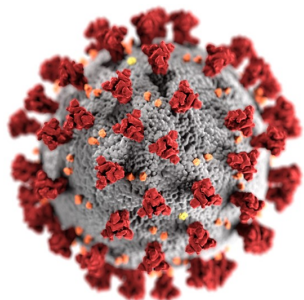


THE TIDE

The news publication of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association

April 2020 Vol. 56 No. 3



Updates Due to Covid-19

During this time of “Shelter in Place”, your Association like many of you are finding alternative ways of ministering. Please know we are here for you whether by phone, text, email or video conference. So often we are frustrated by the plethora of technology that bombards us. Today, we thank God for those means that allow us to stay close when physically we must remain apart.

Please take time to read the updates due to Covid-19 on page 6 of this publication. Also, don't forget to check our FB page “Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association” for information as well as live messages from Dr. Mooneyham.

God bless and be safe!

Easter Sunday won't look like it normally does on April 12, 2020. Our family gatherings if at all, will be limited. Our favorite foods may not be available at the grocery. Our “Easter finery” will seem superfluous in light of the situation.

However, we must remember what Sunday, April 12, 2020 will look like. Churches will be reaching people beyond their four walls thanks to the world wide web. The Gospel of Jesus Christ will be proclaimed through more YouTube channels than ever imagined. Families will invent new traditions that will enrich their lives for years to come.

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020 will have a different face but what won't change is the message.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,” John 11:25

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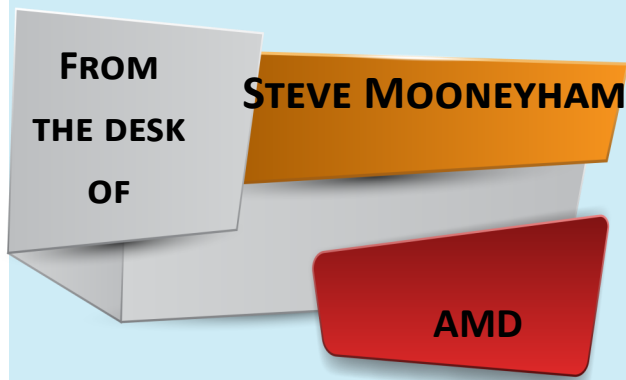
Email—office@gulfcoastba.com www.gulfcoastba.com

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Staff continued:

Grayson Orman-Ministry Strategist

Robin Knapp-Executive Ministry/Financial Assistant



Greetings Friends!

Charles Dickens began his book, "A Tale of Two Cities," with these words, "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." You might agree with him about these days being "the worst of times."

One of my favorite phrases in Scripture is the oft repeated "and it came to pass." This is a little out of context, but these words remind me that, except for eternity, nothing lasts forever. Childhood and its joys or challenges does not last forever. Nothing we buy lasts forever. It even seems

like automobiles, which cost so much, are expendable purchases! And as much as this COVID-19 thing seems to go on and on, it will not last forever; nor will the burdens and inconveniences imposed by it last forever. Yet, as we endure these days, it sure is difficult to see an end! These days will pass, hopefully soon and then we may be able to say with Dickens, these are "the best of times."

In the meantime, however, we deal with the need to exercise social distancing; continue to figure out how to do church remotely; how to minister to congregations. We deal with questions we never considered just 3 short months ago. As you discover solutions and ideas, consider posting them on our Facebook Group page, "Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association." If you're not already a member, request to become a member and one of the moderators will approve you. This is for posting church related information. It is not for advertising your business. Check it regularly to see what other churches are doing and how they are ministering through this time.

Things are changing so rapidly, so it seems superfluous to list calendar events. Our GCBA Executive Team met a few weeks ago and determined to close our facility to all events through April 5, 2020. This is likely to change, especially given that the Mayor of Gulfport issued a "Safer at Home" proclamation which went into effect at midnight April 1, 2020 through the end of April 2020. I will meet again with the Executive Team to discuss how to proceed with upcoming Executive Board and Spring Meeting business. We will endeavor to keep updates posted on our website regarding future developments.

