



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Florida Baptist
Convention

Right Beside You.

Challenge 2025

The Challenge 2025 Initiative unites Florida Baptists to propel the Gospel even further.

These goals...

- ◆ Are all to the glory of the Lord
- ◆ Represent the floor not the ceiling
- ◆ Are annual and establish a new norm by 2025
- ◆ Require unity of the Florida Baptist family
- ◆ Are driven by the local churches of Florida



Together we can
REACH Florida and
REACH the World!

GOALS:

Church Plants - 75

Church Revitalizations - 100

Baptisms - 30,000

Mission Engagements - 12,000

Cooperative Program - \$33M

Maguire State Mission Offering - \$1M

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Celebrating God’s Goodness in 2023!

The 2023–24 Annual Report celebrates the ministry of our Florida Baptist Churches. I rejoice in the spirit of unity and commitment to the mission that marks the Florida Baptist Convention. We are blessed with incredible Pastors and Churches who are focused on reaching Florida and beyond for Christ. This report is the summation of the Annual Church Profile and other data that reflects the combined ministry of Florida Baptists.

The information reveals an increase in almost every measurable areas of mission and ministry. The numbers represent people and lives that have been eternally changed and impacted by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the 29,285 baptisms recorded by our churches. This number is a 32.8% increase over the previous year. Florida Baptists continue to set the pace for baptisms, church planting, church revitalization, missions partnerships, next gen, and other ministry areas for the Southern Baptist Convention. It is a blessing from the Lord to be part of the Florida Baptist Family.

It has been my privilege to serve as Executive Director Treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention since 2015. I thank you for believing in the vision of a reset for the Convention and faithfully supporting our work together through the Cooperative Program. The greatest days are ahead for Florida Baptists as we seek to Reach Florida for Christ. It has been a privilege and honor to be Right Beside You. May God continue to bless the unified ministry of Florida Baptists to the glory of the Lord.

Tommy Green
Executive Director – Treasurer



Cooperative Program

\$28,629,944 total CP gifts from Florida Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program!

\$14,219,713 stayed in Florida to:

- Plant, revitalize, strengthen churches
- Meet community needs
- Reach the next generation
- Provide compassionate care

Includes...

\$1,320,000 to the Baptist College of Florida

\$912,000 to Florida Baptist Children's Homes

\$160,000 to Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center

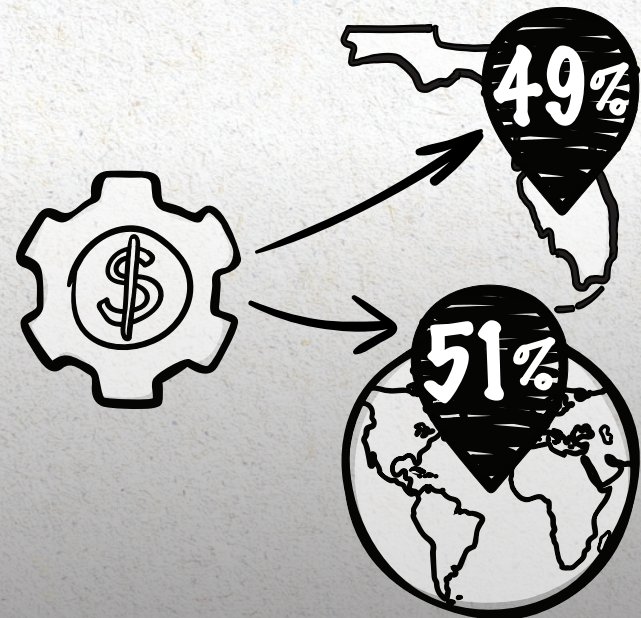
\$14,410,231 advanced to the SBC and the World

Giving away MORE THAN WE KEEP

Florida Baptists are still committed to releasing more resources to ministry outside the state of Florida.

51% to the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program.

49% to the Florida Baptist Convention Cooperative Program.



Missions Giving



TRANSFORMED!



Living on Mission



Reaching the nations...



