

THE TIDE

The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association

February 2023 Vol. 59 No. 1

11201 Old Highway 49 Gulfport, Mississippi 39503

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[Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association | Facebook](#)



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*A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another:
just as I have loved you,
you also are to love one another.
John 13:34*

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Upcoming Events in Your Association

- Missionary in Residence— Feb 19-22
- Hancock Cluster - Mockingbird Café 8:30-9:30am—Feb 20
- Harrison County Cluster - Cracker Barrel 8-9am—Feb 21
- Stone County Cluster 9-10am—Feb 22
- Walk through the Bible FBC Long Beach, 9am-12pm— Mar 4
- Week of Prayer: North American Missions—Mar 5-12
- GCBA Thailand Exploratory Journey—Mar 13-20
- Hancock Cluster - Mockingbird Café 8:30-9:30am—Mar 20
- Harrison County Cluster - Cracker Barrel 8-9am—Mar 21
- Stone County Cluster 9-10am—Mar 22

**DO YOU WANT TO BE
OUR NEXT FEATURED
PASTOR IN OUR
“PASTOR SPOTLIGHT”?
PLEASE CALL THE
ASSOCIATION AT
228-832-4311
TO SIGN UP!**

Staff:

Dr. Steve Mooneyham-
Executive Director/Treasurer

Rev. Grayson Orman-
Interim Assoc. AMS

Robin Knapp - Executive
Ministry/Financial Assistant

Kirsten King - Receptionist/
Administrative Assistant

FROM
THE
DESK OF

STEVE MOONEYHAM

AMD

When I was considering a call to become a DOM back in the 1990s, a fellow DOM in Louisiana advised me, “Don’t do it unless you have the gift of meetings, because you will have a lot of them!” He was right. As the adage goes, “If I had a nickel for every meeting I have attended...” well you know the rest.

Last week, I had the opportunity to take part in a very special meeting with the MGCCC Baptist Student Union.

BSU is one of the best parts of associational ministry. David MacLellan is the Director for BSU ministries at MGCCC. He, along with his two interns, minister to students at the Perkinston, Harrison County and Jackson County campuses. The aforementioned meeting involved people from churches who relate to BSU at those campuses. This group serves as an advisory committee assisting David in developing and strengthening ministries which result in the Gospel being shared with students on all three campuses.

Each BSU receives support in a couple of ways. The BSU Director’s salary is provided by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Funding for interns and BSU ministries comes partly from supporting associations (in the case of MGCCC those are the GCBA and Jackson County Associations) and partly from individual churches which include BSU in their own budgets. This is cooperation at its finest. Because of BSU, you have a presence on the college campus. Thanks for your support of BSU. It makes a difference.

Looking ahead to February and our annual Missionary-in-Residence event, there are opportunities for your church to host state missionary Tim McWilliams in your church. Give me a call to talk about scheduling .

We have partnered with **WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE** to give your church members an opportunity to take part in this unique study of the New Testament. Cost is \$10.00 per person. A few years back, we hosted the Old Testament module. Look for more information in this edition of **The TIDE**. Registration and payment can be done on our website at www.gulfcoastba.com. Look under the RESOURCES tab and scroll down a bit. You will see the link there.

The Executive Director/Treasurer Search Team continues their diligent work seeking your next Executive Director/Treasurer. Pray that they will be sensitive to God’s voice and direction.

Thanks for the joy of the journey with you.

Blessings,

Dr. Steve

Did you know every month, pastors from Stone, Harrison, and Hancock County meet together, over breakfast, to get to know each other better? Some may think this is a social club, or a waste of time, or just feel like they are too busy to take an hour out of their morning to hang out with other pastors. After all, the work pastors do is about their congregations and preparing for Sunday, Wednesday, hospital visits, and special events, not just hanging out.



I admit, when I first heard about Associational Cluster gatherings, I felt it was a big waste of time. Where is the devotional? Aren't we supposed to be pouring our hearts out to God in prayer with each other? Shouldn't someone be leading this conversation? These are all thoughts I had. Man! My heart was all wrong.

