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#### The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association

September 2024 Vol. 60 No. 7

11201 Old Highway 49 Gulfport, Mississippi 39503

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Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association | Facebook

## REMEMBER:

The Annual Church Profile (ACP) is more than just statistics. It's about people, churches, and spreading the Gospel.
Enter online at:
www.sbcworkspace.com or mail by 10/3

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#### Inside the Tide:

Brian Rushing, AMS - Church Calendars & Church Budgets pg. 2

Grayson Orman, M & D Assoc. - Prepare (Part 2) pg. 3

Church Contributions as of July 2024 pg. 4

Church News pg. 4

Women's Gathering (Big Level) pg. 5

2024 Women's Faith Conference (FBC Biloxi) pg. 5

Gulf Coast BSU News - pg. 6

Missions Madness 2024 -FBC Gulfport pg. 7

GC CWJC - Free Employment Skills Class Schedule pg. 7

AFF - Familial Sex Trafficking pg. 8

The Hymns Tour - Keith & Kristyn Getty pg. 9

#### MARGARETSTATE LACKEYOFFERING MISSISSIPPIANS ON MISSION

## Offering Goal: \$2.3 Million

Your offerings support Mississippi ministries such as church planting, camps, collegiate outreach, men's and women's job corps, and literacy missions ministry. The offering trains and mobilizes volunteers in North American and international missions, disaster relief, criminal justice, and cross-cultural outreach. Also, it works hand-in-hand with evangelistic and compassionate ministries funded through the Cooperative Program.

www.margaretlackey.com

#### **Upcoming Events in Your Association**

Office Closed for Labor Day - Sept 2

Ministers' Meeting - GCBA Training Center 10:30am - Sept 10

Book Reading Group Lunch - Location TBD 11:30am - Sept 17

Hancock County Cluster - Mockingbird Café 8:15am - Sept 23

Harrison County Cluster - Cracker Barrel 8am - Sept 24

Stone County Cluster - Gateway Christian Academy 8:30am - Sept 25

GCBA Executive Board Meeting - GCBA Training Center 7pm - Sept 30

#### Deadline to Submit ACP's to Association - Oct 3

Ministers' Meeting - GCBA Training Center 10:30am - Oct 8

Annual Fall Meeting of the Association - Jacob's Well B.C. 6:30pm - Oct 14

Hancock County Cluster - Mockingbird Café 8:15am - Oct 21

Harrison County Cluster - Cracker Barrel 8am - Oct 22

Stone County Cluster - Gateway Christian Academy 8:30am - Oct 23

MS Baptist Convention FBC Jackson - Oct 29-30

Staff:

Dr. Brian Rushing-Executive Director/Treasurer

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

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#### "Church Calendars and Church Budgets"

Working with church calendars can be a funny thing, because many of our churches end up with multiple starting dates to juggle each year. For example, I served in one church that had a January start date for finances, an August start date for Sunday School, and an October start date for committees. Our leadership team had to keep



three different start dates in mind during our planning! You and your church family are probably juggling similar calendar dates. One of the big ones that most churches are working on right now is the Church Budget Planning process.

His original quote has been adapted multiple times, but Peter Drucker once pointed out that he can tell a person's priorities and values by looking at their calendar and their bank statement. We might be able to say the same about church calendars and church budgets. If someone studied our church calendar and budget, what would stand out to them as our main priorities?

When we are in the midst of faithfully leading our church, we can become so busy that church budget planning becomes something that falls off the plate. It seems a minor thing, so it is easy to just put all the same numbers right back into the budget without much strategy. But even our budget plan is communicating to our church family what the leadership believes to be most important. As your teams and ministries are submitting their church budget requests to your Finance Committee, I want to encourage you to take some time to revisit the strategy of your budget. What areas of your church do you want to see changed? Are you funding those areas? It may be that you need to take some initial steps in making small adjustments to the budget to begin highlighting your priorities for the church. For example, if you believe evangelism, missions, and training are important for your church, are you funding them in your budget this year? And when you present your budget to the church each year, be sure you use that time to point out your priorities to the church family.