and baptizing in His name

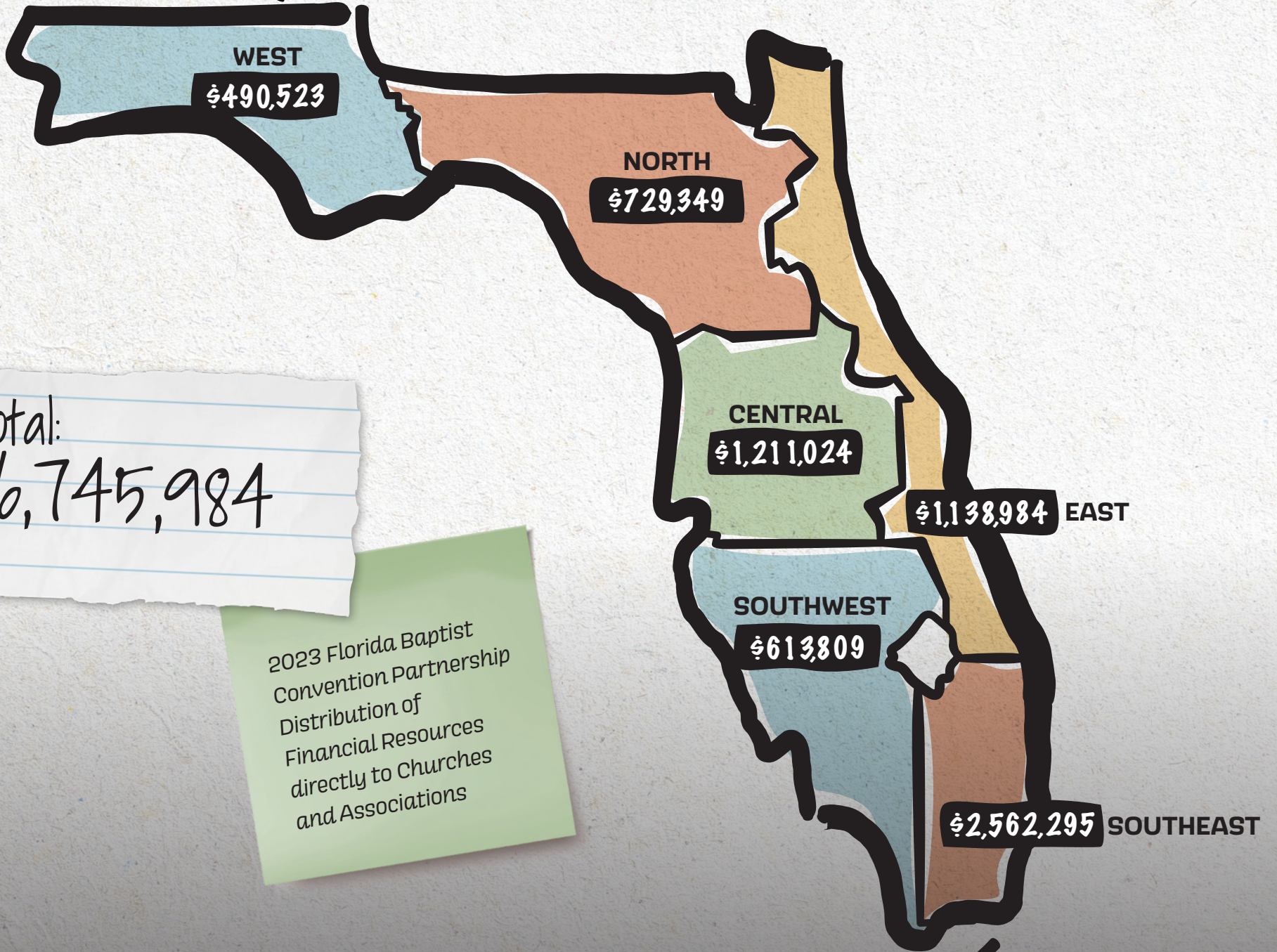
North American Mission Board

\$5,713,438 given by Florida Baptist churches to North American missions through CP (\$3,278,487) and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (\$2,434,951).

imb INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

\$12,661,504 given by Florida Baptist churches to international missions through CP (\$7,278,898) and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (\$5,382,606).

Total Ministry Investment



Total:
\$6,745,984

2023 Florida Baptist
Convention Partnership
Distribution of
Financial Resources
directly to Churches
and Associations

Church Revitalization

Pastor Brings Churches Together To Revitalize First Baptist Fort Lauderdale

By David Moore

Pastor David Hughes helped turn things around for what is now Church by the Glades decades ago, and now he and members of that church are working together to help revitalize First Baptist Fort Lauderdale.

Hughes, who has been lead pastor at Church by the Glades in Coral Springs for almost 25 years, also became lead pastor at First Baptist Fort Lauderdale in June. Through a unique collaboration between both churches, he has already started to see growth and progress at the 115-year-old historic church in just four short months.

“We’ve kind of had the blessing to live through one church resurrection,” Hughes said. “When I became aware of First Baptist and how much they were struggling, it just seemed like this was a good fit. I remember when it was the turf-taking church in all of South Florida. This church has had such great pastors – legends like Bill Hinson, O.S. Hawkins and Larry Thompson. For decades, it was not just the greatest Baptist church, but the most effective Great Commission church. And to see it lose its way and go through some struggles was tough.”

