



# Ogeechee Missions Visionary

*Ye shall be witnesses  
unto me...Acts 1:8*

## From our Missionary

### Welcome to 2025!

The year 2025 has begun with a flurry of activity and ministry throughout the Ogeechee River Baptist Association (ORBA). While the list below is not exhaustive, it provides a glimpse into the opportunities for connection and cooperation among our pastors and churches.

### Third Thursday Minister Roundtables

According to Lifeway Research, 64% of pastors express a desire to strengthen their relationships with other pastors and welcome guidance from those who have faced or are facing similar challenges.

Our next *Third Thursday Minister Roundtable* will take place on **February 20 at 10:00 AM** at the associational office. This time is dedicated to prayer, fellowship, and peer learning among the ministers of ORBA.

### Disaster Relief Interest & Information Meeting

Thursday, February 27, 6:30 PM

Southbridge Community Church, Statesboro, GA

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, there has been growing interest in forming a disaster relief unit in our area. This meeting will provide information on the requirements for our association, churches, and individuals to move forward with this initiative.

The meeting is free to attend, and dinner will be provided. To register, visit [www.southbridge.cc](http://www.southbridge.cc).

### D-NOW 2025

February 28 – March 2

Led by Georgia Southern University's BCM (Baptist Collegiate Ministry) and hosted by Eastern Heights Baptist Church, *D-NOW 2025* is a retreat-style event designed for the youth of your church.

The event focuses on helping young people deepen their relationship with God through intensive Bible study, worship, and small group discussions. It offers a meaningful time of spiritual growth and reflection, away from the distractions of daily life.

For more information, contact Chris Bryan. To register your group, visit [www.georgiasouthernbcm.com](http://www.georgiasouthernbcm.com).

### Bi-Vocational Pastors and Wives Summit

Saturday, March 15, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

First Baptist Church, Statesboro

Sponsored by the Middle Baptist Association and ORBA, this summit is designed to address the unique needs of bi-vocational pastors and their wives.

Special guests include Mark Clifton (North American Mission Board) and Thomas Hammond (Executive Director, Georgia Baptist Mission Board). The event will feature several breakout sessions to choose from.

The summit is free to attend, but registration is required. To register, visit: <http://www.middlebaptistassociation.org/events/posts/bi-vocational-pastors-summit-2024>.

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It is my privilege to serve as your associational missionary. I am available for consultations on a wide range of topics and issues related to church life and ministry. If you need someone to serve as pulpit supply or speak at a ministry event, I am happy to assist.

I look forward to serving alongside you in 2025 and beyond.

In Christ,  
Jeff

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## Camp “I AM”

It's that time of year again when we begin planning for Camp I AM! We had our first meeting of the year on January 11. Our theme this year is Who Am I? A New Creation. We are focusing on how we go from sin to salvation and continue to grow in Christ.

Camp I AM Jr. (1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grades) is June 30-July 3. Camp I AM Sr. (4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades) is July 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of adult and youth volunteers to work. Youth volunteers must have completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade to help with Jr. camp and completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade to help with senior camp. We are also in need of a nurse volunteer to work during these weeks.

Our next meeting is February 11<sup>th</sup> at the ORBA office at 7p.m. for anyone interested in helping. If interested, please contact the new director, Jeanie Jewell @912-682-8621. Also, prayers for camp are appreciated.

## News From the W.W. Mann Center

WHEW!! What a time it has been here at the Mann Center these past few months!! Hurricane Debbie and the flooding and then Hurricane Hellene with her devastating, monstrous winds!! The damage down here was devastating with numerous trees down and several trees on some of our buildings. Duane, my sister, Sandra, and myself spent the better part of a month cleaning up what we could manage. With Duane on the chainsaw, Sandra dragging limbs to the burn pile, and myself manning the truck and trailer hauling firewood to the firewood pile. We were able to cut up 9 trees in firewood lengths, burn all of the limbs, and distribute firewood the those that came to pick it up. We put “a dent” in the damage, but then GOD really blessed us immensely when Mr. Ellis Wood and his son, Matt came down to assess the damage. They brought in some heavy equipment and a crew that came in here on January 24<sup>th</sup> and began clearing, cutting, and burning debris. They have truly been an answer to prayer and we are greatly appreciative.

The Mann Center re-opened on December 1<sup>st</sup>, and we have already had several reservations. Help us spread the word that we have re-opened, and encourage people to come out and use the Mann Center, the newly renovated Mann Center.

GOD is good, no, G-R-E-A-T!! (Matthew 7:7-8)

We are looking forward to a great 2025 here at the Mann Center. Please remember us in your thoughts and prayers.

“A life without GOD is like and unsharpened pencil - it has no point!!” (Billy Graham) GOD bless you all.