Please be assured that your associational staff is available to you as we work from home. Our telephone system is internet based which means we can take our desk units home and you can still reach us by calling the office number. You can always reach Dionne and me on our cellphones. Our ministry to you continues. Don't hesitate to let us know how we can serve you.

Praying for you constantly!

Dr. Steve



Hello from the home desk of Dionne Williams! Susie and I are sheltering in place as much as possible during this time and we pray that you and yours continue to be safe from illness. With all of the inconveniences of this situation, I still marvel with all God has provided for His children. Fifteen years ago we *HAD* to meet outside for worship because we had no building. Now we have the opportunity to worship as a family together, yet separated by miles through the amazing smart phone! Plus we live in a country where we are FREE to air our worship without worry that soldiers will come and find us to take us away. Several of the pastors I have talked to have expressed their amazement at the relative ease of using Facebook Live to share not just with their respective church families, but with others who are surfing the internet to hear the Word of God. These same pastors are using this opportunity to add online giving to their church programming. I am pretty sure I was the first to use the new online giving app that The Church at Windance added (Susie's and my church)! One pastor shared that he is using the time to meet with the Lord to determine if God has a "reset" of ministry for his particular church. Thank you, God, that in the midst of a pandemic, you provide a way!

VBS NEWS – If you need VBS training for this year's material from LifeWay, the MBCB Sunday School department is working to produce videos but they will not be available until April 20. Here is the link to the LifeWay training videos.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/lifewayvbs/videos>

BIBLE DRILL INFORMATION – Awards for the 2020 Church Bible Drill winners will be given out at next year's (2021) State Drills.

Be safe! Be healthy! Believe we will prevail through this with God's help!

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING®

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National Goal: \$70,000,000.00

HOW YOUR GIFTS EQUIP AND ENCOURAGE NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONARIES

\$5 Bus fare for travel in the local community

\$25 Meal with an unreached person

\$85 Subscriptions for training resources

\$100 Anniversary gift for a missionary couple

\$175 Laundromat fees for a family of four

\$300 Training and conferences for a church planter's wife

\$500 Food and supplies for a neighborhood outreach event

\$1,000 Emergency travel assistance for a missionary family


\$1,200 Bibles, gospel tracts and discipleship materials for a church plant

\$1,400 Monthly worship facility rent

\$5,000 Worship equipment for a new church plant

Every gift to the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®**—100 percent—supports thousands of missionaries across the United States and Canada.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING!



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**It's all
about the
gospel**

100% of your gifts support
North American missionaries

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**North American
Mission Board**

Contributions for February 2020

CHURCH	MONTHLY	YR. TO DATE
Back Bay	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bay St Louis	\$900.50	\$4,044.38
Bay Vista	\$251.33	\$607.48
Bayou Talla	\$25.00	\$50.00
Bayou View	\$166.66	\$333.32
Bayside	\$25.00	\$50.00
Bel Aire	\$1,368.89	\$3,046.82
Big Level	\$1,183.00	\$2,366.00
Big Ridge	\$348.40	\$857.42
Biloxi FBC	\$553.36	\$1,575.64
Bond	\$783.44	\$2,195.59
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	\$114.00	\$186.00
Cornerstone	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crosspoint	\$196.09	\$357.33
Delisle FBC	\$0.00	\$0.00
Desired Nation	\$178.77	\$178.77
Emmanuel	\$25.00	\$50.00
Faithview	\$443.72	\$1,029.13
Family Worship	\$0.00	\$0.00
Faro de Esperanza	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fernwood	\$160.00	\$320.00
Grace Chapel	\$562.92	\$562.92
Grace Memorial	\$565.80	\$1,757.93
GracePoint Church	\$0.00	\$50.00
Grace Temple	\$600.00	\$600.00
Gtr. Mt Rest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulf Gardens	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gulfport FBC	\$4,342.33	\$9,110.94
Handsboro	\$591.78	\$1,496.95
Harbor City	\$75.00	\$135.00
Highland	\$196.80	\$196.80
Iglesia Emanuel	\$23.52	\$44.87
Jacob's Well	\$987.39	\$2,101.98
Lakeshore	\$50.00	\$50.00
Lizana FBC	\$146.45	\$387.30
Long Beach FBC	\$1,413.70	\$3,948.71
Lyman FBC	\$189.00	\$424.00
McHenry FBC	\$314.01	\$558.08
Michael Memorial	\$1,384.60	\$3,167.37
MS Korean	\$362.46	\$838.79
Mt. Chapel	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$1,039.45	\$4,115.26
North Hills	\$0.00	\$0.00
North Long Beach	\$100.72	\$244.62
Old Spanish Trail	\$0.00	\$0.00
Parkway	\$660.28	\$1,375.20
Pass Christian FBC	\$57.45	\$143.09
Peace	\$50.00	\$100.00
Pearlington FSBC	\$528.96	\$528.96
Perkinston	\$0.00	\$191.39
Popps Ferry	\$0.00	\$184.98
Riverside	\$60.00	\$60.00
Robinwood	\$420.55	\$1,105.08
Saucier FBC	\$50.00	\$100.00
Shoreline Park	\$100.00	\$200.00
Success	\$306.94	\$306.94
The Church at Windance	\$337.70	\$660.70
Trinity	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuxechena	\$127.10	\$278.17
Vardaman Street	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vidalia's Bridge	\$0.00	\$0.00
West Gulfport	\$52.68	\$192.12
Wiggins FBC	\$2,356.00	\$6,657.00
Woolmarket	\$1,316.54	\$3,488.75