What had once been the largest church in Broward County with a 2,600-seat auditorium had dwindled down to about 250 in weekly attendance due to divisiveness within the church.

“They are really good folks who have been through some unfortunate things. They are a delight to work with. They love the Lord, love each other and love their church. They want to see First Baptist prosper,” Hughes said.

But what do you do to help a church hurt by divisiveness? Prioritize unity, Hughes said. “We had to prioritize to protect unity. The enemy likes to work through discord, so we all became guardians of the peace.”

They also agreed not to critique one another based on musical preference or worship style. This was important

as they kept a traditional service, attended by mostly senior adults, and added an “extremely contemporary” service. “It’s been a good formula here. It’s worked in the western part of Broward County, and I think what we’ve done is transferrable to downtown,” Hughes said.

Flooding in downtown Fort Lauderdale damaged the church building this past spring so the church has held services in its event center rather than the auditorium. The church now holds one traditional service and two contemporary services due to continued growth, now attracting about 600 to 800 each weekend.

Communicating scriptural truth to secular society

Hughes is known for preaching the gospel in creative and edgy ways, which is a must, he said, for attracting the younger generations. Just as Jesus used parables to preach on popular topics of the day, Hughes does the same in using creative parables about whatever is trending or making noise in our culture to grab people’s attention and take them to the word of God.

“I feel like pastors in South Florida have to think more like missionaries. Missionaries don’t compromise the gospel. You find a way to put the gospel in the vernacular and into recognizable metaphors of the people group. That’s all I do. I try to find ways to communicate the truth of Scripture to a very secular South Florida in ways that they recognize,” he said.

Once when preaching at Church by the Glades about the prophet Elijah and the confrontation on Mount Carmel in 1 Kings 18, the worship team led off with the song “Only When it Rains,” and the production crew made it rain on the musicians on stage. At Christmas one year, Hughes drove a DeLorean on stage with a “Back to the Future” movie vibe as he went back in time to talk about all the prophecies from the Old Testament that were fulfilled with Christ’s birth in the New Testament.

114 churches revitalized in 2023



Churches partnering together



Scan to read complete story

Church Planting



60 New Churches

Maguire State Mission Offering

504 Churches Participated
\$939,238 Receipts from
Florida Baptists through the
Maguire Offering.

100% of donations support
church planting all across Florida.

SEND NETWORK FLORIDA

The Send Network Florida partnership allows for the entire state of Florida to be included as a part of the Send emphasis. Any church in Florida has access to the resources of the Florida Baptist Convention and the North American Mission Board (50/50 support partnership) for church planting.

The entire Maguire State Mission Offering supports Send Network Florida. As you give generously to the Maguire State Mission Offering, you and your church are supporting church planting all across Florida.

74 Churches joined
the Convention through
planting and new
affiliations in 2023.

Welcome to Our Family

♥ BLACK CREEK: Family

♥ BREVARD:

5 Eleven
Local Church
Trinity Haitian
Church on Atlantic em Portugues
Community Garden
Covenant
New Hope United Christian Ministries
Zomi Community

♥ CHURCH-AT-LARGE:

Con Nosotros
Freedom in Christ Church

♥ EAST CENTRAL:

Central en Espanol
Shoreline Bible

♥ EMERALD COAST: Pillar

♥ FIRST COAST:

Aspire Mizo
Blessed Hope Community
Cross Community
Hibernia Baptist Esencial, Spanish Campus
Iglesia Bautista River City
Iglesia Local
Oak Cliff Bible
Redeemer

♥ FLORIDA: Iglesia Biblica Cristiana

♥ GREATER ORLANDO:

La Redemption
Mount Calvary
Orlando Bible Fellowship
Village Point
Grace and Mercy Haitian
Iglesia Bautista Genesis
Iglesia Bautista Misionera

♥ HOLMES: Primera Bautista de Bonifay

♥ LAFAYETTE : Grace Christian Church

♥ LAKE COUNTY:

MP3 Church
Mt Sinai

♥ MARION:

College Road, Haitian Campus
Iglesia Bautista Hispana Ebenezer
Manatee Community

♥ MIAMI:

Eglise Evange'lique de la Reconciliation
Faith Church
Heaven's Gate, English Campus
Japanese Christian Community
Miami City Church

♥ MIDDLE FLORIDA: The Bridge

♥ NATURE COAST: Discipleship

♥ NORTH CENTRAL: Lakeside

♥ NORTHEAST: Fernandina Beach First

♥ NORTHWEST COAST:

Southport Fellowship
Way

♥ OKALOOSA: Pilgrim Rest

♥ PALM BEACH:

Iglesia Bautista Luz Para Las Naciones
Inspiration Church
New Generation Evangelical

