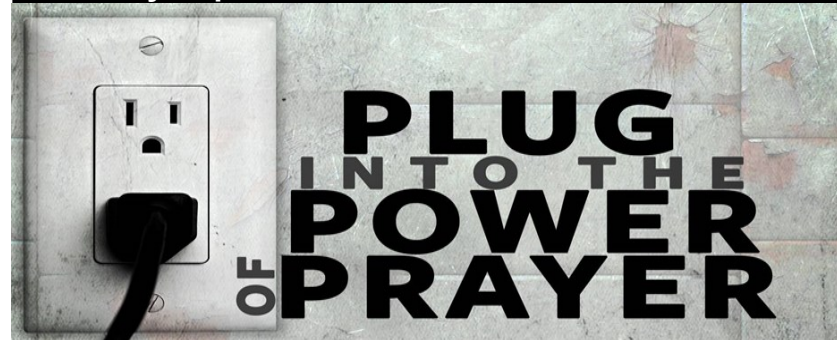


Connecting Churches through Prayer

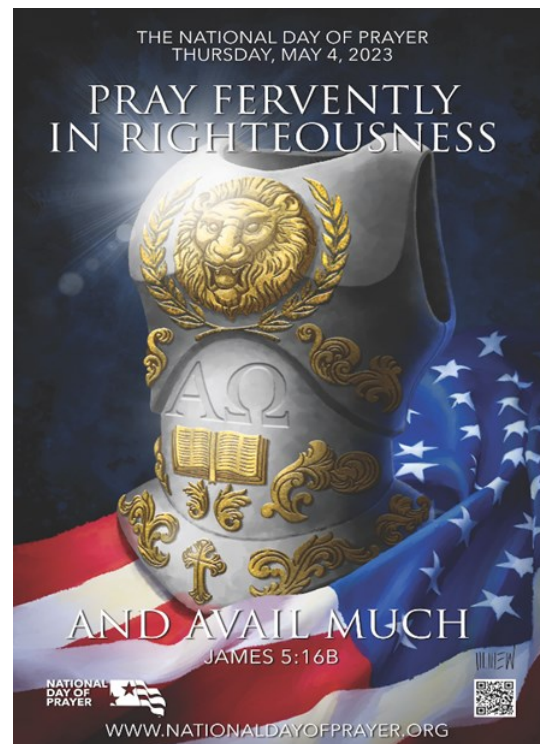
Gateway Baptist Association Newsletter

MAY-SUMMER 2023



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- Children's Missions Day
- Month of Missions
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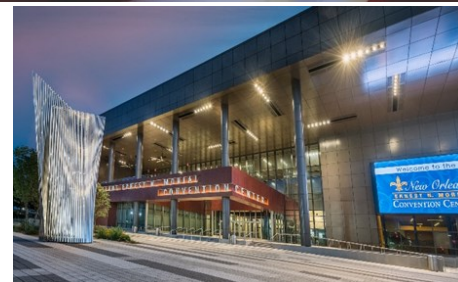
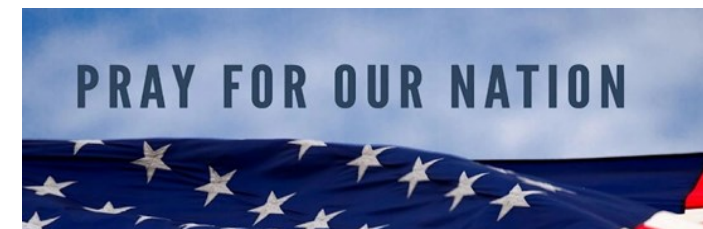


National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 4, 2023

at the GBA Resource Center

6 :00 AM – 9:00 AM
(communion served at 6:15 and 8:30)



June 11 - 14, 2023 at the
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

Pray for our Denomination and for Unity



I CAN STILL CALL MY FATHER

I am so grateful to the Gateway Baptist Association family for their compassion and prayers during the passing of my dad this last December. The time they allowed Lorna and I to be with family and relatives made the grieving process much lighter and the days much brighter. We are still dealing with his estate, but we expect to have it completed by the middle of this year. Thank you!

