

# Gulf Coast BAPTIST News

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*Dr. & Mrs. Strickland*

# Merry Christmas

I send everyone greeting from me and my wife, Irma. I trust that the Lord is continuing to richly bless you all.

This past year has been the most difficult year that I have ever spent in the ministry. I totally agree that when the Lord closes one door He opens another. The circumstances have no baring on what He does. When people lose sight of the direction of the Lord as well as the opportunities to make a distinct impact on the work of the ministry, it is then their loss. However, the Lord always has something great for those who are willing to follow the leadership of the Holy Ghost.

The ministry is not where I would like for it to be at this time. There are so many that are working extremely hard to ensure the success of all the work. There are a few individuals and churches that have been so faithful in their support of all the ministries. For those who have "stayed by the stuff" we are so grateful and I continually lift you

before the Lord.

I trust that, as we all prepare for the coming celebration of the birth of our Savior that our focus will continually be toward Him and what He has done and is doing for all of us. In the midst of the difficulties there is great hope in our Lord. All of our plans and desires must be submitted to Him and then we must be willing to accept His will for all things. I am looking forward to greater things in the coming months and year. The Lord always gives us opportunities for service. The only thing that He expects of us is faithfulness in our service to Him.

We are currently in the process of locating a facility that can house both the print ministry and the school. It is much better for us to have our own facility. The cost has been extremely prohibitive so far but we are trusting the Lord to provide for us. The income, for both the school and the print

shop, is not sufficient to carry a large monthly payment. I had hope that by now, we would have been able to make the permanent move into our own facility.

I am so grateful to pastor Marty McCoy and the Schillinger Road Baptist for their help in the ministry. They have stepped up and assumed the role of support and have endorsed the ministry of Gulf Coast Baptist College as well as the print ministry. I have had long and enjoyable relationship with this church. I praise the Lord for the love and concern for me and my wife.

May you all have a wonderful Christmas celebration. We will be visiting with our family and enjoying their fellowship. I always have the opportunity to present the reason we celebrate and I am glad that I have a family that worships and praises our great God.

May the Lord continue to richly bless you all.

**FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN: AND THE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER: AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL, COUNSELLOR, THE MIGHTY GOD, THE EVERLASTING FATHER, THE PRINCE**

**Feliz Navidad y Prospero  
Año Nuevo**

From a  
**Woman's Point**  
 of View



By: Loretta Pritchett  
[lorettapritchett@yahoo.com](mailto:lorettapritchett@yahoo.com)

**The Year 2024 Comes To An  
 End**

Once again, we are leaving another year behind and moving into a new one.

November was here and gone before we even knew it. For me it was a busy month as there were doctor's appointments, Birthday's, Veterans Day, and of course Thanksgiving.

I pray that on Thanksgiving each and every one of you remembered to thank the Lord for all the wonderful blessings He has given us throughout the year.

Sometimes we get so busy and forget to say a simple thank you Lord for everything. But there is a reason for that and the name is Satan. He tries so hard to make us not appreciate the blessings we get from God.

We all know that Satan will never give up until Jesus comes. So, we need to be ever vigilant watching out for Satan causing you problems.

Now it is December, a month the Lord has given us to remember Him and what He did for us and why He was born.



Dr. H. H. Strickland

I realize that it has been several months since a GCC News was published. Several have call to ask if it had been nailed and I had to admit that it had not. There are several factors that have caused the delay. We have been a battle to secure the payments for the steel building that was sold as well as closing on the property in Pensacola. The payment for the building has been tied up in court and we have not been able to get it released. To say the least, it has been an extremely emotional drain. An attorney has been secured to try and bring the situation to a close.

Let's not let Satan take away the Christmas spirit and remember what Christmas is all about.

My goal for the new year is to tell as many people about Christ as I can. I don't want to lose any blessings the Lord has for me.

My prayer for the New Year is for every Christian to share the Gospel with everyone he can. God wants all of His children to be in Heaven with Him and we can help by sharing with others who may not have heard the news about Jesus.

Praying you have a wonderful Christmas and thank the Lord for coming to offer us Salvation and be in Heaven with Him forever.

Merry Christmas

The wife and I have recently returned for a very special trip to Costa Rica, where I was privileged to preach for their annual Bible Conference. On Friday night I brought the message for the graduation of the Seminary. I also had the opportunity to confer the Doctor of Theology on Walter Goulding, Bro. Goulding has been a lifelong missionary in Costa Rica. Everyone can remember his dad who served there until his death. He established a tremendous work in Guadalupe. We also had the opportunity to visit several other mission works and churches in the area.