As a pastor, I tried to use the budget presentation to the church family as a time to refocus our priorities, and to point out new directions our leadership hoped to take us. I am still learning how to do that in regard to an entire Association, and I am grateful for our leadership teams that are helping me in this area. On behalf of all of our churches in the Association, let me also thank you and your church for making the Gulf Coast Baptist Association one of your priorities. We continue striving to be faithful stewards of the finances you set aside for the GCBA each year. We want to continue using the funds you provide to help churches partner together for the gospel. We are excited about how we are working toward connecting churches to one another for expanded mission opportunities. And we look forward to seeing how God is going to use our associating together to do great things here on the MS Gulf Coast, where Jesus is so desperately needed.

Thank you for your love for the Lord and for using your stewardship for His kingdom's growth!

Brian



#### A Model For Missions: Pray, Prepare, Proceed

This month we take a look at Part 2 of the Prepare phase: Training

#### **Church Training Requirements**

Some training may be required from your church. Church training is a great place to pray, introduce the missionary family you will visit, talk through mission expectations, learn some key phrases in the language of the country you are visiting, talk through cultural

expectations including dress code, money exchange, housing expectation, and "do's and don'ts." Be sure to talk about the climate and what to bring – sunscreen, rain jacket, extra shoes, coat, etc. Talk about what is similar in the States and what will be difficult to find when you arrive in country, so each participant knows what they need to bring. Do not assume people will know what to get. If possible, set up a meeting via ZOOM or on another platform to meet the host Missionary. Hearing from the missionary on the field about what you will be doing is a great way to bring clarity and unity to your team before you launch.

#### State Requirements

If you are a Southern Baptist Church who gave to the Margaret Lackey Offering in the previous year and have chosen to take advantage of MBCB financial assistance, you will also need to fill out the paperwork for MBCB (contact Chad McCord at the Baptist Building in Jackson, MS for paperwork). MBCB will require the paperwork for financial assistance to be submitted 60 days before departure and you will need to know the dates of your travel, location of the mission trip, name of the missionary you are going to visit, what type of ministry your team will engage in, and the names of the people on your team. You must know the cost per person for lodging, food, and flights. In addition, you will need a background check, a Sentinel Training Certificate (this can be done online, and the link can also be obtained through the Mississippi Baptist Mobilization Department), and you will need proof of Travel Insurance per participant (Gallagher Travel offers short-term mission insurance online).

#### **IMB** Requirements

Additionally, IMB has certain requirements that must be completed before travel. Some documents submitted to MBCB will be duplicated, so hold onto your paperwork. First, you will need to connect directly with the IMB personnel on the field. You will need to give them dates of travel, proof of flight itineraries and lodging arrangements, names of the participants, and passport numbers. They will add you to their platform and create a trip profile. After you have been accepted to the trip, which can take a few weeks, you must log into the platform (a link will be sent to you). You will then submit references, initiate a background check, accept the confidentiality agreement, complete the Safe and Secure Child Safety training, sign a Volunteer Release and Assumption of Risk Disclaimer, and submit a copy of your passport page along with a copy of your Travel Insurance certificate, and background check. These documents are required before you and your team may be cleared for travel. Keep in mind three important things:

- Missionaries are busy people, so expect delays in response time, and plan for that.
- Get your paperwork in as soon as possible in the process, because background checks can take longer than the usual week or two to come back.
- Each step will have its challenges. Online sites, links, and other digital components may give you trouble. So, plan for delays especially if you have a large team.

There will be lots of questions for the leader and in some cases, you may have to input the information for some of your team. Last, you may want to use a travel agent. Highpoint Travel in Dallas Texas offers humanitarian flights. These flights will allow you to take more luggage, and Highpoint can easily arrange flights from different cities to the destination (this is great if you are flying people from different States or airports to the same location). The cost may seem more expensive, but after baggage extras, seat arrangements, layovers, and the crazy logistics of getting everyone to the same place at the same time, these flights will give you a better idea of the exact cost of travel, and all-in-one easy payment for all your team. For teams larger than 3 individuals, I strongly suggest using a travel agent.