I have caught myself attempting to call my dad on the cellphone several times over the past three months because we talked so often. I miss those times, but I am blessed to know that we will see him again.

But one thing I have been totally immersed in during these days after the funeral is that I can still talk to my Father. My dad may be gone from my presence, but my Heavenly Father is always waiting to hear from us, His children. *"Because he bends down to listen, I will pray as long as I have breath!"* Psalm 116:2 AMP Our Lord and Savior wants to hear from us, and He wants us to listen intently to what He has to say to us. We must stop and listen carefully because He knows what is best for us and what brings health, deliverance, and salvation.

Even though I cannot talk physically to my dad any longer, I can share my heart and feelings to my Father Who makes eternal differences in me every day. If your parents are gone you understand the sadness and the gladness of their passing. But never forget – your Eternal Father never leaves you, never forsakes you, and never stops bending low to hear your heart. PRAYER – it is our way to touch the heart of God and tap into the Power of God! Prayer changes things for the best and for His glory!

14 Ways to Pray for Yourself

1. Pray that you will receive your calling and faithfully serve others.
2. Pray your love will be obvious and compelling.
3. Pray that you will abide in Christ and He in you.
4. Pray that you daily seek the Lord's wisdom in the Scriptures.
5. Pray that you will be fully armed for spiritual battle and able to stand firm in your faith.
6. Pray without ceasing for all things – big and small!
7. Pray that you will display the fruit of the Spirit in your life.
8. Pray that you have ears to hear and obey.
9. Pray and surrender your mouth, your ears, your eyes, and your mind to the Spirit of God. Flee temptation.
10. Pray that you will be strong and courageous.
11. Pray that you will be faithful in the face of opposition.
12. Pray that you will see the holiness of the Lord and your own sinfulness, then confess your sin and rejoice in His forgiveness.
13. Pray that you will always be looking to help those in need.
14. Pray that you would be like Jesus! May we live like Him, act like Him, and react like Him!



LESSONS LEARNED FROM MY SABBATICAL



Leading from Your Strengths by Ministry Insights (Rodney Cox and John Trent). I completed the requirements for certification to lead this training material. Trained with the staff of **The Refuge Counseling Center**, Conroe, TX 77303. I spent the week mirroring some of their counselors as they dealt with PTSD patients in a psychological counseling setting. Gleaned valuable information for dealing with church leaders who may be suffering from anxiety and depression issues.



Worked on my book entitled: *"Helping Your Church Embrace Change"* Completed chapters 1-6 of 12. I am expecting to complete it by the end of summer.



Thank You to Christway Community Church in Godfrey for hosting the 2023 Children's Mission Day!

122 Participants from 8 GBA churches



Thank You Renae, Joe, Becky, and Pastor Steve



10 Projects Completed





**GBA Month of Missions
Project Request form**

**Request must be submitted to GBA
NO LATER than May 10, 2023**

Mail to - 4539 Wanda Road, Edwardsville, IL 62025
Email to - admin@gatewayba.org
Fax to - 618-254-4132

The GBA Missions Team is tasked with reviewing, approving, rejecting, or amending applications submitted based on the following criteria:

- 1. GBA must receive a written Request Form.
- 2. An approved contact person from the church requesting the funds must be on file for each mission project request, with necessary contact information.
- 3. Since this is a matching program (\$500 maximum); the church must have an equal or greater financial commitment than the request.
- 4. Church leadership must submit a written report of the event results and any pertinent comments concerning the supported mission activity, within two weeks after the event.
- 5. Mission project funding will only be offered to actively supporting churches.
- 6. The financial commitment is for the current year only.

Church Information

Church Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ - _____ Cell () _____ - _____

Email Address _____

Scheduled Date of Mission Project? _____

Amount Requested? \$ _____

Intended Use of Funds? _____

Church's Financial Commitment \$ _____

Actively Supporting GBA? ____ Yes ____ No

Other Comments _____

Request Submitted by _____ Date _____
(Print name)

Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4, 2023—National Day of Prayer

May 11, 2023— Mission Team Meeting 9:30 a.m.

