

# THE TIDE



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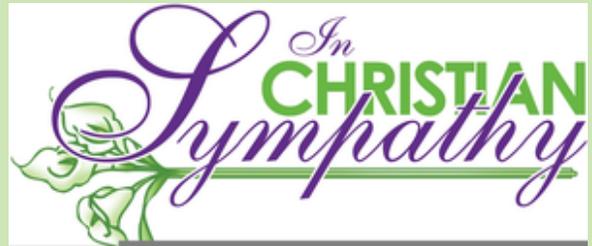
Join us in welcoming



to the Association!

Due to the pandemic, the Association did not hold the Spring Meeting scheduled in April. We regret that we missed the opportunity to officially welcome in person Empowerment Ministries Christian Center as an autonomous cooperating church of the GCBA after completing one year of watch care.

Rev. Gregg Magee serves as their Senior Pastor. He is supported in ministry by his wife of 20 years, Irene Magee. Please welcome Rev. Magee, his family, staff and congregation to the Association. They meet at the facility that was formerly Olivet Baptist Church located at 11924 Klein Rd. in Gulfport. Check out their ministry at [www.empowerthecity.org](http://www.empowerthecity.org).



We remember Karen McQueen in the loss of her husband, W.A. "Jimmy" McQueen, on June 29, 2020. Karen serves as the Music Director at Big Level Baptist Church. Please pray for Karen and her family during this difficult time. They would have celebrated 48 years of marriage on September 15, 2020.

Also bereaved is Rev. Alan Stevens, Music of Minister for Bel Aire Baptist Church, whose mother, Emogene Stevens, passed away July 23, 2020. Pray for travel mercy as there will be a graveside service for the family in St. Louis.

## Please help us out

In response to a request, we would like to know if your church is involved in a jail or prison ministry, please email the following information to the GCBA Office [robin@gulfcoastba.com](mailto:robin@gulfcoastba.com):

1. Church name
2. Where you minister and how often
3. Name of person who leads the ministry

### Staff:

Dr. Steve Mooneyham-Executive Director/Treasurer

Rev. Dionne Williams-Associate Associational Missions Director

11201 Old Highway 49 Gulfport, Mississippi 39503

(228) 832-4311 FAX (228) 539-1453

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Group Facebook page: *Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association*

### Staff continued:

Grayson Orman-Ministry Strategist

Robin Knapp-Executive Ministry/Financial Assistant

FROM  
THE DESK  
OF

STEVE MOONEYHAM

AMD

I spoke this week with a long-time friend who pastors in another state. He talked about the difference in his church now as compared to pre-COVID, especially regarding attendance. Like many of our churches, attendance is down. He said they were averaging around 250 in worship before and now if they have 40 in the worship center, 40 in the parking lot listening to a radio broadcast of the service and 40 joining in on-line, they had a good day. He then said, "I am afraid that we will not reclaim the rest after this is over." He is right. The church will look different when this is over.

None of us can see into the future and know exactly what things will look like. However, that does not mean that church leaders do not need to use this time to ask questions, anticipate possibilities and make plans for potential outcomes. Start with questions about your recent ministry history. What were you doing before all this that was effective or could use some tweaking? Maybe what you were doing needs to be adapted. Ask questions about leadership training, "Do we need to do a better job of raising up leaders so that our ministries can be stronger? Where are our weaknesses? Are we focusing too much in one area and not giving adequate emphasis in others?" What about outreach, "Are we effective or do we have an attitude that says, 'people know where we are, they'll come when they are ready?'" Be honest about evangelism, "Has the church allowed its evangelistic zeal to wane?" There are a host of other questions.

It is a given, I think, that the church will be leaner (membership/attendance and resources) on the other side of this. It is a mistake to think things will just automatically return to the normal we want and crave. That "normal" just might not be possible. So, in my opinion, some questions churches and their leaders must ask are:

"What are we learning right now about us and our ministry?"

"What can we do now to become more effective later in sharing the gospel in a post-COVID world with people who need Jesus?"

"How can we do ministry with diminished resources; what will take priority?"

Dickens began his book *A Tale of Two Cities* with this phrase, "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." But not many recall the next phrase, "it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness..." This phrase perhaps best describes our current situation. Good leaders will seek wisdom amid this uncertainty to know best how to lead their flock. They act foolishly who choose not to do so.

Let us act wisely!

Know that you are prayed for. We are here to serve you.

