

THE TIDE

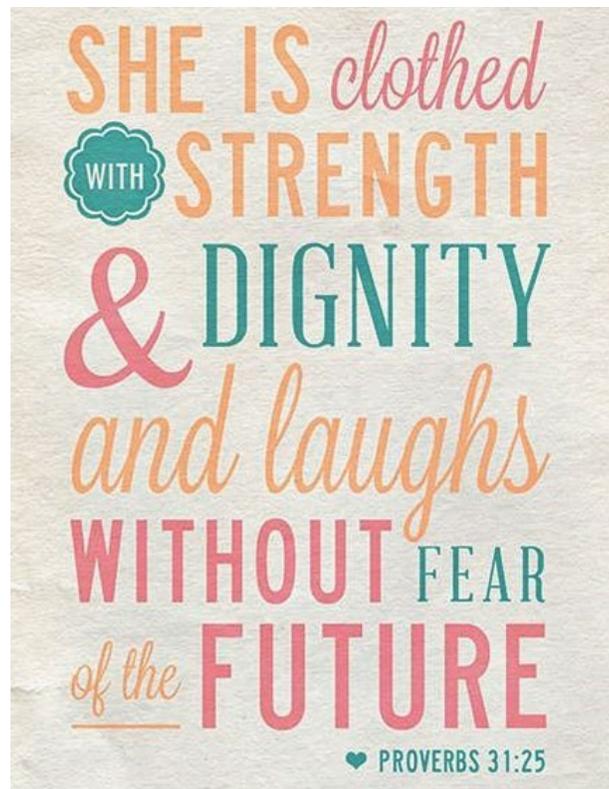


The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association

May 2022 Vol. 58 No. 5

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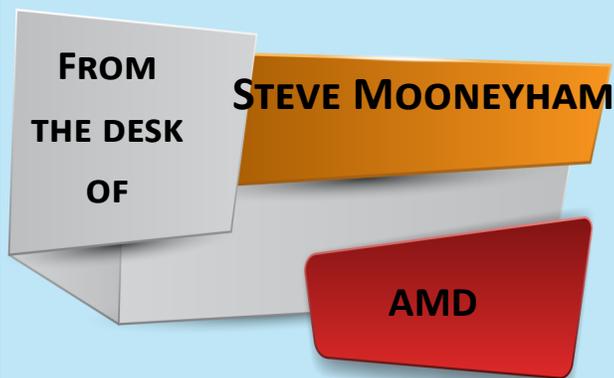
Upcoming Events in Your Association

- Mother's Day **May 8**
- Hancock Cluster 8:30-9:30am Mockingbird Café, BSL **May 16**
- Harrison Cluster-Cracker Barrel 8-9am **May 17**
- Stone Cluster-Sawmill Restaurant 9-10am **May 18**
- Memorial Day (*Office closed*) **May 30**
- Partnership Gulf Coast Summer Missions begins **June 5**

Staff:
Rev. Dionne Williams-Associate
Associational Missions Director
Grayson Orman-
Ministry Strategist

Dr. Steve Mooneyham-
Executive
Director/Treasurer

Robin Knapp - Executive
Ministry/ Financial Assistant
Kirsten King - Receptionist/
Administrative Assistant



May! Ahhhhh! Warm weather and longer days. Many of you have gardens planted by now and might be seeing some evidence of tiny shoots emerging from the soil. It is exciting to see plants rising from the soil and watch them grow to become mature, fruit-bearing plants. We plant seeds and anticipate a satisfying harvest.

The month of May also means that Vacation Bible School is coming soon. “What,” you might ask, “do seeds and harvest have to do with VBS?” I’m so glad you asked. Well, both involve planting seeds, watching those seeds grow to maturity, and harvest.

As most gardeners love tilling and working the soil, I love VBS and the opportunities to plant seeds of the gospel into young peoples’ lives. I never understood why some pastors would take vacation the week of VBS. This is the richest time of planting in the entire church year!