As pastors, we should yearn to be with other pastors. We should want to have time to get to know one another. How else will we form relationships with one another that results in synergistic Kingdom advancement? You may say, "I do meet with other pastors on a regular basis." That is great. Now, think about what other pastors you meet with. Are they like you? Do they have the same outlook on Spiritual things? Are they focused on the same things you are focused on? I am confident in most cases the answer to these questions is, YES. If that's the case, then you really need to attend the monthly Associational Cluster get-together. Take an hour out of your busy schedule each month and meet pastors you know little about, some with different focuses than you, and different size churches, different struggles and yes, different personalities.

Last week, I attended a cluster meeting. The outcome was amazing! I had been working on a lesson for Wednesday evening youth worship. I had everything ready to go, but one of the older pastors said something that made me think I could improve on the lesson. I went straight to my office and made changes to the Bible references I was going to use. God used that short one-hour meeting to give me deeper insight and I was thankful. In addition to the practical outcome, I now have a deeper relationship with that pastor because I told him about making the changes to my lesson. We now have a better platform upon which to build a relationship.

I am sure you will benefit from spending time with other pastors in a non-threatening relaxed atmosphere. That one-hour time slot we all think we can't give up, could be the one-hour that changes your outlook on a specific Scripture, or helps you view a church issue from a different perspective. Cluster meetings are valuable, and pastors who join in for the purpose of fellowship will benefit greatly.

Pastor Spotlight

Featuring: Derek Fortenberry at FBC Bay St. Louis

Over Thanksgiving break, my wife, Shannon, our 4 kids, and I loaded a moving truck and left Desoto County, MS, to begin serving at First Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis. I had previously served on staff at Longview Point Baptist Church in Hernando for 8 1/2 years. Just 2 weeks after moving here, I also graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with my Doctorate of Ministry and celebrated by going skydiving in West Tennessee. The emphasis of my doctoral thesis was on our call to support orphan care, and I have been greatly encouraged by the orphan care ministries here locally.

We have had a smooth transition from North Mississippi to the coast. Everyone has been incredibly welcoming and hospitable. The schools have been great for our kids, and they are already getting involved in activities here. We have also enjoyed trying out the unique local restaurants.

We have some great studies that we are looking at as a church in the new year. On Sunday mornings, we are "Exploring the Upper Room." It is an opportunity to look at John 13-17. We started at the washing of the disciples' feet and will conclude with the High Priestly Prayer just in time for Easter. We are also going through personal spiritual disciplines on Sunday nights and walking through high-level overviews of each book of the Bible on Wednesdays. I challenged our church to read through the Bible this year, and these studies are intended to be helpful tools for our members as they dive in.

One of the great opportunities we currently have is to hire new staff. We just formed committees to find our next worship and youth pastors. We are excited to see who God is bringing here to be a part of the work that He has for us.

I look forward to connecting with more pastors in our area, praying together, and working together to expand God's kingdom here on the coast.