Mike Sparks, Director, Cell # 912-531-2946

Duane Davis, Maintenance Supervisor

Jeremiah 32:17

## Exciting Events Scheduled at New Life

On February 15<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting a Men's Skeet Shoot at 11:00 a.m. and a Valentine's Low Country Boil at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 912-685-9700 and leave a message.

SAVE the DATES: March 1-2 ... *New Life's 25th Anniversary!* On Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, we're hosting Ty Hodge & King's Cross in concert. On Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Eternal Vision will be in concert with a covered-dish lunch following the morning worship. At 6:00 p.m., on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, Karen Peck & New River will be in concert. No ticket required, but there will be a love offering.

## ORBA's Senior Adult Spring Fling

“Planting Seeds for Jesus” ... our 2025 Senior Adult Spring Fling is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church (4025 Friendship Church Road, Statesboro).

Looking forward to seeing you there!

## 2025 GBAMA Conference

Each year, the Georgia Baptist Association of Ministry Assistants (GBAMA) hosts a conference to encourage, teach, and support those with administrative responsibilities within our network of churches. The 2025 conference is March 11-13 at beautiful Camp Pinnacle in Clayton, Georgia. Breakout sessions include Canva (publication design), Excel (spreadsheets), Three Circles (gospel presentation), Church Finances (with consultant Tony Neal), and more. The cost includes conference fees, lodging for two nights, and five meals; the price varies depending on the number in a room.

I'd like to invite you to partner with GBAMA in five ways.

1. **Review** the conference information at [2025 GBAMA Conference - Georgia Baptist Mission Board | Brushfire](#).
  2. **Pray** for the GBAMA leadership team as we prepare and for those who will attend.
  3. **Honor** your assistant by sending her/him to the conference.
  4. **Share** information about the GBAMA professional organization and the conference with the assistants in your Association.
  5. **Encourage** the pastors in your Association to provide opportunities for their assistants to receive training and support.
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# ORBA Supported Ministries

## BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY (BCM)

Chris Bryan, Campus Minister  
Georgia Southern University  
P.O. Box 8117  
Statesboro, GA 30460  
New Office #: (678) 564-4884  
[cbryan.bcm@gabaptist.org](mailto:cbryan.bcm@gabaptist.org)  
Cell: (678) 549-2245

Please keep this ministry in your prayers as Chris and his team reach out to college students with the love & Word of God!!!  
\*\*See DNow info on insert

## CHRISTIAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES (CSM)

John Long, Director  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2416; Statesboro, GA 30459  
Cell: (912) 512-0107  
[jlong@christiansocialministry.org](mailto:jlong@christiansocialministry.org)

Stores in Statesboro:  
122 E. Parrish St. (Thrift Store)  
307 N. Zetterower Ave. (Used Furniture & More)

Ministry Office & Food Pantry Warehouse:  
31 N. Zetterower Ave., Statesboro  
ASSISTANCE: by appointment only ...  
Call 912-489-2407 to schedule appointment  
FOOD PANTRY: Open 8 a.m. - noon (only on Mondays)  
February dates >> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

*"Helping others in need... In the name of Jesus!"*

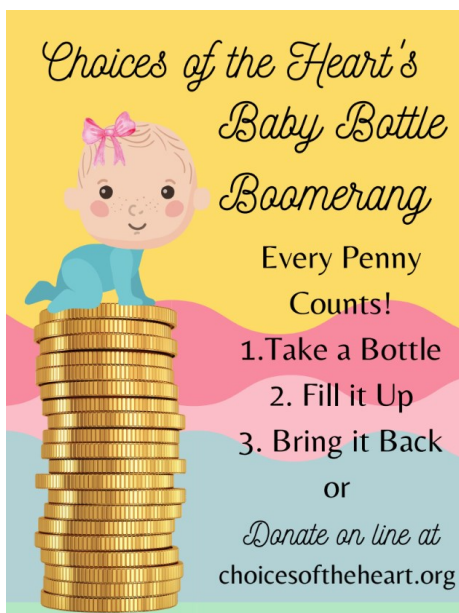
### CHURCHES ...

CSM gladly accepts all old/used literature to share with clients.  
Just bring literature to the Ministry Office at 31 N. Zetterower.  
Thank you for your support, and may God bless your ministries!

## CHOICES OF THE HEART PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER

Baby Bottle Boomerang continues through June. To any church interested in participating (4 weeks), we will provide Baby Bottles, Posters, Bulletin Inserts & Table Display.

Mandy is available to visit churches and speak at BBB Kickoff!



