

THE TIDE



The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association
January 2022 Vol. 58 No. 1



As much as we hate to clean out closets, cupboards and garages, eventually, we have to deal with them. It may be a painful process but in the end we feel a sense of accomplishment and our load seems much lighter. Not to mention, we feel less frustration when we set out to look for something. So, why do most of us procrastinate when it comes to these chores?

Who knows? The answer is different for everyone. What we need to ask ourselves is, "What else in my life needs organizing?" Now that the new year has come, have you started a Bible reading plan? Technology is wonderful for that. Your phone or tablet can remind you when to pray, read or study your Bible. Who says technology is the work of the Devil?

What about getting your finances in order? Many of our churches are offering studies that focus on financial planning and stewardship. If not, you may want to request that your church look into one. Speaking of financial planning, have you made a will? It's surprising how many people procrastinate on that task. If you would like to scratch that one off your "to do list", the Mississippi Baptist Foundation can make that an easy chore. Read Dr. Mooneyham's article on the following page of this edition for more information. Or, visit their website by clicking [here](#).

Life is full of little things that are perpetually on our "to do lists" but aren't you glad Jesus already "crossed" off the biggest one for you?

Happy New Year!

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Upcoming Events in Your Association

- Hancock County Cluster 8:30-9:30am Mockingbird Café, Jan 17
Bay St. Louis
- Harrison County Cluster-Cracker Barrel 8-9am Jan 18
- Stone County Cluster-Sawmill Restaurant 9-10am Jan 19
- Hancock County Cluster 8:30-9:30am Mockingbird Café, Feb 14
Bay St. Louis
- Harrison County Cluster-Cracker Barrel 8-9am Feb 15
- Stone County Cluster-Sawmill Restaurant 9-10am Feb 16
- Impact Round Table-GCBA Training Center 12-1pm Feb 22
- Discipling 2 Minister SS/Small Group/VBS Dir. Trng 6:30-8:30pm Mar 8
GCBA Training Center

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Rev. Dionne Williams-Associate Associational Missions Director

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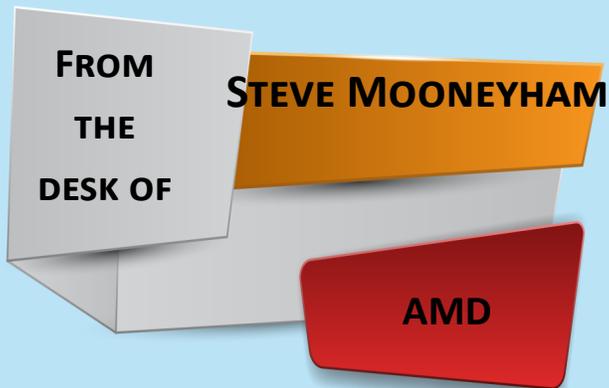
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Group Facebook page: *Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association*

Staff continued:

Grayson Orman-Ministry Strategist

Robin Knapp-Executive Ministry/Financial Assistant



There are things we do because they are important. We go to the doctor. We go to the dentist (yuk!). We buy auto insurance, health insurance and life insurance. We raise our children to love and serve the Lord. And on and on we could go with this list.

Let me share another important subject with you, one that folks often don't want to discuss. So, let me do the talking. January is "*Make your Will*" month in SBC life. While many prefer not to think about it, this is important. Having a will

allows you to direct how you want things to be, like who gets that treasured antique desk that has been passed down for a few generations. What about the bassinet that has been used for multiple babies over several generations? What about other assets, how will they be distributed?

Over the last few years, the GCBA has been the recipient of two such designations. I'll not name the individuals because who they were is not important. Neither is the amount they left for the Association. The important thing is that they wanted the association to benefit from their legacy. It was important to them.

Have you thought about how you might like to leave a legacy and benefit the work of the Lord after you die? You might consider leaving an amount for your church or some other charity which has an impact on people's lives.

Should you choose to do so, there are some important people you need to consult. Contact an estate tax specialist. You may need to contact your attorney. Let your children know your intentions. The folks at the Mississippi Baptist Foundation in Jackson can be of great assistance in getting you started and helping you make this happen. That is why they are there. They can be reached at 601-968-3800. Just tell the receptionist that you want to speak to the Foundation office.

This is an important thing that has lasting benefit.

Please check the calendar section of this edition of THE TIDE for dates of significant events for you and your church. I look forward to walking this journey with you in 2022.

Blessings,

Dr. Steve



There is only one thing I dislike about my house. The yard isn't big enough for me to have a garden. My daddy and I would always plant a garden in the spring so mama could put up corn, peas, butter beans, and such. It was hot, tiring work but I enjoyed it as much as a teenager can. I was fascinated with the growing process from seed to harvest. Maybe that is what has fueled my passion for Sunday School and church

growth. There are many similarities but allow me to focus on one thing.

As I write this article, the projected low for tonight is 34 degrees. Before the month is over, we will experience much colder nights. This isn't the time of year to plant a garden for many of our vegetables. Starting in late February and through March, the weather cooperates more. The funny thing is that this is also one of the best times to focus on Sunday School and church growth. I do not know why, and one day I might write a doctoral dissertation on it, but there is a natural upswing in Sunday School and church attendance as the temperature begins to warm. Why not take advantage of this natural upswing to capitalize on improving our numbers more in Sunday School and Bible Study?

Four and a half years ago, I wrote out two versions of the Extended Sunday School Growth Plan. They are focused on churches with traditional Sunday Schools, but an enterprising soul can adjust the plans to fit home Bible Study groups. Now is the time to begin looking at your plans to increase your small group attendance just as now is the time to begin planning your garden. These plans help you decide on your "seeds, fertilizer, and cultivation" as well as how to harvest. Let me encourage you to contact me at dionne@gulfcoastba.com for a copy of the one-year plan.

One LAST BUT IMPORTANT gardening and small group growth fact. Both involve long, hard, uncomfortable WORK but the benefits of the harvest tremendously outweigh the efforts.

And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Luke 10:2

*****Please take note***** The Disaster Relief training that was scheduled at The Church at Windance on Saturday, February 12 will be rescheduled for a later date in our Association. On that same day, there will be training held at Improve Baptist Church in Columbia from 8am to 4pm.



GRAYSON ORMAN

MINISTRY
STRATEGIST

It's a new year! COVID is behind us. Wait... No.

But the new year is here! This month being January, I thought you all might want to hear about some of the things happening this year at your Association.

Here is a snapshot of upcoming events and trainings.

Associational work continues progressing as we lay out plans for a comprehensive strategy promoting missions. Our friends at the Jackson County Baptist Association are also focused on missions this year and are hosting an IMB Missions Mobilization weekend at First Baptist Pascagoula from January 28th to the 29th.

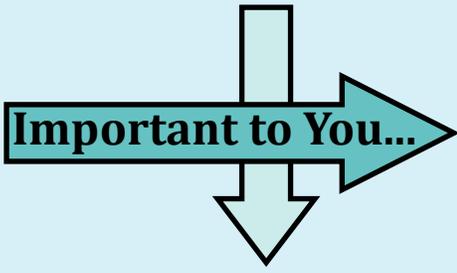
Disaster Relief training is kicking off again. This year, on Saturday, February 12th from 8am to 4pm at Improve Baptist Church in Columbia, you and your church members can be certified in disaster relief. The certification ensures we respond to people efficiently with no lag for last minute training when disaster strikes. Don't wait to be trained or you may lose your chance to help others in time of need.

Lifeway material is now available for the SPARKS STUDIO 2022 VBS. This year the theme for VBS is "Created in Christ / Designed for God's Purpose!!" VBS 2022 is going to be EPIC. Send us the dates for your VBS so we can post them on your GCBA website and check the website for times and dates for training.

Have you ever thought, "How can I reach people in the apartment and mobile home communities near my church?" Well, the Gulf Coast Baptist Association is here to help. If you are interested in Multi-family Housing Outreach efforts, we would love to talk with you. We can help you reach the lost living in multi-family communities.

Is your church in need of small repairs? Does your church need a little paint and some simple updates? Could you benefit from assistance reaching your community? The Gulf Coast Baptist Association hosts many teams each year from all over the United States who are willing to help you with ministry needs and get your church back in shape. Please contact us and ask us about Partnership Gulf Coast and how this project can help you refresh some of the little tasks you have not completed around your church.

We have many other exciting events and trainings to share with you as the year progresses. To get firsthand information, visit your GCBA webpage at www.gulfcoastba.com and click on the *Training and Events* tab for the latest information. We are excited about serving with you this year. Happy New Year from all of us at your Gulf Coast Baptist Association!



Important to You...

Free
Employment Skills Classes

Women's Community Support Center, located off Hwy 603 in Bay St. Louis, is a non-profit 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 upcoming **2022 Class Session** starts **January 24th** and runs through **March 15th** and will include classes in: Work Force Development, Microsoft Office, Communications, Money Management, Life Skills and more.

Classes meet every week on Monday and Tuesday from 9am to 3pm at the Center, off Hwy 603 in Bay St. Louis. Call Today to Pre-Register for this upcoming Class Session
(228) 586-3510.

Attention Social Media Lovers

Please join our Facebook group:

**Mississippi Gulf Coast
Baptist Association**



(Click the like button above.)

You're welcome to post what God is doing in your church but please note all posts will be delayed pending GCBA approval.

Last Chance

If your church did not complete the **2021 ACP (Annual Church Profile)** you have until the end of February 2022 to complete and submit your surveys. After that date all surveys will be closed and you will be unable to make changes or submissions.

If you did complete your survey and your information did not show up in our Annual Book of Reports, then you may want to be sure you submitted your report as well as saved it.

[Click here](#) to report online.

If you have any questions call Robin at the GCBA office 228-832-4311



Please remember the following families in the loss of their loved ones:

Gavin Wiscaver (Worship Pastor, FBC Gulfport) grandmother, Anne Penton Pinkard of Jay, FL on November 23, 2021.

Bruce Pruitt (Worship Service Program & Media Director, FBC Gulfport) mother, Ms. Barbara Anne Pruitt on November 21, 2021 in Ellisville, MS.

"Who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." 2 Corinthians 1:4

Contributions for November 2021

| CHURCH | MONTHLY | YR. TO DATE |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Back Bay | \$0.00 | \$1,567.61 |
| Bay St Louis | \$1,144.20 | \$16,099.96 |
| Bay Vista | \$0.00 | \$2,906.19 |
| Bayou Talla | \$25.00 | \$275.00 |
| Bayou View | \$166.66 | \$1,833.26 |
| Bayside | \$0.00 | \$200.00 |
| Bel Aire | \$1,471.00 | \$16,743.00 |
| Big Level | \$1,052.25 | \$11,574.75 |
| Big Ridge | \$383.88 | \$3,988.11 |
| Biloxi FBC | \$578.04 | \$5,671.22 |
| Bond | \$731.15 | \$8,207.25 |
| Bridge Community | \$0.00 | \$1,298.00 |
| Brodie Road | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Chinese Grace Bible | \$0.00 | \$600.00 |
| Christ Church | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Connect Community | \$315.00 | \$2,061.00 |
| Cornerstone | \$0.00 | \$875.00 |
| Crosspoint | \$117.62 | \$1,646.11 |
| Delisle FBC | \$20.00 | \$20.00 |
| Desired Nation | \$150.00 | \$1,475.00 |
| Emmanuel | \$0.00 | \$175.00 |
| Empowerment Min. | \$0.00 | \$900.00 |
| Faithview | \$440.35 | \$5,546.15 |
| Family Worship | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Faro de Esperanza | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Fernwood | \$160.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| Grace Chapel | \$253.44 | \$2,849.67 |
| Grace Memorial | \$679.00 | \$8,864.31 |
| Grace Temple | \$200.00 | \$1,400.00 |
| GracePoint Church | \$36.00 | \$403.00 |
| Gtr. Mt Rest | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Gulf Gardens | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Gulfport FBC | \$1,823.19 | \$27,007.84 |
| Handsboro | \$808.00 | \$6,979.56 |
| Harbor City | \$175.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| Harvest Church | \$1,406.88 | \$14,711.62 |
| Highland | \$52.00 | \$622.33 |
| Iglesia Emanuel | \$0.00 | \$404.81 |
| Jacob's Well | \$892.00 | \$13,478.82 |
| Lakeshore | \$0.00 | \$50.00 |
| Lizana FBC | \$0.00 | \$1,888.83 |
| Long Beach FBC | \$1,633.07 | \$19,736.26 |
| Lyman FBC | \$250.00 | \$2,536.00 |
| McHenry FBC | \$194.51 | \$2,170.17 |
| Michael Memorial | \$1,664.02 | \$19,950.76 |
| MS Korean | \$796.92 | \$5,584.26 |
| Mt. Chapel | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| New Hope | \$1,469.27 | \$13,309.55 |
| North Hills | \$0.00 | \$531.21 |
| North Long Beach | \$0.00 | \$987.94 |
| Old Spanish Trail | \$50.00 | \$250.00 |
| Parkway | \$459.63 | \$5,706.52 |
| Pass Christian FBC | \$175.11 | \$332.15 |
| Peace | \$50.00 | \$550.00 |
| Pearlington FSBC | \$221.00 | \$671.00 |
| Perkinston | \$292.45 | \$2,330.45 |
| Popps Ferry | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Riverside | \$185.00 | \$858.00 |
| Robinwood | \$699.12 | \$5,962.51 |
| Shoreline Park | \$100.00 | \$1,100.00 |
| Success | \$0.00 | \$1,722.98 |
| The Church at Windance | \$387.20 | \$2,244.23 |
| Trinity | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Tuxechena | \$154.14 | \$1,604.80 |
| Vardaman Street | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Vidalia's Bridge | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| West Gulfport | \$109.26 | \$966.05 |
| Wiggins FBC | \$2,803.00 | \$32,080.00 |
| Woolmarket | \$1,208.16 | \$17,319.43 |

CHURCH *News*

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

Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association

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

HANDBORO would like to announce their pastor, Rev. Joey Bennett, is retiring. He will continue on a part-time basis through February. Please join them in prayer during this time of transition as well as prayers for Joey and his family. *I thank my God every time I remember you. Phil 1:3*

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. Also, they will host Dr. Ken Ham, founder, CEO, and former president of Answers in Genesis, a Christian apologetics organization that operates the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter, to speak on Wednesday, February 23 at 6pm. Please join them for this special night.



PASTOR SEARCH

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

FBC Pass Christian
FBC Wiggins
Greater Mount Rest
McHenry FBC
North Long Beach

Giving literacy to an adult who struggles with everyday reading gives hope and changes lives - not only the life of the student but the life of their family and friends.

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TUTOR TRAINING

BEGINNING Jan. 18, 2022

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- Go to hopeadultlearning.com
- Scan the QR Code
- Contact Donna Daulton
at (228) 806-4673



An Adult Reading & Writing Ministry