On the journey with you,

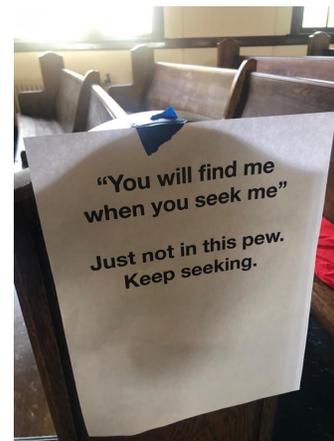
Dr. Steve



Around the office, one of the inside jokes is that I always use pictures rather than writing an article. So to prove the truth of that statement, I will share an announcement and then post some pictures. If a picture is worth a thousand words, this will be a LONG article!

Because of the corona virus, we have had to cancel our IN PERSON Church Leadership Training on August 15 at Parkway. We have asked the conference leaders to provide a 20-30 minute video for their assigned topic. We will have these videos posted on the GCBA website by August 15. Please watch these so we can continue to provide solid leadership to our churches in all areas of church leadership. Remember our theme is *Discipling Disciples to Minister* in 2020-21. We will have conferences for pastors, Sunday School/Bible Study, Men's Ministry/Disaster Relief, Women's Ministry, Youth, Financial Issues and Music.

I like to use humor and tell jokes. I received this from my daughter. May this bring you some humor and release from a little corona virus stress.



GRAYSON ORMAN

MINISTRY  
STRATEGIST

Anyone ever have issues with authority? I know I've bucked the system a time or two. How about you? This week I spent some time with a small Youth Group. We discussed this topic for two days and I was amazed at the issues our youth are having with authority. Many times, their issues are inherited from their parents. This includes me because I have a daughter that is youth age. We looked at Romans 1:21-22 as a point of reference for our discussion.

(<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools).

Isn't it ironic, as we try so hard to do our own thing wanting to be free, that often times we give into temptation and find ourselves a slave to sin? We look at sin as something to take off the edge, relax our bodies or relieve stress, but in the end, sin enslaves us. We trade what is eternal for what is temporal! I asked the simple question, "What does it mean that they did not honor God in the verse above?" One of my students said, "When we stop giving God glory in all we do, we dishonor God." WOW! That was a Romans 12 statement! It was a transformational moment for me and some others in the room. Has our thinking become futile? Have we forgotten that we exist to bring God glory? Could this be the problem with the world causing all of the issues we see today with regard to addictions, harmful attitudes, racial rifts? Could we as a people not be labeled with self-appointed wisdom but in reality, as foolish in how we live? If we look to Jesus, we see that Jesus humbled Himself, put others before himself and became a servant to others. What if we adopted this attitude? The Bible says in Philippians 2:9 that God exalted Jesus because of this attitude. Jesus was wise and not foolish. We should take His example to heart and begin living a life that honors God and sees God as the ultimate authority in our lives.

## Contributions for June 2020

CHURCH	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$0.00	\$842.15
Bay St Louis	\$1,130.90	\$8,578.72
Bay Vista	\$472.21	\$1,947.55
Bayou Talla	\$25.00	\$150.00
Bayou View	\$166.66	\$999.96
Bayside	\$25.00	\$150.00
Bel Aire	\$1,645.00	\$8,595.03
Big Level	\$1,183.00	\$7,098.00
Big Ridge	\$502.46	\$2,607.21
Biloxi FBC	\$674.52	\$4,183.90
Bond	\$693.75	\$4,601.42
Bridge Community	\$0.00	\$345.58
Brodie Road	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chinese Grace Bible	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Christ Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Connect Community	\$64.00	\$435.00
Cornerstone	\$100.00	\$100.00
Crosspoint	\$93.55	\$852.15
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Desired Nation	\$101.85	\$599.25
Emmanuel	\$0.00	\$125.00
Empowerment Min.	\$0.00	\$300.00
Faithview	\$0.00	\$2,542.69
Family Worship	\$0.00	\$0.00
Faro de Esperanza	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fernwood	\$0.00	\$800.00
Grace Chapel	\$365.80	\$1,407.29
Grace Memorial	\$1,078.77	\$4,887.89
Grace Temple	\$100.00	\$1,300.00
GracePoint Church	\$0.00	\$172.67
Gtr. Mt Rest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulfport FBC	\$2,060.88	\$19,458.53
Handsboro	\$744.24	\$3,881.51
Harbor City	\$200.00	\$435.00
Highland	\$0.00	\$250.71
Iglesia Emanuel	\$0.00	\$44.87
Jacob's Well	\$1,667.94	\$7,281.55
Lakeshore	\$0.00	\$100.00
Lizana FBC	\$345.00	\$1,544.77
Long Beach FBC	\$1,792.42	\$10,974.60
Lyman FBC	\$266.00	\$1,260.00
McHenry FBC	\$0.00	\$835.19
Michael Memorial	\$1,219.40	\$9,359.79
MS Korean	\$0.00	\$1,218.68
Mt. Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$1,273.65	\$7,256.56
North Hills	\$0.00	\$0.00
North Long Beach	\$0.00	\$513.55
Old Spanish Trail	\$0.00	\$0.00
Parkway	\$458.40	\$3,105.67
Pass Christian FBC	\$28.50	\$259.02
Peace	\$50.00	\$300.00
Pearlington FSBC	\$0.00	\$528.96
Perkinston	\$230.00	\$838.92
Popps Ferry	\$0.00	\$184.98
Riverside	\$100.00	\$328.00
Robinwood	\$607.56	\$3,537.70
Saucier FBC	\$0.00	\$100.00
Shoreline Park	\$0.00	\$500.00
Success	\$309.20	\$616.14
The Church at Windance	\$262.58	\$923.28
Trinity	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuxechena	\$346.14	\$926.42
Vardaman Street	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vidalia's Bridge	\$0.00	\$0.00
West Gulfport	\$104.34	\$583.29
Wiggins FBC	\$2,683.00	\$17,454.00
Woolmarket	\$2,075.14	\$11,739.80