Now you know what it will take to get to the field. It is time now to encourage your team to increase their Spiritual disciplines. We will talk about this next month.

#### **Contributions for July 2024**

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JULY 2024  CHURCH MONTHLY YR. TO DATE		
	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$172.50	\$1,207.50
Bay St Louis	\$3,438.00	
Bay Vista	\$0.00	
Bayou Church	\$25.00	
Bayou View	\$83.33	-
Bel Aire	\$1,655.00	
Big Level	\$1,250.00	\$8,750.00
Big Ridge	\$0.00	
Biloxi FBC	\$571.24	\$3,815.05
Bond Bradia Boad	\$644.00 \$0.00	
Brodie Road		·
Christ Charact	\$0.00	
Christ Church	\$252.50	\$1,648.15
Church @ 112 (C112)	\$0.00	
Crassociat	\$0.00	\$700.00 \$2,055.88
Crosspoint	\$357.66	
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	
Desired Nation	\$77.00	
Empowerment Min. CC Faithview	\$0.00 \$503.35	\$400.00 \$4,756.06
Faro de Esperanza Fernwood	\$0.00 \$100.00	\$0.00
Grace Chapel	\$263.55	\$2,470.63
Grace Chaper  Grace Memorial		
Grace Temple	\$821.03 \$0.00	
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	•
Gulfport FBC	\$3,003.81	\$15,185.42
Handsboro	\$644.44	
Harbor City	\$150.00	\$1,050.00
Harvest Church	\$638.75	
Highland	\$0.00	
Hope City Church	\$0.00	
Iglesia Emanuel	\$59.66	
Jacob's Well	\$1,268.50	
Lakeshore	\$100.00	\$100.00
Live Oak (C3)	\$571.00	
Lizana EBC	\$52.75	\$1,411.78
Long Beach FBC	\$1,919.78	
Lyman FBC	\$0.00	\$1,601.00
McHenry FBC	\$239.44	
Michael Memorial	\$1,900.08	\$12,796.62
MS Korean	\$618.35	\$3,233.78
Mt. Chapel	\$0.00	
New Hope	\$2,064.40	
North Long Beach	\$254.38	
Old Spanish Trail	\$50.00	
Parkway	\$592.54	\$4,400.10
Pass Christian FBC	\$104.82	\$717.77
Peace	\$50.00	
Pearlington FSBC	\$0.00	\$142.00
Perkinston	\$255.20	\$1,765.45
Popps Ferry	\$0.00	\$210.00
Riverside	\$140.00	\$1,040.00
Robinwood	\$818.22	\$4,737.32
Shoreline Park	\$50.00	\$450.00
Success	\$0.00	\$609.42
The Church at Windance	\$449.80	\$3,018.71
The Ch. Of Turning Points	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuxechena	\$46.86	\$655.70
West Gulfport	\$434.14	\$1,068.52
Wiggins FBC	\$4,975.41	\$27,439.16
Woolmarket	\$883.01	\$9,072.51



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 to publicize, please visit our website: <a href="Open Church">Open Church</a>
<a href="Positions">Positions</a> | Gulf Coast Baptist to post that information.</a>

**BIG LEVEL** celebrated their 125th Anniversary on Sunday, August 25, with a presentation from the MS Baptist Historical Commission and a Pot Luck luncheon. Congratulations, Big Level!

**BIG RIDGE** is excited to announce they have called Justin Wilson as their Youth Minister. Pray for Justin as he transitions into this staff ministry position.

**FERNWOOD** will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary on Sunday, October 13. Join us in congratulating them on this wonderful milestone.