Standing Amazed,
Derek Fortenberry
FBC, Bay St. Louis



Contributions for December 2022

CHURCH	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$0.00	\$291.17
Bay St Louis	\$2,189.54	\$16,195.20
Bay Vista	\$370.80	\$3,823.08
Bayou Talla	\$25.00	\$275.00
Bayou View	\$166.66	\$1,999.92
Bayside	\$0.00	\$25.00
Bel Aire	\$1,488.00	\$19,731.00
Big Level	\$1,699.50	\$14,083.50
Big Ridge	\$340.52	\$4,653.38
Biloxi FBC	\$548.39	\$5,715.78
Bond	\$498.30	\$7,951.35
Bridge Community	\$0.00	\$1,393.00
Brodie Road	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chinese Grace Bible	\$0.00	\$450.00
Christ Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Connect Community	\$0.00	\$2,287.00
Cornerstone	\$0.00	\$1,00.00
Crosspoint	\$173.64	\$2,067.98
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	\$20.00
Desired Nation	\$200.00	\$1485.00
Empowerment Min.	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Faithview	\$329.85	\$6,404.49
Family Worship	\$0.00	\$0.00
Faro de Esperanza	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fernwood	\$160.00	\$1,920.00
Grace Chapel	\$0.00	\$3,395.31
Grace Memorial	\$528.39	\$8,177.63
Grace Temple	\$150.00	\$1,650.00
GracePoint Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gtr. Mt Rest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulfport FBC	\$4,344.27	\$32,189.33
Handsboro	\$0.00	\$5,892.13
Harbor City	\$150.00	\$1,552.00
Harvest Church	\$0.00	\$16,347.71
Highland	\$0.00	\$522.00
Iglesia Emanuel	\$0.00	\$592.02
Jacob's Well	\$1,124.90	\$16,223.45
Lakeshore	\$50.00	\$400.00
Lizana FBC	\$0.00	\$1,439.93
Long Beach FBC	\$1,462.24	\$20,906.96
Lyman FBC	\$255.00	\$2,872.00
McHenry FBC	\$0.00	\$1,799.23
Michael Memorial	\$6,321.40	\$19,293.04
MS Korean	\$513.82	\$6,586.11
Mt. Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$0.00	\$15,567.19
North Hills	\$0.00	\$0.00
North Long Beach	\$0.00	\$1,329.98
Old Spanish Trail	\$50.00	\$450.00
Parkway	\$559.43	\$6,561.27
Pass Christian FBC	\$80.68	\$134.23
Peace	\$50.00	\$600.00
Pearlington FSBC	\$0.00	\$1,010.76
Perkinston	\$154.71	\$2,685.71
Popps Ferry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$160.00	\$1093.00
Robinwood	\$447.94	\$6,919.38
Shoreline Park	\$0.00	\$800.00
Success	\$0.00	\$1,486.83
The Church at Windance	\$256.08	\$3,927.59
Tuxechna	\$59.72	\$931.31
Vardaman Street	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vidalia's Bridge	\$0.00	\$0.00
West Gulfport	\$66.00	\$1,107.62
Wiggins FBC	\$2,739.00	\$39,092.00
Woolmarket	\$1,550.32	\$18,708.86

CHURCH *News*

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

Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association

BEL AIRE is looking for a Full-time Associate Pastor. Please email office@belairebaptist.org for more information.

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

FBC LYMAN has welcomed Gabe Palumbo as their new Youth Pastor.

FBC WIGGINS is in search of a part time Financial Assistant. Please email resumes to: fbcwreception@gmail.com.

NEW HOPE is looking for a Music Director. Please email newhopegulfport@gmail.com for more information.

OLD SPANISH TRAIL BC is looking for a piano player. Please call Pastor Paul Burdic at 228-344-3109 or 228-304-0652 (cell).

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 an Interim Children's Pastor. Contact the church office at 228-467-9461.

THE CHURCH AT WINDANCE is currently in the process of seeking a new pastor and would appreciate your prayers during this time of transition.



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
- Faithview
- Handsboro
- McHenry FBC
- North Hills
- FSB Pearlington

THAILAND

MINISTRY & EXPLORATORY JOURNEY

MARCH 13-20, 2023

- ONLY 21 "PASTORS ONLY" SPOTS AVAILABLE
- ONLY \$1,500 PER PERSON
(BECAUSE OF THE GENEROSITY OF THE GCBA & MBCB AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO OFFSET OUR COSTS)
- MUST COMMIT & PROVIDE PAYMENT BY 2/1/23
- COVID VACCINE CARD, VALID PASSPORT, IMB TRAINING & TRAVEL INSURANCE WILL BE REQUIRED
- CONTACT GRAYSON @ GCBA FOR MORE INFO AND VISIT GULFCOASTBA.COM FOR VIDEOS



IMPORTANT TO YOU



Missionary - in - Residence: Tim McWilliams

**Director of Partner Ministries,
Baptist Children's Village**

State Focused Missions (CP and MLSMO)

February 19-22, 2023

**Churches are encouraged to use
Rev. McWilliams in Worship Services,
and other Children's, Youth, and Adult
gatherings. Contact the Association to
schedule him for your church.**



**FBC LONG BEACH
300 N. CLEVELAND AVE
MARCH 4, 2023 9AM-12PM
REGISTRATION AT 8:30AM
PRE REG \$10 DOOR: \$15**

**An ntLIVE brings the New Testament to
life, involves participants in the story,
and equips them to not only know it
but effectively share it with others.**



**WALK
THRU
THE
BIBLE**

walkthru.org/events/ntlive



2023 MBDR REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS

REGION 5	February 11, 2023	Carterville Baptist Church • Petal, MS
REGION 4	February 25, 2023	Midway Baptist Church • Meridian, MS
REGION 3	March 11, 2023	First Baptist Church • Flora, MS
REGION 2	March 25, 2023	Belden Baptist Church • Belden, MS
REGION 1	April 15, 2023	First Baptist Church • Batesville, MS

Registration will begin at 7:30 AM with classes beginning at 8:30 AM.

CLASSES OFFERED:

Basic Chainsaw Safety • Chaplaincy • Clean-Up/Recovery
Mass Feeding

- Cost is \$25 for volunteers to obtain new credentials (first-time, renewal, etc).
- Cost is \$15 for current credentialed volunteers.
- Volunteers of any age can attend but must be at least 18 years of age to receive credentials.
- Only one class per training event.



Hubert Yates, State Director
Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief
P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • 601.292.3334

CHILDREN'S SAFETY
IS NOT A MINOR ISSUE

CHURCH SAFETY FOR MINORS WORKSHOP

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

FEBRUARY 6
NORTH GREENWOOD BC,
GREENWOOD

FEBRUARY 7
WEST HEIGHTS BC, PONTOTOC

SEPTEMBER 11
NORTHCREST BC, MERIDIAN

SEPTEMBER 12
WEST ELLISVILLE BC, ELLISVILLE

Dr. James Reeves will speak on
"Survivor care in the church"
during each workshop.

For more info and a special discount
code for your church to join Ministry
Safe: www.ministrysafe.com/mccb

Register online at
mccb.org/events
\$25 online/\$30 at door



*Registration for Fall dates will open July 1st

B BETTERMAN
is for men who want something different.
Something better.



Pastor Chris Harper, author, speaker,
and disciple-maker, serves as BetterMan's
Chief Storyteller and CEO

Chris will be our guest at the **Mississippi Baptist Convention Board**
Monday, March 20, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.
We invite you to join us for this informative discussion that will help
you in developing an effective discipleship strategy to disciple men.

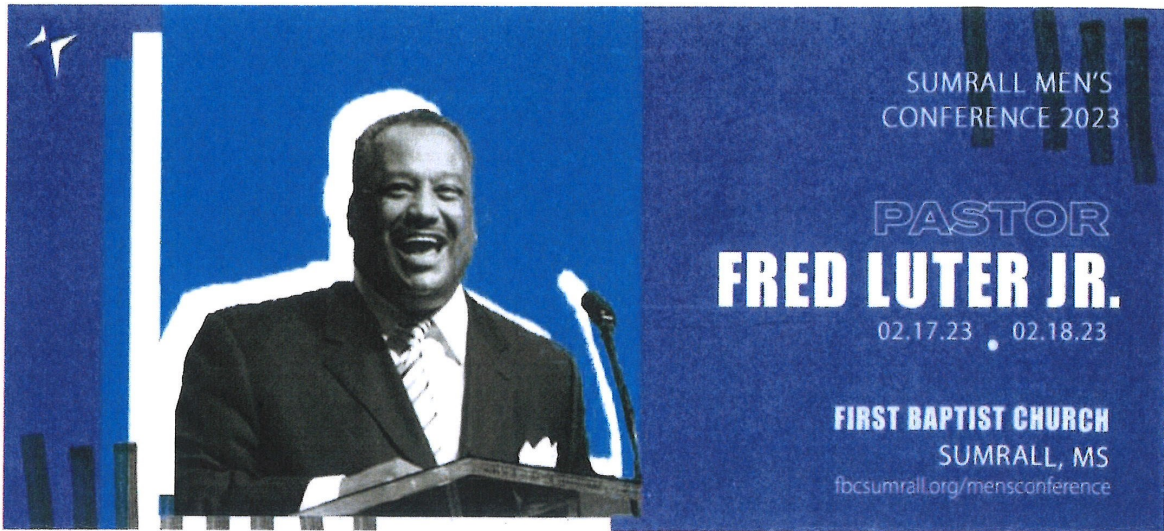
Lunch is provided so registration is required.