# CHURCH *News*

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

**Mississippi Gulf Coast**  
**Baptist Association**

**BOND** located just north of Wiggins, is in search of a part-time Music Minister. Please direct inquiries and resumes to: Dale Davis @ 601-528-0121 or email [stoneprint1@gmail.com](mailto:stoneprint1@gmail.com).

**BIG RIDGE** is in search of a part-time Children's Minister. Please submit resumes to Dr. Raymond Grabert. Email: [brbcpastor@cablone.net](mailto:brbcpastor@cablone.net) or call the church office for more information 228-392-4387.

**CONNECT COMMUNITY** is in search of a part-time Worship Pastor 15 hours per week with salary. Please contact Pastor Steven Simon by email or phone: [steven@connectcommunitygc.org](mailto:steven@connectcommunitygc.org) or 228-209-7779.

**FBC BAY ST. LOUIS** is in search of a part-time Financial Administrative Assistant. Compensation is based on experience with retirement benefits provided. Please see this link for more details. <http://www.sbc.net/jobs/20766/financial-administrative-assistant>

**GRACE CHAPEL** has a 2003 Ford F-350 20 passenger bus for sale. For more information contact Pastor Stan Proctor at 228-493-0709. See the GCBA Facebook page for details.



Be in prayer as these churches  
seek the  
wisdom of the  
Holy Spirit and God's  
guidance in calling a pastor:

Emmanuel  
New Hope  
North Hills  
North Long Beach  
Robinwood  
Trinity

# Administrative Assistants Virtual Appreciation Luncheon

Don't think a little thing like a global pandemic can keep us from celebrating our very much appreciated Administrative Assistants. However, as everything else goes these days, it will look slightly different. OK, a lot different but a lot more fun! You don't even have to leave the comfort of your air conditioned office to join us. Sit down with your go-to lunch and beverage and join us via Zoom on **Thursday, August 13 at Noon**. (Those who tune in will receive a gift certificate for lunch to enjoy another day — that means **FREE LUNCH!**)

*"So, what will we do besides look like the Hollywood Squares on lunch break?"* you ask. I'm glad you did. We have invited Beth Bowman, a dynamite speaker and writer, to give us some tips on how to be encouragers while dealing with anxiety and stress. *How apropos!*

Also, a GCBA luncheon would not be complete without prizes. We'll be giving those out via email. That means - **we need your correct email address**. Wouldn't want those gift cards floating around the [www.nomansland.com](http://www.nomansland.com), right?



## Administrative Assistants Virtual Appreciation Luncheon

Thursday, August 13

Noon

*R.S.V.P. [robin@gulfcoastba.com](mailto:robin@gulfcoastba.com) to get your*

*Zoom invite by*

*Wednesday, August 12*

*(Be there or be square, lol)*

Beth S. Bowman is a speaker, contract writer for Lifeway, wife, mom and below average cook, not necessarily in that order. She is a graduate of Mississippi State and New Orleans Seminary. Find out more about her at [bethbowman.net](http://bethbowman.net)/follow on Facebook and Instagram @: Compelled By Joy.