My special thanks to Schillinger Road Baptist Church in Mobile for providing the funds for the trip. Since they became our sponsoring church, they have been a tremendous blessing to the work as well as to me and my wife.

We closed the fall semester with two students. One was enrolled in directive studies and one who took classes through zoom. Tremendous efforts are being made to secure suitable properties that can house both the college and the print ministry. I have an individual working with me to located and secure a suitable facility. However, it all depends on the sale and closer of the property in Pensacola. Nothing can be done until this is accomplished. I go to bed each night praying for closer and I awake each morning with the same prayer. We must have faith in the Lord that He hears and will answer our prayers. It is with great hope that soon we will see our expectations come true.

I do appreciate so much all the prayers and support that are given to this ministry. To all those, that have so faithfully stay with us through these days of uncertainty, my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to you.

May the Lord continue to bless you all is my continual prayer.



David Gonnella, Th. D.

## Looking Ahead

What is the future of the Gulf Coast Baptist College? Ever since COVID we have learned a number of things that will help us to grow and be able to serve more of the Lord's future pastors, missionaries, teachers, counselors, chaplains and church members.

What we have learned is that the future of our school is in long-distance learning. In fact, all of our students in the Fall Semester that just concluded were distance students, including one doctoral candidate who just received his Doctorate of Theology.

This does not mean that we no longer will offer in-person classes. For those who want them such classes will be offered. So, you live in or around the city of Mobile, Alabama, and want the personal relationship that characterizes in-person classes, you can have it.

Frankly, I prefer to teach in-person classes. Having said that, I have learned a couple of things in recent years. [1] Most students these days want distance learning – even if they live near our school. Since the student is the consumer of the product we offer – a godly, quality education – we must provide them with our product in the form they want, or they will seek it elsewhere. [2] I have found that I enjoy distance teaching more than I thought I would.

Pastor, will you help us recruit students? Those whom God has called into vocational Christian work and those who simply want to learn the Bible at a fundamental Baptist, KJV school would benefit much from what we have to offer.

Consider the advantage of some of your God-called church members taking classes with us. Instead of shipping them off to serve in another church far away, you can keep them serving in your church during their time of training. After all, good church workers are hard to find. No need to send them away when you don't have to.

By the way, pastor, you can obtain or increase your theological training without leaving your ministry, and you can do it on your own schedule. The advanced degree you earn will qualify you to teach in a Bible college or seminary after you can no longer carry the heavy burden of a pastorate.

Currently we are offering classes on Zoom, which brings the class to the student, and by directed study, which is good for self-starters and those who have to work on their own schedule and pace. We are also exploring other avenues of distance learning which we will announce in these pages as they become a reality in our school.

By the way, while our Spring Semester officially begins in a few weeks, distance students can begin at any time. Contact our college office to begin the adventure of learning and training at a Bible-believing, Baptist college – the Gulf Coast Baptist College.

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### SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are available to any Pastor who desires to study at Gulf Coast Baptist College. This includes everything except the registration. If you are interested in further information please contact the admissions office. You can access the school website at either; [wfbi.net](http://wfbi.net) or [gcbc.net](http://gcbc.net).



Glen Davenport, Th.D.

**TEXT: John 4:46-54**

Today’s message will bring us face to face with the part of reality we would rather not have to face. Nonetheless, we see people facing it (death) day after day. It is vitally important for us to know who to turn to when there is a crisis within our homes and families. My family has dealt with five deaths this year. One of my nephews has preached three funerals within the past twelve days.

Without doubt, death is the hardest, the most dreaded thing there is for us to deal with but help is available. My text will show you what one man did. He will be our example.

The story surrounds Jesus’ second trip into Cana of Galilee where He had performed the very first MIRACLE of His earthy ministry. He was well known within the area but He did not visit Cana very often.

Upon this certain occasion Jesus was returning from Jerusalem where He had evidently done some wonderful works in the line of miracles. A certain noble man was waiting for Him to come to Cana because he had a son who was ‘AT THE POINT OF DEATH.’

When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judea into Galilee he went unto Him and tried to get Him to come down to his house to HEAL his son.

When he approached Jesus about it Jesus knew he needed to see a miracle, however, the man never knew that. He only knew he wanted his son healed. Again he asked Jesus saying, “*Sir, come down ere my son die.*”

Jesus wanted to make a believer out of the man so He filled the man’s request. He assured the man his son would not die and the story goes on.