*Scan the QR code
to register!*

To learn more about BetterMan, visit betterman.com





\$25 BEFORE FEBRUARY 12 // \$30 AT THE DOOR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

5:00—6:30 PM FISH PLATE SUPPER (INCLUDED)

6:45—8:30 PM SESSION #1

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:30—8:30 AM BREAKFAST (INCLUDED)

8:30—9:45 AM SESSION #2

9:45—10:00 AM BREAK

10:00—11:30 AM SESSION #3 & DISMISS

IMPORTANT TO YOU

GCBA AMD SEARCH UPDATE

The search team is continuing to meet regularly. They are no longer accepting resumes at this time. They have now narrowed the search of candidates and will meet again on February 8. Please continue to pray for each member of the team below as they consider our next AMD.

The members of this Team are:

MODERATOR: Rev. Ray Duplessie
VICE-MODERATOR: Rev. Paul Crowley
STRATEGY TEAM CHAIR: Rev. Adam Bennett
ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM CHAIR: Mrs. Brenda Davis
FINANCE TEAM CHAIR: Mr. Frank Raises
HANCOCK AT-LARGE: Rev. Barry Ginn
STONE AT-LARGE: Mrs. Sandra Parsons
HARRISON AT-LARGE: Rev. Gregg Magee, Sr.
HARRISON AT-LARGE: Mr. Doug Bradford



1st Annual Youth Conference

Maximum Strength
for GOD!



Holy Spirit Filled Preaching - Changed Lives. Teenagers still need good, strong preaching! The guest speakers bring messages geared directly towards the needs of our young people.

Old-fashioned altar calls with an emphasis on - Decision Time. To the glory of God, hundreds of decisions are publicly made by teenagers each year during a Youth Conference. Whether it is salvation, surrender to God's will, repentance of sin, or renewing a walk with God...the old-fashioned altar call gives everyone an opportunity to solidify the decisions they have made.



Fun & Exciting - Activities. Your group is guaranteed to make some unforgettable memories. Every game and activity is planned for maximum enjoyment. Have a great time mixing it up with other young people.



Pastor Barry Ginn
Shoreline Park Baptist Church
Bay St Louis, MS



Pastor Paul Benard
Overflow Baptist
Church Magie, MS



Pastor Steve McNeil
N. Long Beach
Baptist Church
Longbeach, MS



**BSBC -
Pastor
Stan and
his Wife
Patricia**



Bro. Marc Calvert
Turning Points
Wiggins, MS

DATES & TIMES: June 5 - 8, 2023 (F-S) 9 am - 6pm **LOCATION:** TBA - We are working with several locations

Events: Preaching, Gospel Music, Classes, Group Scenario Activities, Testimonies, Paintball / Games, BBQ, Prizes, & More.
(Conference: Per person & Group Rates Available Meals Provided - Please contact us at sperrret20@ses.edu or 601.795.5674)



GCBA is now offering background checks through a new service called Church Check. We can now offer more extensive federal checks for Pastors with this service, along with services we previously offered. If you are in need of background services for your church, please call the GCBA office at 228-832-4311 for more information.

**Women's Community Support Center!
Free Employment Skill Classes - Begin February, 2023**



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 2023 8-Week Class Session starts in February. 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 for more information and to Pre-Register for this upcoming Class Session (228) 586-3510.