**NOTE TIME CHANGE:** The Annual Fall Meeting of the Association, Monday, October 14, with Jacob's Well will begin at **6:30pm**, with pre-session music at **6:15pm**.

## 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
- Success







"And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions... And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Joel 2:28 & 32.

The Apostle Peter quoted this passage from the prophet Joel on the day of Pentecost where the Gospel was declared in full for the first time after Jesus' ascension. We know that about three thousand people were saved on that very day. Since then, we've been in the "Last Days" and throughout history have seen movements and revival break out amongst young men and women who are ready to give it all for the Gospel.

I believe we are seeing this in Generation Z (The current generation of young adults & teenagers). They are fed up with the emptiness and lies the world has to offer and have a hunger to find their reason for being. In just the first week of being back in school, I've seen more students come to our BSU events than ever before. And when I talk to them, if they're a believer, they have a genuine desire to want to grow and be an

ambassador for Christ. And many who are lost are open and interested in hearing the Gospel and what Jesus has to offer.

I want to give a huge thanks to all the churches in our association who continue to support the ministry that is done on our MGCCC campuses. Keep praying, keep giving, and keep ministering to our Youth and College Students on the Coast. God is doing a work in the hearts of this generation in our nation; the question is; will we be a part of it?



# SADDLE UP YOUR HORSES!

# The Great American Adventure Missions Madness 2024

Come join us for a fun-filled day of missions. This event is for all boys and girls 1st - 6th grades and their leaders.

FBC Gulfport on Saturday, Sept 14 8:00am - 2:00pm \$10/participant which covers crafts and lunch Deadline to register is August 30

To register your church, email Melissa Doyle at mdd1gr@gmail.com

Registration is not complete until payment is received



Magdalene House

**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 9-10am. A Parenting class is offered on Wednesdays from 9-11am.

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 <a href="https://www.womenscommunitysupport.org">www.womenscommunitysupport.org</a> or call 228-586-3510.

Advocates for Freedom (AFF) is dedicated to ending the exploitation, sale and enslavement of men, women and children. Through awareness and education, AFF has been leading the way to stop Human Trafficking throughout Mississippi and beyond. We want to inspire you to "look beneath the surface" and help find solutions to end this modern-day form of exploitation - one life at a time!

### Defining Familial Sex Trafficking

Familial Sex Trafficking (FST) is a type of trafficking whereby a family member facilitates sexual access to a child in exchange for something of commercial value.



#### **Family Member**:

- Consanguine (blood) biological mother/father, siblings, grandparents
- Custodial (marriage)\* spouse, step-father/mother, adopted, in-laws \*Cornell Law School definition may include foster children/parents when living in the same household.

# Motives identified in a 2021 study (cited by the Institute for Shelter Care):

**75.4%** Sex acts with the minor were exchanged for drugs.

**69.8%** Sex acts with the minor were exchanged for cash.

60.3% Sex acts with the minor were exchanged for material goods or services.

"The question of whether force is involved is largely irrelevant, since force is rarely necessary to obtain compliance. The parent's authority over the child is usually sufficient to compel obedience."

-J. Herman (2012)

#### **To Volunteer**



NEED HELP? CALL THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE: 1-888-373-7888



#### YOU KNOW AND SING THEIR MUSIC

IN CHRIST ALONE • HIS MERCY IS MORE • CHRIST IS RISEN, HE'S RISEN INDEED • PSALM 150 • THE POWER OF THE CROSS ALL MY BOAST IS IN JESUS • COME UNTO JESUS • SPEAK, O LORD • I SET MY HOPE • CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH ONLY A HOLY GOD • HE WILL HOLD ME FAST • I AM NOT MY OWN • YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME • BY FAITH O, CHURCH ARISE • ACROSS THE LANDS • THE LORD IS MY SALVATION and many more...

For local info visit www.facebook.com/TheHymnsTourMsGulfCoast | Presented by BEL-AIRE BAPTIST and ALAN STEVENS MUSIC