Mandy Perkins, Executive Director  
Physical Address: 425 E. Grady St.; Statesboro, GA 30458  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2073; Statesboro, GA 30459  
Office: (912) 764-4303 Cell: (912) 680-5281

For more info go to [choicesoftheheart.org](http://choicesoftheheart.org)

## FOUNDATIONS (FAMILY & PREGNANCY) RESOURCE CENTER

Foundations is a local ministry serving families facing parenting and pregnancy related crises. Foundations provides life-affirming services and resources such as pregnancy tests, ultra-sounds, STD testing, options consultation, education, resource referral, post-abortion support, discipleship and more. Services are not limited to pregnant women, and all services are free and confidential. Thanks so much for your support!

Jordan Mathis, Executive Director  
Physical Address: 418 S. Main St.; Statesboro, GA 30458  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 774; Statesboro, GA 30459  
Phone: (912) 259-9596

For more info go to [frcfriends.org](http://frcfriends.org)

### Ogeechee River Baptist Association

17 North College Street  
Statesboro, GA 30458  
Phone: 912-764-3620  
Fax: 912-489-4566

Website: [www.orbalife.org](http://www.orbalife.org)

OR visit us on Facebook

Moderator: Tony Pagliarullo

Associational Missionary: Jeff Parmer

Email: [orbamissionary@orbalife.org](mailto:orbamissionary@orbalife.org)

Administrative Assistant: Debbie Marotte

Email: [orbaoffice@orbalife.org](mailto:orbaoffice@orbalife.org)

### W.W. Mann Retreat Center

2171 Prather Road  
Statesboro, GA 30461  
Phone: 912-842-2460  
Fax: 912-842-2464

Website: [www.mann-center.org](http://www.mann-center.org)

Director: Mike Sparks

Email: [bradwellalum69@yahoo.com](mailto:bradwellalum69@yahoo.com)

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

26 Ben & Deborah Gay



Dates: Feb 6-7, 2025

Location: Jekyll Island Club Hotel

Address: **371 Riverview Dr, Jekyll Island, GA 31527**

Begins: 1:00 PM on Thursday, February 6, 2025

Ends: 3:15 PM on Friday, February 7, 2025

Cost: \$129 per person

For lodging, please contact 912-635-5191 or 800-535-9547 for a Reservation Agent and ask for the **Kids Ministry Summit Rate**.

If you have any questions, please contact Krista Staton at [kstaton@gabaptist.org](mailto:kstaton@gabaptist.org) or (770) 936-5224.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Connie Saunders  
4 Michael Sparks  
6 John Long  
6 Marcia Twigg  
15 Christopher Fowler  
18 Peggy Harbuck  
19 Edward Rich  
29 Scott Redding

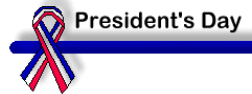
### Member Churches & Missions

Agape  
Bethel  
Blitchton FBC  
Brooklet FBC  
Cedar Street  
Christ  
Clito  
Eastern Heights  
Eldora  
Elmer  
Emit Grove  
Excelsior  
Fletcher Memorial  
Friendship  
Iglesia Cristiana Hispana  
Lawrence  
Leefield  
Lighthouse  
Macedonia  
Metter FBC  
New Life  
Oak Grove  
Old Fellowship  
Olive Branch  
Pine Grove  
Portal FBC  
Pulaski  
Register  
Salem  
SonLight Community  
Southbridge Community  
Statesboro FBC  
Statesboro Mision Bautista Bethel  
Statesboro Korean Mission  
Temple Hill  
Trinity  
Union

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

*(Focus on Christian Unity Month)*

February 17, 2025



President's Day

1 Southern Missions Summit  
2 GA Korean WMU Leadership Training  
2 George Liele Church Planting, Evangelism & Missions Sunday  
6 Pastors' Day @ the Capitol  
6-7 Kids Ministry Summit; Jekyll Island  
11 **Camp "I AM" Planning Meeting; ORBA Office, 7:00 p.m.**  
14 Valentine's Day  
16 Focus on WMU Sunday  
17 President's Day  
20-22 SELAH Women's Ministry Leader Retreat; Pinnacle Retreat Center in Clayton, GA  
21-22 Deacon Retreat  
23 Racial Reconciliation Sunday  
23-24 Evangelism Conference  
27 Worship & Music Roundtable

**Feb. 28 - Mar. 2 BCM's DNow; Worship & meeting location Eastern Heights**

## MARCH CALENDAR

*(Focus on North American Missions Month)*

3 **Pre-registration for Camp "I AM" Begins [Call ORBA Office (912-764-3620) for Forms]**  
2-9 Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Offering  
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins  
11 **Camp "I AM" Planning Meeting; ORBA Office, 7:00 p.m.**  
25 **Sr. Adult Spring Fling; Friendship, 11:00 a.m.**  
27 **Associational Executive Council Meeting; ORBA Office, 9:00 a.m.**

**1 Peter 3:8** Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: