

THE TIDE



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The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association

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11201 Old Highway 49 Gulfport, Mississippi 39503

www.gulfcoastba.com

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

Annual Church Profile

Why is it Beneficial to Fill Out the ACP?

WE LEARN ABOUT OUR PAST

Completing your ACP gives insights about the history and lessons of the past.
(Joshua 4:1-7)

WE LEARN ABOUT OUR PRESENT

Completing your ACP gives church leaders insight about the present.
(Matthew 18:12-14)

WE LEARN ABOUT OUR FUTURE

Completing your ACP gives church leaders insights for planning the future.
(Jeremiah 29:11)



Important Dates:

July 8 - ACP's available online www.sbcworkspace.com

July 15 - ACP Overview 10am mbcb.org/mbcbconnect

July 17 - ACP Packet Online 10am mbcb.org/mbcbconnect

Oct 1 - ACP's Due Online or hard copy to the Association

Please contact our GCBA office if you would prefer a hard copy ACP to complete instead of the online option.



Inside the Tide:

Brian Rushing, AMS - Sunday School Training pg. 2

Church Contributions as of May 2025 pg. 3

Church News pg. 3

GCBA Upcoming Meetings pg. 4

Singing Churchwomen Concert - Parkway BC pg. 4

Missions Madness 2025 - Mounties for Missions pg. 5

Christian Women's Job Corp - Gospel Music/BBQ pg. 6

Hope Adult Learning Tutor Training pg. 6

Impact Training - FBC Laurel pg. 7

Equipping Leaders Weekend - Brandon B.C. pg. 8

Upcoming Events in Your Association

IMB Lunch with James & Kristie Roberts GCBA TC 11:30am - July 2

Office Closed for Independence Day - July 3

Monthly Minister's Meeting GCBA Training Center 11am - July 15

Hancock County Coffee - Mockingbird Café 8:15am - July 21

Stone County Coffee - Perk BSU House 8:30am - July 23

GCBA Executive Board Meeting - GCBA Training Center 6pm - July 28

Harrison County Coffee - Cracker Barrel 8am - July 29

Book Reading Cohort GCBA Training Center 11:30am - Aug 12

Monthly Minister's Meeting GCBA Training Center 10:30am - Aug 19

Hancock County Coffee - Mockingbird Café 8:15am - Aug 25

Harrison County Coffee - Cracker Barrel 8am - Aug 26

Stone County Coffee - Gateway Christian Academy 8:30am - Aug 27

Happy
FOURTH

ESTD  1776

FROM BRIAN, ROBIN, DAVE
AND ISAAC

Staff:

Dr. Brian Rushing
Executive Director/Treasurer

David Knapp
Facilities/Maintenance

Robin Knapp
Executive Ministry/Financial Assistant

Isaac Sivils
Ministry Intern

“Preparing Sunday School & Small Group Leaders”

We are halfway through the summer break, which means that churches will soon be promoting children and students into their new Sunday School classes. While our leaders don't change every year, and while our adult classes don't typically promote into a new class, this is still a great time to have a Sunday School training to help all of your leaders hone their skills before the “fall semester” begins.

FROM THE
DESK OF

BRIAN RUSHING

AMS

After the worship service, the largest on-going ministry that most of our churches have is Sunday School (a.k.a., Bible-focused Small Groups). It typically involves more volunteers than any other ministry in the church. It engages many people – church members and guests, young and old. It utilizes the most space. It requires a significant budget. And we are willing to put that much time, finances, and energy into this ministry because of its potential impact to our church and for the kingdom.

And since our Sunday School Ministry is this impactful to our church, we need to train the leaders of this most important ministry. We shouldn't see this training as something to possibly do on occasion. We should see it as a necessary investment to help our groups provide the most impact for the kingdom. The leaders of your small groups greatly impact the direction of your church family, as you entrust them with leading their class members for 52 weeks of the year. Therefore, we need to make sure they are ready to lead in the right direction.

The Bible is the most important book that our people can study and discuss. And if math teachers and English teachers and science teachers have to engage in regular Continuing Education to teach their subjects, shouldn't our leaders expect us to provide them with ongoing training? Shouldn't we provide them with training that helps them become the most effective teachers of the most important book and the most important subject?

Making disciples is a primary goal of the church, and Sunday School is one of the most important and largest ministries of the church. That means the goal of Sunday School is to make disciples. Discipleship author, Jim Putman says: “We believe a church should make an intentional shift that nurtures...biblical relational discipleship.... Since making disciples is the main reason why a church exists, everything in the corporate body of the local church needs to be aligned in a way that funnels people toward these discipleship environments, the most notable of which is the relational small group.”

I encourage you to provide training for your Sunday School and Small Group Leaders. And if you need assistance on when and how to do that, I would love to brainstorm with you about it. And if you need someone to provide training for your leaders, I would be happy to help provide it.

Grateful for your churches and your leadership!

Brian

Contributions for May 2025

CHURCH	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$180.00	\$360.00
Bay St Louis	\$2,025.00	\$8,513.00
Bay Vista	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bayou Church	\$25.00	\$125.00
Bayou View	\$83.33	\$416.65
Bel Aire	\$991.00	\$4,919.00
Big Level	\$1,250.00	\$6,250.00
Big Ridge	\$364.10	\$1,843.21
Biloxi FBC	\$639.08	\$2,935.99
Bond	902.95	\$3,475.70
Brodie Road	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chinese Grace Bible	\$800.00	\$800.00
Christ Church	\$217.35	\$1,287.35
Church @ 112 (C112)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cornerstone	\$100.00	\$600.00
Crosspoint	\$322.79	\$1,995.71
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Desired Nation	\$92.56	\$292.56
Empowerment Min. CC	\$0.00	\$200.00
Faithview	\$684.10	\$3,338.24
Faro de Esperanza	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fernwood	\$0.00	\$200.00
Grace Chapel	\$392.39	\$1,580.93
Grace Memorial	\$369.26	\$3,032.06
Grace Temple	\$0.00	\$100.00
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulfport FBC	\$1,746.74	\$10,486.48
Handsboro	\$721.52	\$3,407.65
Harbor City	\$50.00	\$200.00
Harvest Church	\$250.00	\$1,250.00
Highland	\$170.97	\$352.65
Hope City Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Iglesia Emanuel	\$42.03	\$245.16
Jacob's Well	\$1,753.44	\$10,475.40
Lakeshore	\$100.00	\$150.00
Lizana FBC	\$0.00	\$65.10
Long Beach FBC	\$1,507.58	\$9,180.20
Lyman FBC	\$223.00	\$1,173.00
McHenry FBC	\$224.95	\$1,276.89
Michael Memorial	\$1,372.45	\$7,301.38
MS Korean	\$347.57	\$1,725.81
Mt. Chapel	\$25.00	\$100.00
New Hope	\$0.00	\$7,943.21
North Long Beach	\$0.00	\$1,842.86
Old Spanish Trail	\$50.00	\$250.00
Parkway	\$564.45	\$3,204.94
Pass Christian FBC	\$0.00	\$215.69
Peace	\$0.00	\$205.00
Pearlington FSBC	\$0.00	\$279.00
Perkinston	\$304.03	\$1,255.34
Popps Ferry	\$135.00	\$405.00
Riverside	\$185.00	\$863.00
Robinwood	\$603.66	\$3,041.17
Shoreline Park	\$0.00	\$300.00
Success	\$0.00	\$534.64
The Church at Windance	\$442.85	\$2,274.58
The Ch. Of Turning Points	\$15.00	\$45.00
Tuxechena	\$72.52	\$392.37
West Gulfport	\$0.00	\$254.24
Wiggins FBC	\$3,658.73	\$21,468.25
Woolmarket	\$1,111.04	\$6,596.54

CHURCH*News*

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 us to publicize, please contact the office. We will post the information at:

Open Church Positions | Gulf Coast Baptist.

First Baptist Long Beach would like to announce the retirement of Mrs. Brenda Davis on August 1. Brenda has served faithfully as their Education Minister since August 1998. Prior to that, Brenda served almost 5 years as the Director of Education and Ministries with the GCBA. Thank you, Brenda for 32 years of ministry in our Association.

A **Dessert Fellowship** will be held in Brenda's honor at First Baptist Long Beach on **Sunday, July 27, 2025 at 3pm**. You are invited to join them in this celebration.

Congratulations to Caleb Lewis, pastor **Faithview** and his wife, Heather on the birth of their son, Abram Elijah on May 30. Their daughter, Shiloh is enjoying her new role as big sister/helper.

PASTOR SEARCH

Join us in praying for these churches as they seek God's wisdom and guidance in calling a pastor:

- Handsboro
- Pearlington FSBC
- Success

2025 Associational Meetings



July 28 **Executive Board**
Monday at 6pm
GCBA Training Center

Oct 6 **Executive Board**
Monday at 6pm
GCBA Training Center

Oct 20 **Annual Meeting
of the Association**
Monday at 6:30pm
Bel Aire Baptist Church

www.gulfcoastba.com



2025

MS BAPTIST SINGING CHURCHWOMEN

September 28
Parkway Baptist Church
17284 Highway 67
Biloxi MS 39532
6:00 p.m.

The Mississippi Baptist Singing Churchwomen are comprised of female worship ministry leaders—ministers of music, accompanists, children's choir coordinators, etc.—from across the state of Mississippi. Sharing a similar mission as the Singing Churchmen, these women have a long history of gathering to share testimony through song. The Churchwomen gather annually for a rehearsal retreat in the Fall and sing throughout the year.

MISSIONS MADNESS 2025:

“MOUNTIES FOR MISSIONS...ALL ABOUT CANADA”

Come join us for a fun-filled day of missions.

Missions Madness is for all boys and girls
1st - 6th grades and their leaders.

Please bring your children's groups; GA, RA and CA kids.

\$10 per child to cover snacks/meals

To Register Online Visit:

<https://www.gulfcoastba.com/event-details/missions-madness>

Saturday, September 13, 2025

9am-2pm

First Baptist Church Gulfport

12190 Hwy 605

Gulfport 39503





Literacy

THE KEY
THAT UNLOCKS AND
OPENS DOORS

Hope Adult Learning Basic Tutor Training

5 Sessions Total

***FIRST SESSION:** Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025

***TIME:** 9:00 to Noon

***LOCATION:** 11201 Old Hwy 49, Gulfport

***REGISTRATION FEE:** Early \$35. Late \$45

***EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Sun. Aug. 17

FIND OUT MORE AT

www.hopeadultlearning.com

*CONTACT

Donna Daulton

228-256-3610

hopeadultlearning@gmail.com



2025

MBCB

IMPACT

training

August 18: FBC Laurel

5:15-8:30PM • 607 W 5th St, Laurel, MS 39440

WHAT IS IMPACT TRAINING?

Impact provides training for pastors, church staff, and volunteer leaders in age group ministries.

PANELISTS

Shawn Parker • Jon Martin
Rena Register • Greg Spencer

BREAKOUT LEADERS

Engaging Your Community Through Strategic Planning

Greg Spencer, Lead Pastor, First Baptist, Ellisville

Engaging Your Community Through Small Groups

Brad Hodges, Groups Pastor, Temple Baptist, Hattiesburg

Engaging Your Community Through Events

Kelli Brent, Next Gen Director, Temple Baptist, Hattiesburg

Engaging Your Community Through Personal Evangelism

Chad McCord, Missions Mobilization Director, MBCB

Don Lum, Evangelism Director, MBCB



REGISTER HERE

2025
**ENGAGE
YOUR
COMMUNITY**
Theme

Dinner is provided
for those who
pre-register.
Deadline to register
is 1 week prior to the
event date!

SCHEDULE

5:15 PM	Dinner
6:00 PM	Welcome
6:10 PM	Panel Discussion
7:00 PM	Breakouts
8:30 PM	Dismissal

Register at mbcb.org/events

All Locations: Aug. 7 Philadelphia • Aug. 11 Greenwood • Aug. 12 Tupelo • Aug. 18 Laurel • Aug. 19 Natchez

**AUGUST 22-23, 2025
BRANDON BAPTIST CHURCH**

ESSENTIAL TOOLS

**for Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry,
Multicultural and WMU Leaders**



EQUIPPING LEADERS WEEKEND

with Mississippi WMU Annual Meeting

SPECIAL GUESTS

Visit www.mbc.org/equippingleaders for a complete list of conference leaders, conference titles, descriptions, and schedules after June 1.



HEATHER KELLER
Student Missions
National WMU



ALICIA WONG
Women's Ministry
LifeWay



ANN RIALS
Children's Missions
WM/WMU



MIKE LAZENBY
Representative
IMB



PRESTON CROWE
Counseling Pastor
Broadmoor BC



JOSH KUBLER
Associate Pastor
Redeemer BC



JESS DILLEY
Pastor
FBC Lake



JUSTIN CRAFT
IA/Challengers
Trinity BC



VICKY STUART
Deaf Ministry
MBCB



DWAYNE PARKER
Discipleship/SS
MBCB



PAULA SMITH
Multicultural
MBCB



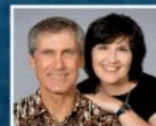
TAMMY SMITH
Children's Ministry
Parkway BC



STEPHANIE NEWTON
Adult Missions
National WMU



TAMMY ANDERSON
Women's Ministries/WMU
MBCB



MATT & SHEA WILLIAMS
IMB Representatives
Southeast Asia

SCHEDULE

Friday, August 22

- 2:00 PM Registration/Exhibits Available
- 3:00 PM Conference Session #1
- 4:00 PM Conference Session #2
- 5:00 PM Dinner (Multipurpose Building)
- 6:00 PM General Session
- 7:30 PM Conference Session #3
- 8:30 PM Dismiss

Saturday, August 23

Doors Open: 8:00 AM - Exhibits Available

- 8:30 AM Conference Session #4
- 9:30 AM Conference Session #5
- 10:30 AM Grab & Go Break
- 10:45 AM Conference Session #6
- 11:45 AM General Session
- 12:45 PM Lunch (Multipurpose Building)
- 1:45 PM MS WMU Annual Meeting
- 2:45 PM Dismiss

REGISTRATION

\$15 Program Fee • Saturday Lunch Provided
No refunds after August 15, substitutions allowed.

\$10 Dinner (Friday)

No refunds after August 15, substitutions allowed.

*Walk-ins can pay at the door with cash or check. Meals may not be available. Please register ahead of time if you can.

To register, make checks payable to MBCB with memo EL25, mail to MS WM/WMU, PO Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. To register with a credit card, scan the QR code below.



This event is co-sponsored by Discipleship/Sunday School (MBCB), Multicultural Ministries (MBCB) and Women's Ministries/WMU. Mississippi WMU is a department of and an auxiliary to Mississippi Baptist Convention.

GENERAL SESSIONS

Friday @ 6:00 PM

"Sharing Your Faith"

Greg & Abby Wilton

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Saturday @ 11:45 AM

"Being Equipped and Inspired to Make Disciples"

Sandy Wisdom-Martin

National WMU

Saturday @ 1:45 PM

****Mississippi WMU Annual Meeting****

"Be A Joy Multiplier"

Sandy Wisdom-Martin

National WMU



GREG & ABBY WILTON



SANDY WISDOM-MARTIN

SPECIAL FEATURES

WorldCrafts Market

(Check or Credit Card Sales Only)
Friday: 2:00-6:00 PM • 7:30-8:30 PM
Saturday: 8:00-11:30 AM • 12:30-1:30 PM

Missions IDEAS Exchange with Sandy

Friday: 3:00 PM • Saturday: 9:30 AM

Missions & Ministry Exhibits

Located throughout the event, available all weekend

CONFERENCES

The list below includes topics of conferences being offered. For a complete list of conference titles, descriptions, leaders and schedule, please visit www.mbc.org/events (select Equipping Leaders 2025) after June 1.

Men's Ministry Leaders

Men's Ministry Curriculum: What is Available and How is it Used
Equipping Fathers to Disciple Their Families
Breaking Chains: Leading Men to Freedom in Christ
Building a Lasting Men's Discipleship Ministry

Women's Enrichment Leaders

Ministry to Women Essentials
Women in Biblical Perspectives

WMU Leaders

WMU Directors / Churchwide Missions
Adult Missions
Sisters Who Care (African American WOM)
Acteens/ Challengers/ Youth on Mission
Children in Action/ Girls in Action/ Royal Ambassadors
Mission Friends

Missions & Ministries

Challenges & Opportunities for Connection in YOUR Neighborhood
Compassion Ministries
Cross-Cultural Evangelism
Cross-Cultural Partnerships
Deaf Culture and Ministry in Mississippi
How Your Church Can Start a Deaf Ministry
MBCB Missions Involvement Opportunities
Missionary Conferences
Missions Opportunities with IMB

Spiritual/Personal Development

Praying for and with the Lost
Self-Care for Leaders
Starting Spiritual Conversations

Contact WM/WMU at amassey@mbcb.org or 601-292-3319 for more information.