As the man went toward his house he met some of his servants who carried good news saying, “*Thy son liveth.*” It was suddenly important for this man to know exactly what time the change for the better had come so he asked about it. When they told him his son started to get better about 1:00 o’clock yesterday, he knew Jesus had performed a miracle for him because at 1:00 o’clock yesterday Jesus said, “*Thy son liveth.*”

# AT THE POINT OF DEATH

This noble man took Jesus as his personal Savior and led his whole household to do the same.

Miracles have had a definite part in establishing Jesus as the ‘Healer’ and as the ‘Savior’. / May have turned to Him AT THE POINT OF DEATH and received healing, perhaps even salvation.

Of course all men eventually face death and it is by all means imperative to have Jesus with us AT THE POINT OF DEATH.

## **I. At the point of death - WE NEED TO KNOW WHERE TO FIND JESUS.**

The noble man was listening and watching for Jesus to come into his area.

Would you know how to find Jesus if you needed Him quickly?

Are you listening and watching?

## **II. At the point of death - WE MUST BE AWARE OF OUR GREATEST NEEDS.**

The father knew his son was dying and he knew he needed Jesus.

Spiritual needs are usually one’s greatest needs.

## **III. At the point of death - WE MAY NEED SOMEONE TO PRAY FOR US.**

The father sought Jesus in his son’s behalf.

Do you have someone who can seek Jesus in your behalf?

Or could you seek Jesus in behalf of someone else?

## **IV. At the point of death - SOMEONE WILL WANT TO KNOW WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR YOU.**

The servant verified the son’s healing.

John (John 4:53 ) verified the family’s faith. They ALL BELIEVED - the whole house including the son.

When you are AT THE POINT OF DEATH we are going to want to know about you and your relationship with Jesus.

How is it and how will it be?

### **APPLICATION:**

The point of death - WHEN WILL IT COME?

The point of death - WILL YOU BE READY FOR IT?

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SEEKING GOD-CALLED PASTOR

Frankfort Missionary Baptist Church is in search of a pastor. We are located in Russellville, Alabama. Please contact Harold Taylor at 256.332.4666, or Larry Greenhill at 256.415.3700. You can also e-mail: frankfortbc@gmail.com

## SEEKING GOD-CALLED PASTOR

Bethany Missionary Baptist Church . . . Verbena, Alabama  
 Contact: Ralph Wilson / 205-351-1640 / wralph@live.com or Jerry Vines / 205-755-5424 / jerryvines@bellsouth.net  
 Bethany MBC in Verbena is prayerfully seeking a pastor. We are a small church.. Our church is interested in a man who is willing to lead his flock as well as be able to go out and visit the lost in our area. If you are interested in this position, please contact us and we will happily send you a questionnaire to fill out. If interested, please email or call Ralph Wilson or Jerry Vines. Thank you for considering this position

## SEEKING GOD-CALLED PASTOR

Big Sky Missionary Baptist Church of Dillon, Montana, seeking the God-called Pastor He would have for us. We are a small, doctrinally sound church established in 1975, preaching and teaching the inspired and complete King James Version of the Word of God. We believe in and practice the two Church Ordinances which were only given by our Lord and Savior to those churches that practice the Doctrines the Lord set forth in His first Church that began on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The Lord's Church did NOT start on the Day of Pentecost. A parsonage with an attached two-car garage is provided, plus utilities and a small salary. The man God has for us should be bi-vocational. Please contact IVAN HALE, 524 Barnett Ave, Dillon MT 59725-3905 (406-683-5421) OR imhale@q.com

## *Tinsky's Musical Instruments*

Everything from Piccolos to Tubas!  
*Used instruments in ready to play condition.*  
*All mouthpieces and accessories.*

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 Tinsky's Musical Instruments.  
 For a discount, e-mail at: tubaplyr@gmail.com**