May 11, 2023—Ministry Luncheon and Ex. Brd Meeting.
11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



May 14, 2023 - Mother's Day

May 17, 2023—Admin Team Mtg. 9:30 a.m.

May 18, 2023—ReCharge/Replant Mtg. 8:30 a.m.

May 29, 2023 Memorial Day
GBA OFFICE CLOSED



June 10, 2023— SBC Crossover Event— New Orleans

June 11-12, 2023—SBC Pastor Conference

June 13-14, 2023—SBC Convention



June 18, 2023—Father's Day

July 4, 2023—Independence Day
GBA Office Closed



July 31—August 1, 2023—IBSA Roundtable
Springfield, IL



August 3, 2023—Ministry Luncheon 11:30 a.m.

August 10, 2023—Missions Committee Mtg.

August 16, 2023— Admin Team Mtg.—9:30 a.m.

August 20, 2023— Disaster Relief Appreciation Day

WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOST CHURCHES FOR ...



Children's Mission Day 2024

March 23 or 30, 2024

ANNUAL MEETINGS 2024-26

Dates are negotiable but normally near the end of September



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY HAS MADE OUR MEDIA LIBRARY ARCHAIC, THEREFORE



1. We will be giving away all the GBA Media Library Resources at our May 11, 2023, Ministry Luncheon. The materials will be laid out on tables to peruse and may be obtained on a first-come, first-serve basis.
2. Send a church representative if you are interested.



3. A list of materials is available on the GBA website at [book-and-dvd-library.pdf \(wordpress.com\)](https://www.gba.org/book-and-dvd-library.pdf)

AT TIMES, GBA HAS EXTRA EQUIPMENT WITH WHICH WE CAN BLESS OUR CHURCHES. WE HAVE A CANNON PALM CAMERA THAT IS IN PERFECT CONDITION AND HAS ALL THE ACCESSORIES YOU MIGHT WANT.

Model – VIXIA HF R700



If your church is interested, please get your church name to the GBA Office and we will have a drawing on May 11, 2023 at the Ministry Luncheon to determine the winner.



[vixiafr70-72-700-im-en.pdf \(c-wss.com\)](https://www.c-wss.com/vixiafr70-72-700-im-en.pdf)
[CLICK + CtrlL for more information]





Pray for our Pastorless churches

First Baptist Church of Collinsville
723 St. Louis Road
Collinsville, IL 62234

New Hope Baptist Church
222 W. Ahrens,
Worden, IL 62097

New Douglas Baptist Church
407 N. First Street
New Douglas, IL 62074

Whitelaw Avenue BC
800 Whitelaw Ave.
Wood River, IL 62095

Pleasant Ridge BC
195 West Country Lane
Collinsville, IL 62234

**OFFICES
CLOSED**

**May 29, 2023
Memorial Day**

**July 4, 2023
Independence Day**

"IF YOU WANT THAT SPLENDID POWER IN PRAYER, YOU MUST REMAIN IN LOVING, LIVING, LASTING, CONSCIOUS, PRACTICAL, ABIDING UNION WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST."
- C.H. SPURGEON



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Connie Noel

Administrative Assistant

and Finance

admin@gatewayba.org

Office Hours

Mon. – Thurs. 9:00 am – 4:30 pm;

Fri. 9:00 am– 12 pm

www.gatewayba.org



ANNUAL MEETING



**REACHING THE LOST
PREACHING CONFERENCE
WITH THE GOSPEL**

GBA Annual Meeting and Preaching Conference

Calvary Baptist Church, Alton, IL 8AM – 1:45 PM

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Please, register with the GBA Office and RSVP for the Luncheon

Guest Speakers:

Andre Dobson – Calvary, Alton
Tim Lewis – Bethel, Troy
Alex Melton – Heartland BC, Alton
Chris Sedabres – Second BC,
Granite City



**An Update
From Our
Missions Team**

YOUR MISSIONS TEAM @ WORK

The Missions Team approved Richard Farrow Scholarships for 2 first-time missionaries to go to India; 5 first-time missionaries to go to Guatemala; and one church will be able to continue their online presence!!