

Executive Committee Report

July 12, 2021

Thomas Wright, Associational Missionary

Emphasizing Biblical Prayer, Evangelistic Ministries, Church Development, Church Planting, Partnership Missions

Confidence in Christ

The Apostle Paul penned the great promise of Romans 8:38-39: “For I am convinced [and continue to be convinced—beyond any doubt] that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present and threatening, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the [unlimited] love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Amp.).

These verses provide confidence in Christ for each believer. None of those things can separate us from Christ, so do not let the enemy cause you to worry and fret about less important things. Only our sin, our disobedience, has that terrible consequence. The disobedience to Biblical truth impacts our churches and our country. We have the incredible privilege to bring an eternal difference to the people the Lord brings to us. Our culture will change one person at a time. Our confidence is in Christ no matter what comes.

EMERGENCY CWP Relief Fund to Offset Crippling Pandemic Losses

Thank you to the 24 churches and 44 individuals that helped raise \$48,205 to keep CWP open. Please pass the word to individuals who have been blessed by CWP and want to see the ministry continue. We had 27 decisions in just one week last month. Please help encourage the other MBA churches who have not yet responded. The goal of \$120,000 is needed to bring in a new director and provide for ministry expenses. We currently anticipate enough funding to remain open until the end of November.

We are encouraged with the registrations for summer, but we are still under anticipated summer income. CWP already would have closed without a PPP loan and MBA underwriting from savings. Our savings accounts are dangerously depleted. We still do not have sufficient income to hire a new full time director. Beverly continues as Office Manager, Cary Cubitt is part-time Program Director, and Dino Danzey is part-time interim director. We have only 10 summer staff on the field. These changes mean we desperately need volunteers and teams to do yard work, cleaning, maintenance and repairs. Beverly and Dino have a punch list of needs and opportunities for every skill level.

Camp Whispering Pines is open for retreats, class meetings and worship options. The staff has done a heroic job, including new sanitizing precautions. Again, we have to recover the lost income to survive.

Future Focus Committee (FFC) July Update

Please pray for the FFC and the location to combine our two current facilities.

1. Please pray for the Lord’s timing and intervention to overcome the political opposition to rezoning the International Ministries building and property.

2. Myers Memorial is generously allowing us to store furniture from the IM building until the new building is ready.
3. Chaplains continue to go to the ships with social distancing. Evangelistic ministry continues and we need three additional volunteer chaplains to be salt and light to seafarers.
4. We will wait to sell the MBA office until a new location is completed using proceeds from the IM building. MBA Finance and Executive Committees have approved a possible bridge loan from the MBA until the MBA office is sold.
5. Committee members continue to approach individuals, MBA and other congregations to help find an existing 8-10,000 sf building. Options so far have not been viable due to location or refurbishing needed.

Please continue praying, looking and talking to find the person who will be the answer to the prayers for a new location.

Minister's Conference

Our Minister's Conference leadership, Billy Ray Robinson, David Gill and Vaughan Gardner continue to organize our time of fellowship, encouragement and discussion of biblical truth. Notice it is for all ministers, not just pastors. None of us can attend every Monday. We must not allow the enemy to isolate us where we are susceptible to discouragement and error. Sadly, another congregation disbanded this month. There are cooperative options to replant in these type situations. If you are not receiving the weekly Minister's Conference emails, please confirm your email address with Vaughan Gardner.

Saturate Mobile Extended to October 2021

We extended the deadline until October 2021. Churches continue to participate and new churches are registering even with the delays due to the pandemic. The Evangelistic Ministries Committee is challenging MBA churches to saturate Mobile County with prayer and gospel witness. Registration provides a map of your zip code and enough free materials to saturate that zip code. Churches in the same zip code will work together to pray for and share literature with every home in each zip code. Free materials include a door hanger bag, Jesus Movie CD and a tract. Churches also should include information about their church and perhaps a New Testament. Visit saturate.mobilebaptists.org for more information.

Churches Seeking Pastors, Church Changes and New Pastors

Churches seeking pastors include: Faith (Mobile), Fulton Road, FBC Dawes, FBC Semmes, FBC South Mobile, Hollinger's Island, International, Manor, New Life, Spring Hill, Turnerville, and Woodridge.

Church Changes: Crosspoint Mobile reportedly disbanded July 11, Sunrise and Hope of the Nations are in the process of dissolving and forming a new church. Berean and Riverside are in process of merging.