♥ PEACE RIVER: First Haitian Baptist Mission

♥ PENSACOLA BAY:

Living Truth, Cantonment
Multiply
The Point Church, Jackson St Campus

♥ RIDGE:

Calvary Espanol
Church on the Hill Espanol

♥ ROYAL PALM:

Awakening Church
Iglesia Bautista Vino Nuevo
Iglesia Vida en Cristo

♥ SOUTH FLORIDA: Lakes Church Espanol

♥ ST. JOHNS RIVER: Calvary Missionary

♥ SUNCOAST:

Calvary Espanol
Calvary, Crystal Beach Campus

♥ SUWANNEE:

Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana

♥ TAMPA BAY:

Bell Shoals Espanol, Apollo Campus
Christ Fellowship, Riverview Campus
Connection
Iglesia Aposento Alto
Restoration
The Chapel of Mango

♥ TREASURE COAST:

Iglesia Familiar
Le Centre d'Adoration

Diverse Populations Unified In Christ At Crestview Baptist Church

By Teodosia Rivera

LAKELAND—As David Renfroe celebrates his 20th anniversary as senior pastor of Crestview Baptist Church in Lakeland, the true celebration focuses on the more than 1,500 individuals—representing dramatically diverse walks of life—who have made professions of faith and been baptized over the past two decades at the Central Florida church.

Some baptized individuals have come from a strong legacy of generations born and raised at the local church. Many others have come to Christ as a result of Crestview's bus ministry to the homeless. Still others have come from the church's partnership with Lighthouse Ministries, catering to mothers and children needing shelter. Even more individuals have come to faith in Christ from one of several other Crestview outreach initiatives.

"The ground is equal at the foot of the cross," said Renfroe.

One of Pastor Renfroe's familiar phrases in the church is, "Everyone is somebody, and no one is more important than anybody else."

'Looking for one more'

As the church bus rolls through downtown Lakeland, its mission is visible for all to see, with the words, "Looking for one more," emblazoned boldly on the front of the bus and "Compelling them to come (Luke 14:23)," displayed on one side of the bus.

The large white bus with green lettering is a welcome sight on Sunday mornings as weary homeless men and women are invited onboard to take comfortable seats and enjoy a free breakfast provided through the church's partnership with a local fast-food chain. The evangelistic six-wheeler then rolls toward the church, where the homeless, with some carrying their canes and others wearing their misfortune on their faces, are showered with hugs and smiles.

As the men and women enter the sanctuary, Pastor Renfroe's voice echoes his welcome, "If you come once,

you are considered a friend. If you come again, you are considered family." After the morning service, the homeless are escorted to Crestview's clothes closet on the church grounds to select any clothes they want. Those who make professions of faith and are baptized receive an outfit for the baptism ceremony and another afterward.

The same Christ-loving approach guides Crestview's ministry to mothers and their children who are often escaping abuse, abandonment or addiction. Within the six-month program at Lighthouse's shelter, mothers and their children are required to attend church. Crestview's four 15-passenger vans go to the shelter each Sunday morning and Wednesday evening to pick up the women and children and take them to church, where they are invited to participate in worship and in a small group specifically designed for them. The senior pastor welcomes them with compassion and gives them the message of salvation.

One young mother who came to the church through Lighthouse Ministries said, "When I first came to Crestview, I told the pastor that I would never be baptized. Less than a year later, I am proud to call myself a child of God."

Seeing people as God sees them

Pastor Renfroe's 20-year legacy of preaching the gospel at Crestview has brought many people from different walks of life to know God and salvation in Christ alone. Renfroe established a culture of love over the years to meet the needs of Crestview's diverse community of believers, and he has led his church to design and implement culturally focused outreach programs, explained Andy Frisbie, student pastor. As a result, the church is vibrant today.

"The outreach model at Crestview is an excellent example of reaching all people with the gospel because we try to see everyone the way God sees them. We do not judge people based on their appearance or financial status. Of all the churches I have been a part of, I have never seen the Holy Spirit at work more than at Crestview," said Frisbie.



Helping the community

Florida continues to be a rapidly growing and diverse state. It takes us all working together for the glory of God to reach our communities.

Multicultural Ethnicities

Through a combined effort with resources from Missions, Next Gen and Hispanic ministries, 80 Spanish speakers representing 8 Hispanic churches, went on mission to Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico and Spain. With minimal language barriers, students learned that reaching the nations can be accomplished together as short-term trips have long-term value. This partnership focuses on mobilizing the next generation to live on mission.



Florida Baptists' Rich Tapestry of Language & Culture are Woven Together...

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| African American | Ethiopian | Portuguese |
| American Indian | Filipino | Romanian |
| Anglo | Haitian | Russian |
| Arabic | Hispanic | Slavic |
| Asian Indian | Hungarian | Thai |
| Brazilian | Japanese | Ukrainian |
| Cambodian | Jewish | Vietnamese |
| Chinese | Korean | Zomi (Burma) |
| Deaf | Multiethnic | |



Pastor Louis Egipciaco baptizes new believer

Elevate Church's Mass Baptism Event Declares Message Of Hope In End Times

By Keila Diaz

MIAMI LAKES – In a public display of faith and unity, 41 individuals were baptized in a mass baptism event held at a busy intersection in Miami Lakes. The event was organized by Elevate Church, with a Sunday message focusing on the end times.

Pastor Louis Egipciaco delivered a sermon during the event, emphasizing the urgency of the times and the importance of salvation. "The harvest is plentiful, and we are living in the end of times. You're not here just to watch the baptisms, but to hear the saving truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ," said Egipciaco.

He added, "Today is the day of salvation; tomorrow is not guaranteed."

The baptisms took place in specially arranged baptisteries set up in front of the church, situated at a major intersection. This unique location ensured that the event was visible to a wide range of passersby, from pedestrians to motorists. The baptisms were led by pastor Egipciaco and executive pastor Daniel Rodriguez, who guided each individual through the symbolic act of faith.

Personal stories

Among the individuals baptized, stories of transformation and dedication to their faith were evident. Valentina, who had been attending the church for just a month, took the step of baptism, while Robert, a

member since 2018, reaffirmed his commitment. Seventeen-year-old Adrian, who recently found his faith, was baptized alongside Jesus, a newer attendee.

Vanessa, along with her family of four, were baptized together, symbolizing their collective dedication to Christ. Rosalyn's resounding Yes to accepting Christ echoed through the event, as did Yesenia's story of five years of church attendance before accepting Christ – an event that her husband Carlos and her mother Odalys also marked with their baptisms.

The event attracted a diverse group of individuals, all with their unique journeys of faith. From attendees like Jesus, who had been part of the church for two years, to newcomers like Karla, who had been attending for just over two months, each baptism held a special significance.

Michelle, who had been coming to the church consistently for the past four months, shared her commitment through baptism, revealing that she had been on and off in her Christian commitment for a couple of years but was now fully dedicated. Danimaris, having been part of the church for five months, took the step as well, showcasing the impact the church had on her life in a short time.

Witness of faith to community



Scan to read complete story

Baptisms



29,285 Baptisms
Reported by Florida Baptist Churches

Next Gen



Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM)

2022-2023 school year:

- ◆ **7,566** Impacted
- ◆ **189** Salvations
- ◆ **32** Called to Ministry



Super Summer:

- ♥ Participants: **422** kids + **811** students
- ♥ Salvations: **8** kids + **25** students
- ♥ Called to Ministry: **24** students



VBS: 121,442 Kids Enrolled
1,033 Church Vacation Bible Schools

"Vacation Bible School at our church provides a unique opportunity to reach kids from our congregation and community with the Gospel! Through engaging activities, biblical teachings, and meaningful interactions, VBS fosters spiritual growth, strengthens relationships, and ignites a passion for God's Word in the hearts of our kids, shaping them into lifelong disciples of Jesus!"

- Daniel Rega, Associate Pastor of Families at Hibernia Baptist Church

Disaster Relief

887 New Volunteers



Hurricane Idalia Response:

- ◆ Disaster Relief Florida accumulated **56,171** volunteer hours in 2023.
- ◆ Distributed **41,276** meals, and completed **746** work orders.
- ◆ **49** professions of faith.



Horseshoe Beach Church Serves As 'Lighthouse' For Community Amid Hurricane Devastation

By Jessica Pigg

HORSESHOE BEACH—Known as a laid-back, friendly fishing village, the quaint community of Horseshoe Beach found itself directly in the path of Hurricane Idalia's 125 mph winds and 10-foot storm surge. The catastrophic devastation has left the fishing and boating community in pieces.

Picking up some of those pieces is Robin Hoffman. Hoffman's family has owned a home in Horseshoe Beach since the early 1970s and is a longtime member of First Baptist Church Horseshoe Beach—the only local church within 20 miles.

Having trained as a Florida Baptist Disaster Relief volunteer and served in the aftermath of dozens of natural disasters for more than 20 years, Hoffman compared Hurricane Idalia's devastation of the Horseshoe Beach community to the 1993 "Storm of the Century," that also formed over the Gulf of Mexico and left catastrophic damage and storm surge in the same region.

"Coming back into town, the destruction was immediately apparent," Hoffman described. "Fridges and couches had been swept to the middle of the street, and some of my neighbors' homes have just vanished. In looking around, Idalia is twice what the 1993 Storm of the Century was in this area."

The church didn't escape the storm's destructive path. Damages to the church facility and parsonage are extensive.

With many of the 30-name church membership list remaining evacuated until power is restored to the area, Hoffman and her husband are springing into action and calling for help as they seek to pick up the pieces and recover what is left of their church facility and parsonage.

Leaders from Lafayette Baptist Association and Patrick Coats, East region catalyst for the Florida Baptist Convention, were some of the first on the scene assessing damage and seeking to serve the small Baptist church and hard-hit community.

"It was heartbreaking to see and stand in the midst of devastation. My wife and I got the opportunity to pray and encourage Robin Hoffman from First Baptist Horseshoe Beach. I'm grateful for our Florida Baptist family's heart in coming beside churches. We know our God is the God of restoration," said Coats.

Also seeking to come alongside the devastated church is Joppa Baptist Church, located in neighboring Trenton. After assessing the damage just one day after Idalia, the church has already begun the restoration process and seeks to be a helping hand and to "stick around" long after the work is completed.

"Southern Baptists have been so good to us," Hoffman said. "They have made it bearable because we know help is on the way. We're not alone."



Scan to read complete story

Partnerships

Your
Compassion
to **PRAY**

Plus Your
Generosity
to **GIVE**

Propels Your
Missionaries
to **GO**



English Language Missions (ELM)

Consists of four areas of ministry
for Florida Baptists:

- ◆ **1,589** Students Enrolled
- ◆ **53** Countries Represented
- ◆ **26** New Citizens

“What do students from 31 different countries and English speaking teachers have in common? We share a dedication to teach a new language but more importantly to share the love of Christ. We create an environment where students come and find a home with a family that includes different cultures and languages but all have the same goal – to support one another as we live life together. Being a part of an ESL ministry is truly being a local missionary every week right here in our own neighborhood and church. Our zoom classes have allowed us to reach students who live in another country as well as support missionaries serving on the mission field. These missionaries are not native English speakers but need a command of English for work in their ministry. It is an amazing experience to sit down at a computer and have prayer with students on another continent.”

- Sue Isaac, ESL Ministry Director, Aloma Church, Winter Park

Florida Baptist Partnership With Ohio Baptists Sets Stage For 'Something Bigger'

By Teodosia Rivera

As Florida Baptists' partnership with Ohio Baptists begins to take shape, leaders from both state conventions are realizing the opportunities for God to do "something bigger" in and through both state conventions.

Recently several Florida Baptist leaders traveled to Cleveland, Ohio, to speak and serve at the 2023 Ohio African American Fellowship.

Florida Baptist leaders included Jeffery Singletary, Florida Baptists' Central region catalyst; Patrick Coats, Florida Baptists' East region catalyst; Erik Cummings, Florida Baptists' Black multicultural catalyst; and Zelvis Applin, pastor, South Hills Church, Wimauma.

"The experience was incredible. I felt like the Lord was able to use my journey as a pastor who has served in various roles, the most recent being a church planter, to equip and bless those in attendance," Applin said.

Reginald Hayes, convention relations-community leader for the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, agreed, saying that the gathering "helped in sharing and understanding techniques used in Florida that are most effective in urban areas." The collaboration and ideas, he said, "galvanized best practices for planning, revitalizing and strengthening pastors and churches in urban communities."

Cummings welcomed the opportunity to share with Ohio Baptist pastors. He said, "We can encourage each other to go beyond traditional practices as it relates to reaching and engaging diverse communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ." Floridians, he said, have long been familiar with diversity, and Ohioans are now seeing demographic shifts in their population. "These partnerships provide dialogue and strategy to be proactive in preparing to minister in changing times."

Applin recalls a testimony from Ohio pastor Darryl Baker, who, though not knowing what to expect from the fellowship meeting, "felt encouraged as he realized that he and I were both ministering in suburban/rural contexts with diverse congregations."

Returning home from the Ohio visit, Applin said he realized he was "part of something bigger than what's happening in Wimauma, Florida. I am committed to assisting my Ohio brothers and churches in any way I can as we continue to build upon the established partnership between our two state conventions. We are truly better together."

Collaboration between regional catalysts

Regional catalysts in Ohio recently have been matched with regional catalysts in Florida "to communicate better and collaborate for a more effective partnership," said Jeremy Westbrook, Ohio Baptists' executive director/treasurer.

"Now that our regional catalysts have been connected in both state conventions, we will begin to see momentum between the churches and catalysts as they partner for missions and revitalization efforts," he said.

Hayes is optimistic about the partnership's potential. Such a partnership, he said, provides "opportunities to strengthen communities by growing healthy churches," and he commended Florida Baptist catalysts as "wonderful advisors with a wealth of information about how to organize, develop and build lasting evangelism models in communities."

Cummings said he prays "that we will continue to have fruitful conversations and even possibly collaborate on combining our efforts to encourage like-minded church leaders across the country in the ever-changing landscape in which we all minister."



Community



Mobile Dental Ministry:

- ◆ **1,684** Patients Treated
- ◆ **177** Dentists Volunteered
- ◆ **\$977,035** Value of Services
- ◆ **993** Evangelistic Encounters
- ◆ **126** Decisions for Christ

"I often tell others that one of my greatest privileges in serving on the mobile dental unit is getting to interact with so many healthy and vibrant churches across the state. We don't often get to hear or read about the church in Florida or across America, but there are many churches that are proclaiming the good news and serving the people of their community. One such church is Bella Vista Baptist Church in Edgewater. Sometimes before or after a dental procedure antibiotics are prescribed by the dentist. Bella Vista recognized that the patients which they call "guests" may not have the ability to pay for the prescribed medication. They worked with their local Walgreens pharmacy and now provide a gift card to patients who identify as not being able to cover the cost of the prescription. Very thankful for the way Bella Vista Baptist Church shares the love of Jesus through their words and actions!"

*- Beckie Layman, Mobile Dental Unit Coordinator,
Member of Parkview Baptist Church, Lake City*

Hunger Outreach:

- ◆ **\$11,200** Funds Disbursed
- ◆ **676,381** People Fed
- ◆ **39,030** Evangelistic Encounters
- ◆ **1,602** Professions of Faith
- ◆ **292** Baptisms
- ◆ **12,208** Volunteers
- ◆ **788** Volunteers Trained



Seaport Ministries:

- ◆ **90,468** Seafarers Visited the Four Seafarer Centers
- ◆ **18,092** Visits with Seafarers
- ◆ **384** Cargo Ships Visited
- ◆ **130** Countries Represented by Seafarers
- ◆ **27,243** Evangelistic Encounters
- ◆ **135** Professions of Faith



Learn more at: www.FLBaptist.org/Community-Ministries

Missions

“What do students from 31 different countries and English speaking teachers have in common? We share a dedication to teach a new language but more importantly to share the love of Christ... I love the fact that every week we can make a difference in a life while becoming good friends...It is an amazing experience to sit down at a computer and have prayer with students on another continent. One of the greatest by products is partnering with other local ESL ministries to bring the very best to our students and to experience the common bond of sharing the Gospel through ESL wherever opportunity opens doors.”

-Sue Isaac, ESL Ministry Director, Aloma Church, Winter Park



Healthcare Ministries:

- ◆ **37,099** Patient Visits
- ◆ **3,660** Evangelistic Encounters
- ◆ **283** Professions of Faith
- ◆ **\$19,246,051** Value of Services Provided

Women's Missions & Ministries / Missions Education

1,969 organizations serve Florida Baptist Churches through Women's Ministry, Women on Mission, WMU Organizations, and Children/Youth Organizations

624 Children/Youth Missions Education

743 women on Mission/Adults on Mission/WMU

602 Women's Ministries

"As a mother, a teacher, and community leader, I have grown to rely on GLOW weekend as an anchor to my Christian Education for all teen girls in my life. We travel nine hours to get there and every minute at Lake Yale under the leadership of Cindy Bradley and her team is edifying and enriching in the Glory of God. The theme "Guard your Heart" was impactful and led to many conversations. The breakout sessions make missions an attainable goal for any girl from any background. All the teaching is applicable, and the girls thrive on that! I'm so thankful for this retreat and what it means to my girls!"

- Darlene Dryer, Fifth Street Baptist Church, Key West



Building networks for women



"We were instructed and encouraged to pray, with the confidence of knowing that our Heavenly Father is always listening while we're yet praying, realizing that if we don't receive an answer from Him immediately to keep our faith because His timing is perfect, we were admonished to remember that we're sisters in Christ Jesus, and the great need to pray for one another, encouragement each other to be the light for a world that seems hopeless."

- Cathy Day, Tabernacle Baptist Institutional Church, Jacksonville

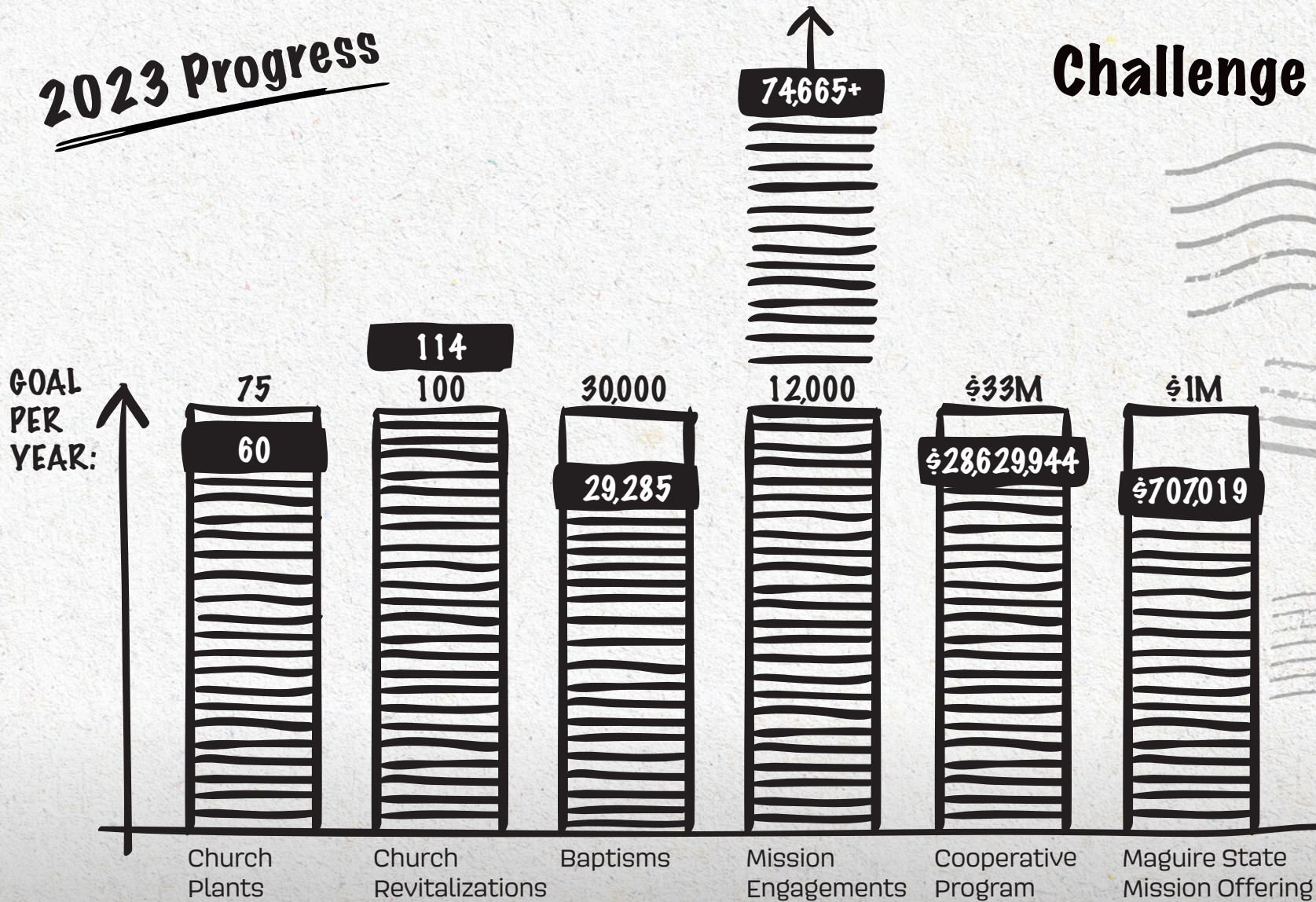
"The Ministers' Wives Luncheon was such an encouragement through the Bible teaching and getting to be with others who share in similar joys and struggles. They prepared a lovely setting, blessing bags of goodies, and sweet fellowship around the tables with sisters in ministry. This is a highlight of the convention to get to share in this special time."

- Crystal Carter, Celebration Baptist Church, Tallahassee



2023 Progress

Challenge 2025



Together we celebrate all that God has done this past year, but Florida Baptists must also prepare for the future. The population of Florida is currently increasing by 330,000 residents a year. Just as the population will continue to rise, so must our level of compassion and generosity.

All of this, so that the Gospel will be shared, that lives will be transformed, and that God's Kingdom will be expanded. Together we have a greater reach than we ever could alone.

Learn more at: www.FLBaptist.org/Challenge-2025

Good News for the Whole World

Florida Baptist Convention *World's Biggest Year*

29,285

Baptisms



2023

Florida Baptist Convention *World's Biggest Year*

410,023

Worship Attendance



2023

Florida Baptist Convention *World's Biggest Year*

232,419

Sunday School Attendance



2023

Florida Baptist Convention *World's Biggest Year*

122,959

VBS Enrollment



2023

Florida Baptist Convention *World's Biggest Year*

771,227

Church Membership



2023