

IMPACT

Speakers Bios

CLINT PRESSLEY - SBC PRESIDENT



Clint serves as Senior Pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. Since 2010, he has led the church to exalt Christ, make disciples, and pass the torch of the gospel to the next generation.

A native of Charlotte, Clint joined Hickory Grove as a teenager before earning a Bachelor of Arts from Wofford College in South Carolina and a Master of Divinity from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisiana. He pastored two churches in Mississippi before returning to Hickory Grove in 1999 as Senior Associate Pastor of Preaching. In 2004, he was called as Senior Pastor of the historic Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama. In 2010, he returned once again to Hickory Grove as Co-Pastor and was installed as Senior Pastor in 2011.

In June 2024, Clint was elected President of the Southern Baptist Convention. He also served the Convention as Vice President of the SBC Pastor's Conference in 2013, First Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention in 2014-2015, Trustee of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 2015, and member of the NC Baptist Board of Directors since 2023.

Clint is married to Connie, and they have two sons.

BRIAN CRAWFORD - MISSISSIPPI PASTOR



Brian Crawford is the husband of Candi and father of Brian Jr. and Elijah. He is the newly selected President of Mission Mississippi, an organization dedicated to the work of Christian reconciliation across racial and ethnic lines in businesses, schools, and churches in Mississippi and beyond. Brian is also the lead pastor of City Light Church, an intentional multiethnic church plant in Downtown Vicksburg, Mississippi. Brian and his wife, Candi, are natives and long-time residents of Vicksburg and have a passion to share the love and Gospel of Jesus Christ with the city they hold dear. Brian is also committed to the work of assessing, training, and coaching church planters across the US through his work with 242 Network and MyBlvd. When Brian isn't engaged in the work of Mission Mississippi or City Light, you will find him either dating his wife, reading books, watching Marvel movies with his boys, or watching sports of any kind.

ANDY BOLES - MISSISSIPPI PASTOR



Andy Boles is the Church Planting Pastor of Embrace Church, Forest MS, where he has served Gods wonderful people for 9 1/2 years. Andy, along with his amazing wife of 28 years, Laurie, have the privilege of being the parents to Easton and his wife Jamie, Eli and his wife Lacey, Emma Grace and Ellis Boles and now has two grandsons, Champ and Judah with one on the way. Andy has served the Lord in 29 great years of ministry.

CHIP STEVENS - MISSISSIPPI PASTOR



Dr. Chip Stevens has served as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi since 2019. He holds a bachelor's degree from Mississippi College and a master's degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. In addition, he was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree from Mississippi College where he currently serves on the Board of Trustees. He is married to Sandra, and they have three children; Reid (Natalie) Stevens, Emory (John Clyde) Ready, and Graham Stevens.

RITA SWEATT - MISSISSIPPI PASTOR'S WIFE



Born: Thomas, Oklahoma to J. M. and Gail Wood
Graduated: Oklahoma Baptist University, B. M. E.
Born in Christ: As a 7-year-old girl in Tulsa, Oklahoma
Married: to Dr. Lloyd Sweatt since 1980
Children: Rita and Lloyd have 3 adult daughters, two sons-in-law and six grandchildren.
Formerly: Choral Music Teacher, Drama Teacher
Presently: Member and pastor's wife at Meadowood Baptist Church, Amory, Mississippi
Guest Soloist and Speaker for women's events and conventions

My Prayer: Is that I may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that I may have great endurance and patience and joyfully give thanks to the Father who has qualified me to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. (Taken from Colossians 1:10)

PAULA FLEMING - PAINTER



Paula Fleming started The Painting Lady in 2010. She started painting for friends and family, and then the Lord opened doors in so many other ways. In the beginning, it was a way to help pay off medical expenses but then grew bigger. She started hosting private paint parties, Ladies Night Out events for churches, and businesses for employee team building events. In 2014, she started doing art camps with kids K-8th grade and just celebrated 10 years of art camps. This year she decided to create a Facebook group for other door hanger artists and teach them the ins and outs of hosting art camps for kids in their communities across the South.

Paula's full-time job is the Church Account at First Baptist Church in Columbus, MS. She has been there for 20 years and has a passion for serving in youth ministries. She often says she crunches numbers by day and paints by night!

CHRYSTELLE THAMES - COMMUNICATIONS



Chrystelle Thames joined the Public Relations Department at The Baptist Children's Village in June of 1982. She received her Bachelor of Science and Master Science Degrees in Communications from Mississippi College. Chrystelle is past president of the Public Relations Association of Mississippi Board and has served on the Southern Public Relations Federation Board. She is also a member of the Southern Baptist Child Care Communications and Development Group. Chrystelle is a BCV alumnus and brings a unique perspective to her role as the ministry spokesperson. She has also served as an advocate for children in volunteer leadership roles in the Jr. Auxiliary of Clinton, local PTA organizations and in the prayer ministry at her church.

HANNAH HUMSTON - PROGRAM MANAGER



Hannah began her career at The BCV as a Family Interventionist with the In-Home Family Support Program in 2022. She held this position until April 2024, when she transitioned to become the program manager for the Residential Family Program. Hannah is a Licensed Master Social Worker certified through the Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists. Originally from central Florida, she relocated to Mississippi to attend Mississippi College, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Social Work with a minor in Servant Leadership. Hannah then pursued her master's degree in social work from Union University. She recently moved from Jackson to Laurel to assist with launching our residential family program. Hannah has felt a calling from a young age to serve at-risk children and families, and she is grateful for the opportunity to fulfill this calling at The BCV.