Justin Coburn,  
Secretary/  
Treasurer

# MISSION NEWS AND VIEWS

## MONTHLY REPORT

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$2,500,236.68</b>
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	
Interstate Salaries	\$108,876.62
Foreign & National Salaries	\$105,377.94
Designated	\$39,520.84
Undesignated	\$8,892.29
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$262,667.796</b>
<b>BALANCE FOR SALARY/EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$2,792,904.37</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	
Interstate Salaries	\$68,436.00
Foreign Salaries	\$34,191.44
National Salaries	\$25,585.00
Designated	\$39,470.84
Salaries & Expenses of Sec-Treas. Office	
Office Salaries	\$13,079.84
General Office	\$2,190.59
Automobile Expense	\$517.01
Sec/Tres Expenses	\$3,126.02
BSSC Prinitng	\$6,734.00
Postage	\$992.45
Total Office	\$26,639.08
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$194,322.36</b>
<b>BALANCE FORWARD</b>	<b>\$2,568,582.01</b>
<b>SURPLUS FOR NOV.</b>	<b>\$68,345.33</b>

God continues to pour out His blessings and we have so much to be thankful for. As we exit out of November, we continue to praise God. Once again, He has used His people to provide and be a blessing to missionaries serving throughout the world. Our Thanksgiving Missions Offering is going well, and we pray that we will meet our goal of \$350,000. I truly appreciate each church and individual for their generosity and sacrificial giving. May our great God bless you richly and use you mightily in carrying out the Great Commission.

For the month of November, the ABA rec-

ommended missionaries reported 423 professions of faith and 26 baptisms, bringing our totals for this first half of the associational year to 2,731 professions of faith and 243 baptisms. Praise the Lord! Please join me in praying that we will surpass 6,000 professions of faith for this associational year! Continue to keep the missionaries in prayer and may we all work harder than ever to reach more with the gospel.

November was another busy month. It was a blessing to attend the State Association of Missionary Baptist Churches of Arkansas meeting and the MBA of Texas. In the middle of those two meetings, I made a trip to Colombia. It was a fast and full trip of blessings. The people were so welcoming and sweet, and we enjoyed a great time of fellowship. I had the honor of preaching 7 times while there with 5 churches in attendance and had great visits with 2 missionaries.

Thanks to Bro. Gilberto Pinzon and Bro. Julio Mendoza for hosting me. I was able to give the charge of a dual deacon ordination service and present certificates and diplomas at seminary graduation. I also had the distinct honor of preaching and presenting at First MBC in Delight, White Oak Grove MBC in Hope, South Crossett MBC in Crossett, Northern Hills BC in Texarkana; and to the "Thursdays at Calvary" group at Calvary BC in Magnolia, AR.

I hope you enjoy a little down time and time spent with family this December, as we celebrate the coming and coming again of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

**Colombia**  
*Jim Gage, Missionary*

**GILBERTO BAUTISTA PUERTAINIRIDA:**  
Muy buenas tardes Pastor Jim, un saludo especial. Le comparto imágenes de una nueva

jornada de distribución de biblias en la etnia Piapoco por el Río Orinoco Medio de Venezuela. También enseñamos la palabra de Dios donde muchos Jóvenes pudieron aceptar a Jesucristo como su único y suficiente Salvador.

Good afternoon Pastor Jim, a special greeting. I am sharing with you images of a new day of Bible distribution in the Piapoco ethnic group along the Middle Orinoco River in Venezuela. We also taught the word of God where many young people were able to accept Jesus Christ as their only and sufficient Savior.

Thanks to a special gift from two Florida churches, Westwood, Winter Haven, and Landmark, Madison, printing New Testaments in the Curripaco Indian language was possible. However, the logistics of transporting these Bibles to the churches to the headwaters of the river Isana have been challenging. The Sembrador Missionary Baptist Church, Pompeya, is preparing to receive a short-term youth group to help the landscape, install a fence and paint church properties. At 80, there are still some perks. While moving slowly, God can still use me and continue missionary endeavors. Thanks for your prayers and support.

**Peru**  
*Juan Angulo Iglesias, Missionary*

These months have been a great blessing for us and I would like to thank each one of you for your support in keeping missionary work in Peru strong and growing.

In September, thanks to God, Brother Douglas Wiersema from Westwood MBC was with us visiting the churches.

It was a great blessing. He preached in Spanish and one person received Christ as their personal savior. We had a wonderful time and ended each service with Christian fellowship, tasting the delicious food that the sisters had prepared.

We have had 3 professions of faith. It was a great blessing to give Bibles to each one of them, who need to know more about God.

Thanks to Brother Rick Mcveigh from Rose Lawn MBC, Tulsa OK., who donated these Bibles for the missionary work in Peru. In Chao, We continue working on the construction of the perimeter. We also want to begin the missionary work in San Jose. We still need to build the bathrooms and install the drainage system, and lay the floor in the auditorium and classrooms. We need your help to buy the materials that are quite expensive.