CHURCH^{News}

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

Mississippi Gulf Coast Baptist Association

BOND located just north of Wiggins, is in search of a part-time Music Minister. Please direct inquiries and resumes to Dale Davis @ 601-528-0121 or email stoneprint1@gmail.com.

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.

GRACE CHAPEL has a 2003 Ford F-350 20 passenger bus for sale. For more information contact Pastor Stan Proctor at 228-493-0709. See the GCBA Facebook page for details.

GRACE MEMORIAL is over joyed in welcoming Rev. Jacob Vollm as their new pastor. Please pray for him and his family as they begin their ministry with Grace Memorial.



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

Emmanuel
New Hope
North Long Beach
Trinity



Important to You...

COVID-19 UPDATES

After talking with our Parliamentarian, Rev. Paul Crowley, he and I agreed that the situation we are all dealing with now justifies certain actions by our Executive Team (which is designated as the Emergency Operations Team for the GCBA). On Thursday April 2, 2020 the Executive Team met by video conference and took the following actions:

They voted in this meeting to CANCEL both the April Executive Board meeting and the Spring Associational meeting. (The Team initially had postponed the April Executive Board and Springs Associational meetings until May.)

There were two items of business which needed to be considered at those meetings:

approval of the Nominating Committee report; and, action on the petition of

Empowerment Ministries Christian Center to become part of the GCBA, having

completed one year of Watch-care status. Acting on behalf of the Association, the Nominating Committee report was approved. The petition of Empowerment

Ministries Christian Center was also approved.

They also ratified an action taken by the Finance Team that allows for only one signature on checks written during the “shelter-at-home” restrictions resulting from COVID-19. Our Financial Policies call for checks to be signed by two signers. Allowing for only one signature will expedite getting bills paid for which we write checks. This is a temporary allowance.

These actions will be presented for ratification the next time we are able to meet with the Executive Board (hopefully in our July meeting) or by the Association in session.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Dr. Mooneyham.



2020 CHURCH FINANCIAL LEADERS TRAINING

MAY 15-16, 2020

GARAYWA CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER | CLINTON, MS

SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY

Check-In – 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Dinner – 5:30 p.m.

First Session – 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Breakfast – 7:00-8:00 a.m.

First Session – 8:00 a.m.

Conclusion – 12:30 p.m.

SPEAKER:

JOHNNY RAKESTRAW, CPA/Pastor

Wallerville Baptist Church | New Albany, MS

\$40 per person – overnight and two meals

Registration: Click here: www.tinyurl.com/churchfinancialtraining

For more information, contact Lisa Leavell at lleavell@mbcb.org or 601-292-3347.

Rick Blythe, Director of Stewardship/CP Promotion
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board | P.O. Box 530 | Jackson, MS 39205