VBS takes a lot of effort. It can be intense. It is tiring! Some may even complain that all that work goes into just a few children with no visible result. Let me encourage you to give your all to VBS in your church. It is worth the effort. Paul reminded the churches of Galatia (Galatians 6:9), “Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

Can I get on a soap box for just a second? People often complain about the numbers of young people leaving the church. I know there are a myriad of reasons to which one may point. Might I suggest that the church is partly to blame? Doesn’t the Scripture say that we reap what we sow? If we sow no seed, how should we expect to reap a harvest? I’ve never seen a farmer sit on the front porch at planting time and expect to reap a harvest in the fall. How often do churches forgo evangelism opportunities and wonder why they do not see professions of faith and baptismal waters being stirred? Can it be that we are failing to sow the seed? Have we not invested in young people to help them grow toward maturity? Are we trusting God for a harvest when we have not planted? Plant the seed and see God work.

As always, I am honored to serve this great association.

Dr. Steve

DIONNE'S

CORNER

DIONNE WILLIAMS

ASSOCIATE AMD

(Lean in close so you can hear me. I'm being pressured to write this article! Bro. Steve has threatened to not sign my final checks, but I'm pretty sure I can get Rhonda and Doug to sign them for me. So, Steve is not a problem. It's Robin I'm afraid of. She is threatening me with a rolling pin! You've seen Dave, her husband. That explains what's wrong with him. Here goes.)

It is with mixed emotions that I write this FINAL article for the TIDE. I am excited to stop working fulltime so I can explore other avenues of ministry for the Lord. I am sad that I will no longer be working for the greatest association in the state of Mississippi. Susie and I will continue to make our home on the Coast. Handsboro BC has called me to be their interim pastor, a new and so far, enjoyable experience.

Let me thank you before I reminisce for the gracious and wonderful reception on April 18. Bro. Steve, Robin, Kirsten, Grayson, Dave and the ladies at Handsboro did a super job in decorating and surprising me. Thank you Paul Crowley, Brenda Davis, Liz Palm and Linda Kittrell for serving on the planning committee.

The new TenPoint crossbow and Garmin scope as a retirement gift, as well as the generous cash gift, are perfect for an old hunter like me. I need every advantage I can get. Thank you all!



Thank you to everyone who ever had to suffer through a choir rehearsal and worship service where I was leading. Now you know why God led me into Christian Education!

Thank you to everyone who ever had to listen to me talk about Sunday School and small groups. If nothing else, I hope you heard my passion for building a church through the small group ministry of the church. For forty-nine years, I have seen God bless churches with growth (quantitative and qualitative) who emphasized small group Bible Study properly. When the churches stopped that emphasis, they invariably declined.

Thank you to the folks who followed me or someone else on Disaster Relief teams all around the Southeast US. Personally, I led teams to Louisiana, Oklahoma, Iowa, Florida, and South Carolina. Others went to Tennessee, Maryland, Alabama, and Arkansas to name a few additional states. A word of warning: after Katrina, we experienced great numbers of people training to go on DR trips. Many went. Now getting people to respond just for a weekend DR team is tough. Let us not wait till there is another Katrina or Camille before we go help someone in need of disaster aid.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Multi-Family Housing ministry. Although COVID kicked MFH to the wayside, it is time to rejuvenate that ministry. I believe in that ministry enough that if you need training, I will be glad to take time away from any of Susie's honey-do's to train you.

Thank you for those who participated and supported Partnership Gulf Coast. I thought when the North American Mission Board took down their mission map, it would kill PGC. It didn't! I have 10 teams booked for this summer. It has helped and encouraged many of our churches.

Someone asked what were my plans after retirement. I always responded "deer hunting." That and fishing more. But Susie and I also want to go to culinary school to sharpen our skills as cooks. We both love being in the kitchen alone and together. I plan to be more involved with Disaster Relief through MBCB. But what God has impressed upon me the most is being an intentional interim. I want to help churches get ready to call their next pastor, to help churches heal if there was a problem, and to motivate them to have a renewed vision of their community. I am leaving the FULLTIME work but I am NOT leaving what God called me to be, a servant of His. Instead of working for you all, I will now be working with you!



Thanks again for the past 22 years of service to you. I must end now....Robin has just come in my office with the rolling pin!