Christian Women's Job Corp., a nationally recognized ministry, offers women free classes which include:

- Job Skills classes covering resume writing, completing applications, GED preparation, communication skills, work ethic
- Life Skills training covering money management, anger management, health, nutrition, and fitness
- Individual Christian mentors who help establish and measure long and short-term goals
- Bible Study on a variety of topics from Biblical overview to dealing with life's struggles

All classes and training are geared towards preparing these women for full-time meaningful employment.

The **Christian Women's Job Corp.** program is also offered free to any women in the community who are willing and able to attend the weekly classes for the 8 weeks where they are responsible for their own transportation to and from the center. These women do not reside at Magdalene House but do use the facility for the classes. For more information go to: www.womenscommunitysupport.org



**Annie Armstrong
Easter
Offering®**

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering 2023 – NAMB

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is a registered trademark of the WMU

**100% of your gifts support
North American missionaries**





Greetings Gulf Coast Baptist Association Family!

2023 is in full swing now for MGCCC BSU. We started out the semester here at Perk with several welcome-back events to connect with new students and continue to build relationships with returning students.



We now are back with all of our regular BSU ministry events: Worship Nights, Free Lunch, and Student-Led Bible Studies. Be in prayer that there would be much fruit from these ministries as we seek to evangelize the lost and help students grow in their faith.

In January we had our first BSU Impact Team meeting. This team is made up of representatives from churches across the GCBA and JCBA who support Gulf Coast BSU. It was a productive meeting of discussing strategy, financial stewardship, reporting on what the Lord has done, and looking ahead to what is to come for BSU.

I ask for you to be in prayer for us this semester as we continue to share the Gospel on campus and make disciples. Also, be in prayer for students to say yes to going on our Spring Break Mission Trip in March.

Thank you all for your continued support of the ministry of the BSU. May the Lord bless you as you seek to make disciples and minister to your communities!

David MacLellan

Director of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

(228)-327-6240

davidbeckettmac@gmail.com

HC BSU This semester started off strong! I've been blown away in these few weeks with student engagement. We were able to talk and engage with students by passing out water bottles! We started back Free Lunches with Grayson Orman coming to talk about the call placed on our life! When I say I was blown away, I meant it. We had around 40 students! While that [number is great, what's more exciting to me is that around 40 students were engaged and challenged with the Gospel! We had FBC Gulfport and Chris Weir come and kick off our walk through Colossians! I'm excited to see what God is doing on this campus this semester!

God Bless, Bradley Farabee





OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Many thanks to all those who provided the Good News and great joy to children around the world through Operation Christmas Child. Millions of children will experience God's love through the shoeboxes collected this year. Our Area collected 13,558 shoeboxes that were shipped to the Atlanta's Central Processing Center where over 1.6 million shoeboxes were processed for shipment around the world.



Please continue to pray for the children you lifted up when you packed your shoebox. Continue to ask God to soften their heart to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so that they will follow Him all the days of their life. Pray also for families and entire communities to be transformed as God's love is shared through your simple gift. The shoeboxes donated by our local churches were the first to be processed and were shipped on November 26th to the African countries of Mali and Burkina Faso for distribution.

These countries are located in West Africa on the edge of the Sahara Desert.

In addition, the local churches built shoebox gifts online that will send the Gospel to children in the world's hardest-to reach locations - whether deep jungles, city slums, steep mountainsides, or one of 1,000 remote Pacific islands. Many of these areas are resistant to the Gospel, for cultural or religious reasons, and are home to numerous unreached people groups, some of whom have never heard the Name of Jesus Christ.

Please continue to pray for this ministry. Please pray that these shoebox gifts will be useful tools to open doors for the proclamation of the gospel. Please pray for all those who are participating in some way to the mission of Operation Christmas Child, and for the process of collecting, processing, transporting, and delivering of the boxes to their rightful destinations.

In just a few weeks we will begin to plan and prepare for the 2023 shoebox collection. Please contact Doug Bradford, 228-206-0345, if you would like more information about Operation Christmas Child. There are volunteer opportunities available to serve as a member of the Administrative Support Team, Media Support Team, Church Relations Team, Prayer Team, Student Relations Team, Community Relations Team or as a Short-Term Volunteer during the annual National Collection Week which is always the third week in November.

