou Church	\$25.00	\$25.00
Bayou View	\$83.33	\$83.33
Bel Aire	\$1,244.00	\$1,244.00
Big Level	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
Big Ridge	\$307.92	\$307.92
Biloxi FBC	\$838.83	\$838.83
Bond	\$962.85	\$962.85
Brodie Road	\$0.00	
Chinese Grace Bible	\$0.00	
Christ Church	\$374.00	\$374.00
Church @ 112 (C112)	\$0.00	
Cornerstone	\$200.00	\$200.00
	\$569.15	\$569.15
Crosspoint		
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Desired Nation	\$0.00	
Empowerment Min. CC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Faithview	\$593.68	\$593.68
Faro de Esperanza	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fernwood	\$0.00	
Grace Chapel	\$357.78	\$357.78
Grace Memorial	\$904.09	\$904.09
Grace Temple	\$100.00	\$100.00
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulfport FBC	\$2,343.88	\$2,343.88
Handsboro	\$849.17	\$849.17
Harbor City	\$0.00	\$0.00
Harvest Church	\$250.00	\$250.00
Highland	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hope City Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Iglesia Emanuel	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jacob's Well	\$3,431.57	\$3,431.57
Lakeshore	\$0.00	\$0.00
Live Oak (C3)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lizana FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Long Beach FBC	\$2,703.96	\$2,703.96
Lyman FBC	\$298.00	\$298.00
McHenry FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Michael Memorial	\$1,321.85	\$1,321.85
MS Korean	\$373.63	\$373.63
Mt. Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$3,411.00	
North Long Beach	\$930.22	\$930.22
Old Spanish Trail	\$50.00	
Parkway	\$981.94	\$981.94
Pass Christian FBC	\$981.94	\$981.94
Pass Christian FBC Peace	\$50.00	\$50.00
Peace Pearlington FSBC	\$0.00	\$50.00
Perkinston	\$252.53	\$252.53
Popps Ferry	\$0.00	
Riverside	\$204.00	\$204.00
Robinwood	\$572.64	\$572.64
Shoreline Park	\$100.00	\$100.00
Success	\$0.00	
The Church at Windance		
	\$473.07	\$473.07
The Ch. Of Turning Points	\$0.00	
Tuxechena	\$91.68	\$91.68
West Gulfport	\$0.00	\$0.00
Wiggins FBC	\$7,250.50	\$7,250.50
Woolmarket	\$1,319.18	\$1,319.18

CHURCH_{Mews}

Please check our Group Page on **Facebook** for additional church news:

Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association

If your church has a vacancy for a position you would like us to publicize, please contact the office. We will post the information at: Open Church Positions | Gulf Coast Baptist .

<u>CROSSPOINT</u> would appreciate your prayers as they prepare to take a mission group to Honduras in the next few weeks.

If your church is planning to be on mission and would like prayer, please contact the office.

PASTOR SEARCH

Join us in praying for these churches as they seek God's wisdom and guidance in calling a pastor:

- FBC Pass Christian
- Handsboro
- Parkway
- Pearlington FSBC
- Success





Happy Spring!

It has been a couple of months since I have been able to do an article for the Tide. So, I have several updates to give on the ministry of the BSU.

We ended 2024 with our Christmas in the Delta Mission Trip. Over 300 BSU students from around Mississippi participated in partnering with various local churches and ministries in our state with some of the biggest needs. This looked like cleanup from the tornado in Rolling Fork, building a wheelchair ramp, sharing

the Christmas story in local schools, and other similar outreaches in the community. One key thing we got to do was participate in the prison ministry at Parchman Penitentiary that Mississippi Baptists and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary carry out. This included us attending the graduation ceremony of several inmates who were receiving seminary degrees. We also had lunch with the inmates and an opportunity to share about the Lord. Students told their stories with inmates telling theirs.

A big thing that just happened was our BSU Spring Conference. Over 800 students gathered from around the state to worship our Lord and hear preaching from His word. Paul Worcester, the North American Mission Board Collegiate Director, challenged students in their need to evangelize on campus and pray about going or helping to send others in reaching the unreached people groups in the world.

Lastly, on a personal note, on January 28th, the Lord blessed Abigail and me with the birth of our firstborn daughter, Ellen Lovorn MacLellan! I want to give a special thanks to volunteers from the different churches in our association who filled in for me at the BSU while I was out on paternity leave.

May the Lord bless you all as you continue to seek to reach your community for the Gospel!







Women's Community Support Center, located off Hwy. 603 in Bay St. Louis, is a non-profit faith based Christian organization committed to helping women, from all walks of life, obtain job and life skills needed to find meaningful employment and break the cycle of poverty.

Our **Gulf Coast Christian Women's Job Corps** free employment skills program is offered on an eight (8) week schedule. The classes include Bible Study, Career Skills, Relationship Building, Conflict Resolution, Computer Skills, Money Management, Parenting and Anger Management classes.

Our Daytime classes will be held on Monday and Tuesday. We will offer an Evening class on Mondays 5-8pm. Our Anger Management class is on Tuesdays 4pm.

For students and instructors, please call soon as possible at 228-586-3510. Registration is available now. Most classes have open enrollment at all times.

We are in need of female volunteer instructors for all class schedules daytime and nighttime. Training is available at our facility for both our **Gulf Coast Christian Women's Job Corps** and **Hancock County Correctional Facility** instructor courses. We are now accepting inquiries for all positions and can provide training at your convenience.

To learn more about our mission and to offer your time or financial support, please visit our website at www.womenscommunitysupport.org or call **228-586-3510**.



2025

PACTORING

MBCB

August 18: FBC Laurel

5:15-8:30PM • 607 W 5th St, Laurel, MS 39440

WHAT IS IMPACT TRAINING?

Impact provides training for pastors, church staff, and volunteer leaders in age group ministries.

PANELISTS

Shawn Parker • Jon Martin Rena Register • Greg Spencer

BREAKOUT LEADERS

Engaging Your Community Through Strategic Planning Greg Spencer, Lead Pastor, First Baptist, Ellisville

Engaging Your Community Through Small Groups
Brad Hodges, Groups Pastor, Temple Baptist, Hattiesburg

Engaging Your Community Through Events
Kelli Brent, Next Gen Director, Temple Baptist, Hattiesburg

Engaging Your Community Through Personal Evangelism Chad McCord, Missions Mobilization Director, MBCB Don Lum, Evangelism Director, MBCB



REGISTER HERE

2025

ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY

Theme

Dinner is provided for those who pre-register. Deadline to register is I week prior to the event date!

SCHEDULE

5:15 PM Dinner
6:00 PM Welcome
6:10 PM Panel Discussion
7:00 PM Breakouts
8:30 PM Dismissal

Register at mbcb.org/events

All Locations: Aug. 7 Philadelphia • Aug. 11 Greenwood • Aug. 12 Tupelo • Aug. 18 Laurel • Aug. 19 Natchez