Contributions for March 2022

CHURCH	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bay St Louis	\$953.39	\$3,823.45
Bay Vista	\$246.43	\$825.48
Bayou Talla	\$25.00	\$75.00
Bayou View	\$166.66	\$499.98
Bayside	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bel Aire	\$1,620.00	\$5,173.00
Big Level	\$1025.25	\$4,182.00
Big Ridge	\$327.22	\$1,049.06
Biloxi FBC	\$387.85	\$1,394.90
Bond	\$592.30	\$2,253.06
Bridge Community	\$0.00	\$0.00
Brodie Road	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chinese Grace Bible	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christ Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Connect Community	\$150.00	\$470.00
Cornerstone	\$100.00	\$200.00
Crosspoint	\$165.55	\$458.07
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Desired Nation	\$100.00	\$300.00
Empowerment Min.	\$0.00	\$500.00
Faithview	\$627.27	\$1,588.17
Family Worship	\$0.00	\$0.00
Faro de Esperanza	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fernwood	\$160.00	\$480.00
Grace Chapel	\$240.08	\$998.11
Grace Memorial	\$884.97	\$2447.01
Grace Temple	\$0.00	\$0.00
GracePoint Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gtr. Mt Rest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulfport FBC	\$2,084.57	\$7,622.48
Handsboro	\$702.44	\$1,589.56
Harbor City	\$175.00	\$525.00
Harvest Church	\$1,313.46	\$4,097.19
Highland	\$0.00	\$119.00
Iglesia Emanuel	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jacob's Well	\$1703.00	\$4,886.00
Lakeshore	\$100.00	\$100.00
Lizana FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Long Beach FBC	\$3,159.111	\$5,434.53
Lyman FBC	\$233.00	\$956.00
McHenry FBC	\$136.57	\$477.82
Michael Memorial	\$0.00	\$3,092.50
MS Korean	\$541.12	\$1,837.07
Mt. Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$2,451.96	\$3,743.78
North Hills	\$0.00	\$0.00
North Long Beach	\$0.00	\$285.00
Old Spanish Trail	\$0.00	\$100.00
Parkway	\$689.97	\$1,836.12
Pass Christian FBC	\$0.00	\$53.55
Peace	\$50.00	\$150.00
Pearlington FSBC	\$0.00	\$134.00
Perkinston	\$179.25	\$819.40
Popps Ferry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$101.00	\$285.00
Robinwood	\$598.24	\$1,768.83
Shoreline Park	\$100.00	\$300.00
Success	\$0.00	\$366.77
The Church at Windance	\$316.05	\$692.02
Tuxechna	\$78.10	\$255.28
Vardaman Street	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vidalia's Bridge	\$0.00	\$0.00
West Gulfport	\$94.44	\$379.86
Wiggins FBC	\$3,057.00	\$10,332.00
Woolmarket	\$1,666.68	\$5,000.04

CHURCH *News*

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

Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association

CORNERSTONE is seeking a part-time Associate Pastor/Youth Director. For more information contact Pastor Don Bearden at 228-324-5982.

PERKINSTON is seeking a part-time Minister of Youth. Email resume to Clarice Dedeaux cdedeaux1@yahoo.com or mail to church, P.O. Box 263, Perkinston, 39573.

ROBINWOOD is in search of a part-time Minister of Music. Send resume to: robinwoodbaptist@bellsouth.net.

SHORELINE PARK is looking for a Youth Pastor Intern. Contact the church office at 228-467-9461.



PASTOR SEARCH

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

FBC Bay St. Louis
FBC Pass Christian
FBC Wiggins
Greater Mount Rest
Handsboro
McHenry FBC
North Long Beach

ONLINE GIVING

Check out the new **Online Giving** feature on our website WWW.GULFCOASTBA.COM

You can use this option for Associational Missions giving or any other special offerings such as; Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Disaster Relief, Margaret Lackey, Lottie Moon, Bobby C. Perry Associational Missions, etc.



IMPORTANT TO YOU

Admin Team Meeting

Tues., July 19th, 2022
Gulf Coast Baptist Assoc.
12pm

Strategy Team Meeting

Thurs., July 21st, 2022
Gulf Coast Baptist Assoc.
7:30am

Finance Team Meeting

Thurs., July 21st, 2022
Gulf Coast Baptist Assoc.
12pm

Church Finance Update

Thurs., August 23rd, 2022
Gulf Coast Baptist Assoc.
Training Center
Light meal at 6PM
Seminar 6:30PM

Who should Attend?

Treasurers, Financial Admin
Personnel, Finance Team
& Pastors

Upcoming

Executive Board Meetings:

Mon., July 25th, 2022
Popp's Ferry Baptist Church
2000 Popp's Ferry Rd., Biloxi
7PM

Mon., October 3rd, 2022
Gulf Coast Baptist Assoc.
Training Center
7PM

(The Executive Board is comprised of the pastor and one layperson from each of our churches.)

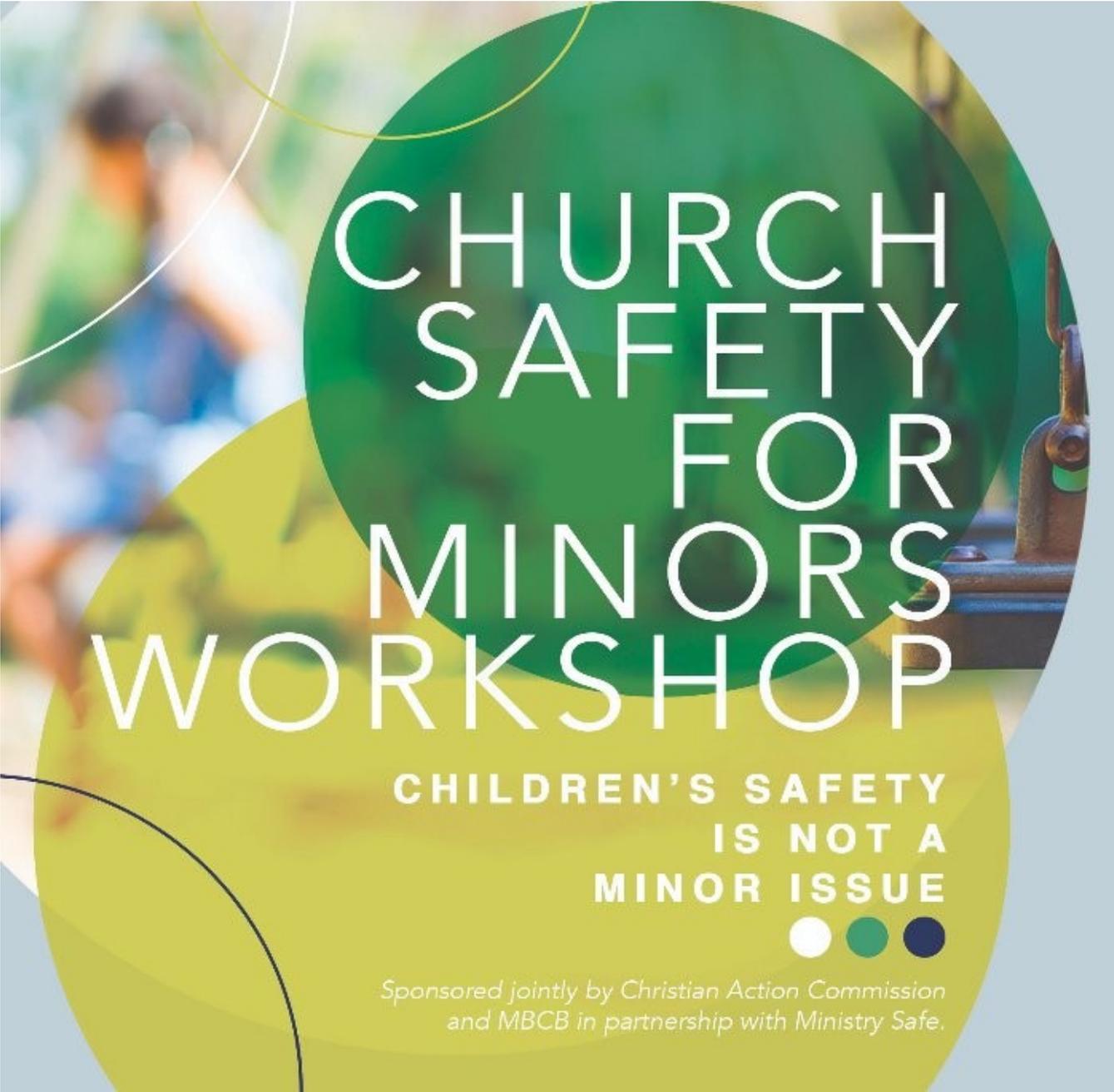
Fall Meeting of the Association:

Mon., October 17th, 2022
First Baptist Church Wiggins
219 Second St.
N. Wiggins, 39577
7PM

(Presession music begins @ 6:45PM)

Messengers may be updated online
once elected by your church at

<https://www.sbcworkspace.com>



CHURCH SAFETY FOR MINORS WORKSHOP

CHILDREN'S SAFETY
IS NOT A
MINOR ISSUE



*Sponsored jointly by Christian Action Commission
and MBCB in partnership with Ministry Safe.*

SEPTEMBER 12: Agricola BC, Lucedale

Registration: 8:30am

Event: 9am-2:30pm

Cost: \$25 pre-registration
\$30 at the door

**Cost includes lunch and materials*



Your Baptist Children's Village
is preparing for its annual
Mother's Day Offering
Sunday, May 8.

All Mississippi Baptist churches will be receiving an information packet in early April with a colorful poster, bulletin inserts, and offering envelopes for you to use to promote this special offering. Mother's Day is set aside by the Mississippi Baptist Convention to celebrate the Lord's work in the lives of children ministered to by your Baptist Children's Village.

Please prayerfully consider promoting this special day to your church families on or around Mother's Day. For more information, contact The Baptist Children's Village at 601.952.2422 or email Tim McWilliams, Director of Partner Ministries, at tmcwilliams@bcvms.org

In 1898, Mrs. Dora R. Greenlaw of Hazlehurst challenged Mississippi Baptists, "Behind the movement to provide for our orphans lies the great Baptist heart of Mississippi, and back of that, God."

We are grateful for a legacy that acknowledges the sovereignty of God in our ministry and in the hearts of our partners. Mississippi Baptist churches have faithfully responded to the needs of children for now 125 years. We look forward to continuing that legacy as we work to reach more children and families with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



**Good News Jail &
Prison Ministry:
UKRAINE TEAM**

As you pray for the people of Ukraine, we ask that you also lift up our team of three chaplains and committed volunteers in Dnipro, the fourth largest city. May God protect them and the city and keep them safe as they continue to minister to the incarcerated. If you would like to send a message of encouragement and prayer to the team, please email your message to INTL@goodnewsjail.org and we will forward it on to them. Thank you for your partnership in bringing hope to the forgotten.



Mississippi Coastal College is a new start up institution right here on the Gulf Coast, and will be offering courses as soon as this Fall. Included in the courses offered at this institution will be religious education courses taught by a local pastor. As with most start up organizations, MCC has some immediate needs before their opening:

Desks for Admins and Instructors

Tables and chairs for students

White boards

Medical equipment for MA and EMT

Computers for student computer lab

Eventually an ambulance for teaching purposes

If you are willing to donate any of these items, please contact Dr. Evan Akins, Dean of Religious Studies at eajcja@hotmail.com or MCC President Joel Fields at Mscoastaluniversity@gmail.com or visit [Adult Education - Mississippi Coastal College \(mscoastal.org\)](http://Adult Education - Mississippi Coastal College (mscoastal.org))



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S
JOB CORPS™
a ministry of WMU®

Magdalene  House

SAVE THE DATES

Free Employment Skill Classes - June 6th – August 2nd, 2022

Women's Community Support Center.

Call Today to Pre-Register for this upcoming Class Session (228) 586-3510



SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY
17
JULY
2022

Gospel
Music Festival

Benefiting the Gulf Coast Christian Women's Job Corps/Magdalene House



3rd Annual
5K RUN
RACE TO EMBRACE

SAVE THE DATE
29TH OCTOBER 2022

Benefiting the
Gulf Coast Christian Women's Job Corps/Magdalene House

For more information and to make donations, call 228-586-3510

www.womenscommunitysupport.org

**A 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that houses both the Magdalene House
and the Christian Women's Job Corps programs**



Greetings Gulf Coast Baptist Association family!

We have made it to the end of the school year, and praise God, we did not have to deal with any Covid setbacks this year. I am so grateful for all the Lord has done this year and am excited for what is to come.

In April, we had interviews for our BSU leadership team. I am happy to say that we will have fifteen students serving on leadership team at Perk and two students serving on leadership team at the Harrison County Campus. That is SEVENTEEN college students who are committed to being ambassadors for Christ on their campus and working together for the sake of the Gospel Ministry.