I am very grateful for your great support for the missionary work in Peru, so that the work continues to expand and people can learn about the gospel.

Spain

*Daniel Estrada, Missionary*

### **ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE WORK...**

Praise the Lord we continue work-ing and witnessing in our town. In the last months we have seen the good hand of God working and changing lives.

Thank God we are making disciples every week and Eloisa is helping us with the ladies of the church.

We praise the Lord for the life of Maykol. He is a believer that started a disciple lesson in my home and is doing very well. Pray that he can be a can-didate for baptism soon.

Thank the Lord Jesus, Melania and Martha were baptized the 22th of September. What a joy to see these people obeying God. Please, pray for them as they keep following Christ and face trials and difficulties in their lives.

We had a great time in the Lord, having wonderful fellowship after the baptisms and good food too.

God continues bringing in new people to our con-gregation and we are blessed. Please, keep us in your daily prayers and thanks for everything that you do on behalf Spain Missions. We thank every person and church who is giving to Spain missions in order for us to be able to proclaim the Gospel, make disciples, baptize them and teach all things that Jesus taught.

Costa Rica

*Walter R. Goulding, Missionary*

### **16th Anniversary at The Way MBC:**

Dr. H. H. Strickland, president of the *Gulf Coast Baptist College*, robed me with the



degree of Doctor of Theology during the Commencement Exercises of the *Costa Rica Missionary Baptist Seminary*.

I thank the Lord and give Him all the

glory.

*The Way* MBC celebrated her 16th Anniversary.

Through the years, she went from an average of 35 to having only virtual services during the P a n d e m i c. Services in-person started back with 2 or 3. This November the average attendance was 18. There was a celebration for both the anniversary and birthdays.

Services have continued in the auditorium of the *Missionary Baptist Temple of Guadalupe*. We are very grateful for the Temple letting us meet in their facilities.

We are currently seeking another meeting place.

The radio broadcast and online media continue to be used for the Lord's glory. Many first-time visitors attend because they listened to the radio broadcast or watched the streaming of the services.

Thank you for your prayers and support as we labor together to plant this church in the area around San José.

SE Asia

*Rusty Teer, Missionary*

November gave us some blessed opportunities to spend some time with the parents of our kindergarten students. We know they video much of our classes but we still like to meet them and see us interact with their children. They all seem thankful for the English we all provide by praying and supporting what He is doing! This opens the door for us to talk about Who sent us here and why.

A student in one class and a teacher in another class made it sound to me as if the local worldview cannot be spiritually thankful because they have no One to be thankful to. This opened the door for us to talk about the One we thank daily!

Last evening our neighbor brought her daughter over to "play with uncle." We played and I talked with our neighbor about

how our Father opened the door for women by beginning to teach females and by opening hospitals. She is a doctor. She met another Christian and told this lady that her neighbors were having a good impact on her. Please continue to pray our neighbors, students, teachers, and their families come to know Him! That would be the best Christmas present ever!!

Thank you for being a part of His team here through your prayers, encouragement, and support. Let's use CHRISTmas to share His Gift to the whole world!

Japan

*Shin Komoda, Missionary*

We celebrate the birth of Jesus and greet you in His name! Thank you for your prayers and support for the work of God here in Hachioji City, Tokyo. The members of our church continue to be engaged in worship and the Gospel proclamation. 1. 11/9 (Sat) Sister Noriko Ito, a member of our church, underwent successful arrhythmia surgery. 11/15 (Wed) Brother Hikaru Ito, a member of our church, had been unable to eat and been treated with an IV, but was able to resume eating and was discharged from the hospital. We thank God that he and his wife have recovered their health. 2. 11/11 (Mon.) Pastors' Fellowship Meeting was successfully held at Abiko Baptist Church. My wife and I were looking forward to this opportunity. It was a wonderful opportunity to worship God with fellow workers, pray for each other, and teach each other. 3. 11/16 (Sat.) New Covenant B. C. hosted the JBA Youth Fellowship, attended by 25 people from various churches, including 7 from our church. After the worship service, we enjoyed indoor and outdoor recreational activities. It was a good opportunity for the youth to encourage each other in their faith. 4. 11/23 (Sat.) Japan Missionary Baptist Seminary hosted a Bible Conference and we studied the Bible with the theme of "Servants who support dedicated leaders." Pastor Matsushima, Pastor Kida, and I preached. Brothers and sisters active in various churches of the Japan Baptist Association gathered and were challenged by the Word of God. We also enjoyed fellowship in the Lord. All in attendance were saddened by the passing away of Sister Suzue, wife of Rev. Shinji Amari, who supported her husband as a preacher's wife for more than half a century.

