

Mobile Baptist Association  
**Executive Committee Report**

September 9, 2013

Brother Thomas Wright, Associational Missionary

*Emphasizing Biblical Prayer. Evangelistic Ministries. Church Development. Church Planting. Partnership Missions*

### **Lessons from Luke 5**

In verse 1 notice they crowded around Jesus, “to hear the word of God.” In verses 4-5 they were blessed by their obedience to Jesus. Even though they complained that what He was saying did not make sense to them! Every encounter with Jesus calls us, and our people, to obedience. Every act of obedience results in incredible blessings and our lives change.

### **Annual Missions Celebration, October 10, Fulton Road Baptist Church**

We often comment how little our people know about the work of the local association. Church staff, leaders and members can become thoroughly acquainted with the vision, ministries, future and stewardship by investing five hours (including fish dinner and Missions Fair) in these afternoon and evening sessions. Please encourage your staff, deacons, elders and Sunday School teachers to attend. Registration and Mission Fair begins at 2 p.m. The afternoon session begins at 2:45 p.m. The evening session includes a Missions Madness for RAs, GAs and Awanas.

We must help our people know about the relevant training, personal consultation, effective ministries and careful stewardship we offer. Supporting the MBA provides more return for your missions tithe than the parachurch agencies seeking the time and money of our members.

### **Church Planting and Church Revitalization, October 17-19**

We had overwhelming positive reviews from the 52 who attended the ALSBOM/MBA sponsored Basic Training Journey in July. We are offering it again October 17-19 at North Mobile. Register online at ALSBOM.org under “Training Events” then “Basic Training Journey.” The \$100 fee is waived for MBA/SBC churches. Others are welcome to attend.

### **Future Focus Committee Underway**

Moderator, Roy Stebbins, has been elected the Chair of the Future Focus Committee. He will provide continuity after completing his term as Moderator next month. Please pray as the committee studies the next fifty years of ministry in Mobile and make recommendations to respond most effectively.

### **The Need for New Churches**

In 1960, there were 84 MBA churches in Mobile County for a population of 314,301. In 2010, there were 110 MBA churches in Mobile County for a population of 412,992. In 2013, we have 112 churches and 6 missions. Add the 260 evangelical churches in Mobile County and EVERY church needs to have an ATTENDANCE of 1,062 people for Mobile to be a church county.

In the last 50 years, the MBA has had a net gain of 28 churches and population increase of 98,691! We have decreased by 40 churches; 23 disbanded, 10 merged, 7 withdrew, 2 were disaffiliated, and 1 under Watchcare chose not to join.

### **Disaster Relief Training October 3-5 at CWP**

We have been blessed so far this season. Disaster areas are tightly controlled and untrained individuals are given very limited access. SBC DR provides physical response and the essential spiritual response. Our next training is October 3-5 at Camp Whispering Pines. We have classes for new or to renew Chainsaw, Mud-out, Chaplaincy, and Administration. Please register at <http://www.alsbom-gm.org>

Please visit [www.mobilebaptists.org](http://www.mobilebaptists.org) to download your Pastor Church response manual. It describes the DR process we use in the MBA for assessments, and helps requests and resources/repair team allocations. Update the church ministries form so we know the availability of your church facilities.

### **Online Information**

Updates to events, meetings, missions' opportunities and training are kept on the web page and the Facebook page. Please encourage your people to like us on Facebook.

Please visit [www.mobilebaptists.org](http://www.mobilebaptists.org) to register to receive the weekly news alerts and quarterly newsletter. Please include this information periodically in your Sunday bulletin and newsletters.

### **Layman's School of Theology Begins Next Year**

The Lord has led Gerald and Brenda Burch to accept leadership of the MBA Layman's School of Theology. They return from Japan in November and will serve as Director and Registrar. We hope to begin classes in the Fall of 2014. Our curriculum will provide a theological curriculum to help Sunday School teachers, Deacons, Elders and ministers. The accreditation will be through Golden Gate Continuing Leadership Development Center and we will be working with other partners.

### **New Pastors and Churches Seeking Pastors**

Please be sure to welcome J.T. Wright to Airport Boulevard, Billy Ray Robinson to Fellowship. Please pray for the churches seeking a pastor and please let us know when their status changes: Axis FBC, Fulton Road, Kushla-Bethany, Manor, Moffett Road, Smithtown, Spice Pond and The Cornerstone.

### **Impact Mobile Offering**

This offering was created to provide an opportunity for churches to respond to the changes in denominational funding. It also provides an opportunity for members and churches to include the level of cooperative giving through the budget what they would like to give. We can print the posters and brochures with any date that best fits your church calendar. Undated materials are available at [www.mobilebaptists.org](http://www.mobilebaptists.org) and at the MBA office.

### **Financial Report**

Thank you for your ongoing, and in many instances sacrificial, financial support. By reducing insurance coverage for the staff we can present a balance 2014 budget that includes the \$5,500 reduction in the CDD supplement. Without additional income I do not know how we will cover the additional \$5,500 a year until we absorb the total \$22k we currently receive.

In 2011, 80 MBA churches completed a Uniform Church Letter (UCL).

Those 80 churches reported a total income of \$45,881,673.

Their total giving to Cooperative Program (CP) was \$4,369,617 (which is 9.52 %).

Those 80 churches gave \$387,410 to the MBA (which is less than 1 percent at 0.844%).

In 2012, 78 MBA churches completed a Uniform Church Letter (UCL).

Those 78 churches reported a total income of \$42,900,991.

Their total giving to Cooperative Program (CP) was \$2,086,023 (which is 5%).

Those 78 churches gave \$368,030 to the MBA (which is 1.16 %)

The SBC has long recommended that churches give a missions tithe of 7 percent to CP and 3 percent of to the local association.

The enemy of unity and redemption is hard at work. We are stronger, safer and more effective together than we are by ourselves.