We also commissioned our three BSU Summer Missionaries from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College BSU. They are Jacob Moore, a member at FBC Wiggins. He will be serving in New York City doing refugee ministry. Ruby Holder, a member at Temple BC in Hattiesburg, will be serving in New Mexico at the Glorieta Christian Camp. Finally, Jeff Kertis, a member at Pleasant Hills Community Presbyterian Church in PA, will be serving in Southeast Asia working with IMB Career Missionaries over there.

Thus, please be in prayer for the new BSU Leadership Team as they prepare for being Christ's ambassadors on their campus this fall. Also, be in prayer for our summer missionaries. Thank you so much for all your continued support through financial giving, providing ministry resources, and prayer. If you would like for me to share with your church in person about the ministry of the BSU, please contact me. I would love to be able to share all that the Lord is doing here.

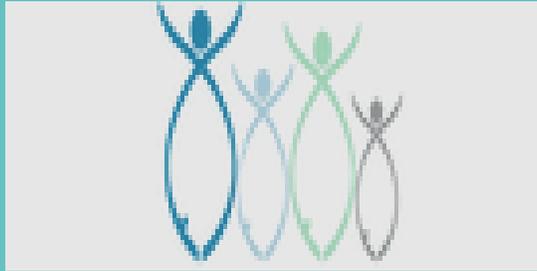


May the Lord bless
you all in your ministries!

David MacLellan
Director of the MGCCC Baptist Student
Union

(228)-327-6240

davidbeckettmac@gmail.com



Crossroads

Christian Family & Marriage Counseling

You can often find yourself at a point where problems, relationships, disappointments or life changes seem overwhelming. Crossroads Counseling Centers serve individuals and families by providing Christ-centered professional counseling that guides clients toward abundant living.

15465 Oak Lane Place, Suite 100-I, Gulfport, MS 39503

Phone: 855-939-6634

www.crossroadscounselingms.com

*See website for other locations in Mississippi



Troy Farris
MA, LPC

Depression • Trauma • Marriage
& Pre-Marital
Family • Parenting
Women's/Men's Issues • Divorce



Sonya M. Sumrall
Ed.S., LPC, NCC, NCSC

Depression • Anxiety • Grief/Loss
Trauma Intervention • Chronic Illness
Divorce Recovery • Substance Abuse
Addictions



Marie Gunn
LMSW

TF-CBT • Trauma • TBRI • Marriage •
Grief • Parenting • Anxiety • Anger •
Family Issues
Children/Adolescents



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

ONE CHILD AT A TIME

A child will receive only one shoe box gift in their lifetime. Each shoebox is a Gospel opportunity that can be used by God to change a child's life for eternity—and change the course of many other lives as well. We praise God that in 2021 over 4 million children were disciplined through The Greatest Journey Bible Study, where over 2.3 million made decisions for Christ. Since 2009, more than 30 million children have enrolled in The Greatest Journey with over 15 million making a decision for Christ!

Operation Christmas Child has a goal to visit 1,000 Pacific islands by 2023. Since 2018, over 283,000 children on more than 960 inhabited Pacific islands have received shoebox gifts and have been given the opportunity to respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Time and again, God has opened doors for ministry and open hearts to receive His love. As one Regional Team Leader said: "With Operation Christmas Child, God upsets social habits, overturns traditions and customs, and acquires a people for Himself. Through this ministry, the impossible becomes possible by virtue of God." Amen!

Over 10.5 million gifts were packed, collected, and processed to bless even more boys and girls for the 2022 distribution which began in February and will end about October! This year there are over 85,000 distribution events scheduled in 100 different countries.

Many thanks to the Gulf Coast's 135 area churches and 29 Community Groups that packed, collected, prayed, and delivered 21,572 gifts to the Area Team's central drop off location at the New Hope Baptist Church, Gulfport. In addition, 715 boxes were ordered online. The Gulf Coast Area included the counties of Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, and Stone.

Go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child> for testimonies, more information about Operation Christmas Child, or where to bring your shoeboxes during the annual collection week, 14-21 November 2022.

**If your church would like to have an Operation Christmas Child Presentation,
contact Doug Bradford at 504-722-6568 or 228-206-0345.**