## Interstate Missions

### Lighthouse Ministries

*Tobby Cribbs, Sr. Director*

LONG STATE PRISON LUDOWICI, GA: We had 45 men out for the service. This is the most we have had. We had some men who had gotten out. The man that moderated the service was one that had gotten out. So we had a new moderator He did a great job. The special singing was very good. I preached from Psalms 23. My wife said I went over our time. The service is from 6:30 to 8:00. I stopped preaching at 8:30.

GRADY: I was sitting in the lobby of the motel This man walked over ask if I knew him. I said you look familiar. He said how about, Long the State Prison I sat on first row each time you were there. All men really enjoyed your preaching, He works at the motel, What is the chance of meeting an ex-inmate that you know in a city of 45,561 population .

GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH; CLAXTON, GA: Sent them one box (90). Dills booklets  
JOSH CAMPBELL, HAMBURG, AR SENT HIM: 100 KING JAMES BIBLE, 2700 Brother Dills Booklets

### Antioch Baptist Church Dexter, MA

*Georger Dever, Missionary*

October was a good month for Antioch. We had visitors in attendance, which encouraged the members. We have been talking to folks in the community and surrounding towns about their spiritual conditions. Through these efforts, we have seen more guests. Guests are what we call people who are not members who attend services. We have changed the word visitor to guest to give a warm feeling to not make them feel like strangers.

Another blessing in October was the seventy meals we gave out during our once-a-month drive-through dinner. The dinner is a blessing for the community that struggles at the end of the month to provide food for their families. We hold the dinner on the last Friday of the month. The blessing is also

ours being able to deliver a need to many families.

Another October event the ladies of Antioch participated in was helping to pack Christmas shoe boxes. They helped pack hundreds of shoe boxes. In past years the ladies packed their boxes but this year they decided to help meet with other organizations and have a mass Christmas shoe box packing party.

My wife, Marji, flew back to California to help her mother with rental property issues. My mother-in-law, in asking Marji to come and help, thought there would be issues getting the tenant out of the house. She was expecting the worst from past experiences with the past tenant, but the Lord has worked things out. The tenant moved out and with the help of Marji and my brother-in-law, Robert, the house is ready and a tenant is to move in this coming weekend.

### Bulgaria Missions

*Jim & Sherry Black, Missionaries*

We are grateful to be in Mojave, California, where we have come alongside Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, in reaching out to a large community of families from Afghanistan.

Early into our second week in Mojave the Lord opened a door for us to teach ESL (English as a Second Language) at the Mojave Adult School.

The school is across the street from the church. Most of the people coming to the classes live in a trailer park behind the church. We live in our motorhome, parked behind the church building.

We hold English classes three days each week. Sherry has spent time with some of the Afghan ladies in one of their homes. For Thanksgiving, we are hoping to organize a dinner and invite our neighbors.

Our 30 year old motorhome made the trip from Idaho to California with no issues other than a blown tire. Praise the Lord!

### Benchmark Baptist Fellowship

Fredericksburg, VA 22408

*Alan Schoeff, Missionary*

**On 10/5 we had a men's workday.** We trimmed up numerous trees on the property and replaced the aging dilapidated ramp to our storage shed.

**On 10/6 we celebrated our anniversary** of serv-ing on this field! We had a special day of wor-ship that included local musical artists, Grammy and Dove nominated singers, The Itzel's.

**On 10/11-12 out T2 Ladies journeyed to Pennsylvania** to attend the Mid-Atlantic Ladies Retreat. This retreat had taken a hit due to Covid and this was the first year to have it since. We had several women who attended and had a wonderful time. **Thank you ladies of FBC of Green Valley!!** for hosting the retreat! You did awesome. The only downside to the event was Julie's injury. Bless her heart, she slice open her big toe. I was sure it would take months to heal, **BUT PRAISE GOD!!** It is already healed. (And I am sparing you a picture of what it looked like!)

**The folks at Benchmark** blew my mind! The had a very well planned, prepared, and executed pastor appreciation day. There was a tremendous outpouring of love. There were testimonies, special music, gifts and more. Basically, they told me the only thing I could do that day was preach. They took care of the rest. WOW what a day. **Special thanks to Bro. Justin Gatlin** for helping them select/purchase the LOGOS Gold that they gifted me.

**On Friday 10/18 we held our first** Fall Fireside Family Devotion and game night. And how exciting it was to have first time guest, Becca join us. She is the daughter of Jen Adkins (who we just baptized last month). God is using her to bring folks to church and so much more!!

**For three nights,** we worked on stuffing Gospel Goody Bags 4000 to be exact! I was so excited that our newest member organized a bag stuffing team. We met at our home and then again at the church. Each night the participation grew as we worked to spread the gospel at the local private airport. We were blessed to get a free booth space at the Shannon Airports annual fall candy drop and we handed out nearly every one of those bags. We also had several gospel conversations and invite numerous folks to visit the church!



**J. A. Crain**

## **Business Manager Report**

God continues to bless the Bogard Press and Baptist Bookstore. Our sales are normal. Our finances for the year are steady and good. As for cost of goods, we continue to see price increases in some areas, and we are being told by vendors to expect some increases in prices in 2025. Events, such as the port strike or increased tariffs, which some believe will revive in February, can easily affect raw material prices.

Shipping is a problem. To say it plainly, the shipping companies are not very reliable for getting the product safely to the customer. We often deal with lost or misplaced shipments. Shipping cost is expensive, but it is something we cannot control. Many who live within reasonable driving distance from Texarkana are choosing to drive and pick up their literature rather than mailing it. A little gas for the vehicle is cheaper than shipping. While in Texarkana, they also can visit the Baptist Bookstore and eat in one of our many good restaurants.

The new paper cutter is working well. We also finished the summer with the new A/C unit in the warehouse, and it did what we needed. We have had a few problems with presses and other equipment, but these events are fairly normal. We completed some remodeling projects and are enjoying the fruits. Generally, our equipment and facilities are in good shape. I appreciate the Committee and the 2024 ABA Messengers for allowing us to spend the funds on these items.

Brother Clements and I recently attended the State Associational meetings in the nearby States. It was good to be among the brethren. November reminded me to be thankful for so many blessings. I appreciate the opportunity to labor with a great group of folks at Bogard Press and Baptist Bookstore. Now, December is upon us, and it causes me to think of the greatest blessing of all, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am glad that our country observes a time to recognize the birth of Jesus, our Savior. Although some may not actually use it for that purpose, it remains a yearly reminder to the masses that Jesus Christ was born, and many have found spiritual peace with Him as Savior. For some, that may be the only witness they receive.

If you are in Texarkana, please come visit. If I can be of any service to you, please ask. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.



**Mark Clements**  
**Editor in Chief**

“Great *is* our Lord, and of great power: his understanding *is* infinite” (Psalm 147:5).

As 2024 draws to a close, wisdom compels us to take the time to consider the goodness of God demonstrated toward us over the course of this year. As Johnson Oatman Jr. wrote in the notable hymn, it might be surprising to see what God has done if you “count your many blessings, name them one by one.” We at Bogard Press have been the recipients of God’s goodness in 2024.

As with every great ministry, God’s blessings begin with the people He brings to His service. Bogard Press is immensely blessed by the godly personnel who have dedicated their time and energy to the work of literature production. From the storefront to shipping and every department in between, this ministry is filled with dedicated employees and supervisors who do their best each day. Of course, we know mistakes are sometimes made, but a humble, teachable spirit persists in each person at Bogard Press. Throughout 2024, each quarter of literature production has hit proofing, press and shipping targets efficiently. Additionally, when we consider our tremendous writers, who provide top-quality, biblically accurate content each quarter, we cannot come to any other conclusion than this: God deserves all the credit for His goodness shown to Bogard Press in this ministry effort.

The production of biblically sound literature that holds to the ABA doctrine is a ministry. Of course, we must work efficiently and stay within our budgets, but the good people who clock in here see their work as spiritual labor. In the early 1900s, as Dr. Ben M. Bogard worked tirelessly to provide churches with doctrinally sound publications, he rightly said the publication of Sunday School literature was “an adventure of faith” (Life and Works of Ben M. Bogard, Volume 2, pg. 249). We at Bogard Press are grateful to carry on in the same adventure which we pray brings biblically sound resources to your church’s Christian education ministries. We are thankful for the churches who use Bogard Press materials and pray we can continue our partnership until the Lord returns.

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
GULF COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE  
April-September 2024  
P.O. Box 1183  
Theodore, AL 36509**

**Income/Expense**

**Income:**

		\$3,680.57	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Donations			805.57	410	710	610	685	460
Designated Funds	\$1,250.00		225	200	100	200	200	325
Building	\$1,500.00		250	250	250	250	250	250
Press	\$2,462.91		275	650.14	367.12	250	745.65	175
Bookstore	\$98.86		0	0	0	0	98.86	
Tuition	\$220.00		0	0	0		220	0
			1555.57	1510.14	1427.12	\$1,310.00	2199.51	\$1,210.00

**TOTAL INCOME**                                 \$9,212.34

**Expenses:**

Utilities	\$870.47
Designated Funds	\$1,250.00
Salary	\$3,600.00
Expenses	\$1,080.00
Postage	\$91.00
Bank fee	\$42.00
Instructor hrs	\$180.00
Website/Computer Software	\$197.14
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$7,113.47</b>

## **CHURCHES SEEKING A PASTOR**

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church is in search of a pastor. We are a small church but are interested in growing and serving the Lord in our community and surrounding area. We are located 6 miles east of Ola, Arkansas.

Please contact Kenneth McCoy at 479-747-3760/email kenneth@arkwest.com or Don McCoy at 479-747-3403 for more information and to set up and appointment.

Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in Bedford, Indiana is seeking a pastor. We are a conservative King James only church. If you are interested please email us at landmarkbaptist47421@gmail.com

Liberty Baptist Church, Collins, MS. seeking pastor. Contact Ricky Lott 601-543-4561 or rickylott4@gmail.com

Highlands MBC, North Highlands, CA is seeking a part-time youth pastor. All inquiries are to be sent to Pastor David Butimore, Sr. At (559) 260-0093 or brob@bigvalley.net.

Landmark MBC of Amite, La. is in search of a pastor. Located about 40 miles east of Baton Rouge and about 50 miles north of New Orleans along the I-55/I-12 corridor. We are a conservative country church, traditional in worship, doctrinally sound, with a big heart for missions. Church and annex sit on 3 acres debt free. We associate locally within the First Trinity Missionary Baptist Association. We are calling for a seasoned Missionary Baptist pastor of same mold. KJV only. If interested or for more information, please contact:

Joseph Holden, Deacon  
985-517-8582

[biglefty27@gmail.com](mailto:biglefty27@gmail.com)

Franklin Parker, Deacon 985-507-2884

william f [parker@hotmail.com](mailto:parker@hotmail.com)

Melissa Wallace, Church Clerk  
985-286-9324

[mrwalla59@gmail.com](mailto:mrwalla59@gmail.com)

# PRINTING NEWS

## PRINTING NEWS:

The work of producing good doctrinal materials for the churches and the people of God continues. I am somewhat limited as to how much can be done because of the distance I have to travel. However, the work of translations for the Spanish material and the development of new English is in progress. The first volume of a new production written by Dr. David Gonnella entitled "Church Planting," has been completed. Work of volume two is being written.

The six volumes on Systematic Theology continue to be used by a number of schools. I am always grateful for every order that I receive.

I ask for you prayers that

arrangements can be made soon to acquire a suitable facility in Mobile can be located and secured so that the equipment can be moved. It is both time consuming and costly for me to continually make the trips to Pensacola.

I am becoming concerned for the security of our equipment and I ask that prayers be offered on our behalf that this matter can be resolved very soon.

I was able to take some Spanish material to Costa Rica on my recent visit there and I am hopeful that this will be an open door for more sales there. A book store is considering handling the material. What a tremendous blessing this would be. Bro. Walter Goulding has been a tremendous help on setting this up.

I was also able to take some to literature to Bro. Goulding to be used in the churches there.

My deepest appreciation is offer to everyone that has had a part in this

ministry. We still need your support so that the work can continue. Because of finances, we have delayed sending out a new letter in the past few months. Please remember us all in your prayers as we seek to do the work of the Lord,

**Church  
Planting  
In The Bible**

The Concise Church  
Planting Series  
David E. Gonnella, Th.D

### Note:

**Please note that the mailing address for both GCBC and the press has changed. Please send all mail to P.O. Box 1183, Theodore, AL 36590**

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Articles should be in the office no later

than the 10th of the month so that they might be included in that months edition. Mission reports are alternated so that all may have the opportunity to be published.

Herman Strickland; editor

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