



**We're looking forward to seeing you at the  
2026 Ministry Assistants Conference and Training!**

**Please read through this document for details pertaining to the conference.**

If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth at [elindigrin@mbcb.org](mailto:elindigrin@mbcb.org) or 601-292-3305.

**Beginning Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, you may contact Elizabeth on her cell phone: 601-842-4501.**

**Monday, March 16, 2026, 8:00 a.m. - Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 11:45 a.m.**

**Location**

Garaywa Camp and Conference Center, Clinton, MS

Directions: <https://garaywa.org/directions/>

**Lodging**

Lodging is available on a first-come, first-served basis at either Patterson Place (\$65.00 per night) or a guest house/cabin room with an inside bath (\$30.00 per night). Linens are included. You will select a lodging location and night(s) when you register. You will also be able to indicate if you are willing to have a roommate and give their name.

**Meals**

Monday

Complimentary Continental breakfast

Lunch - \$9.00

Dinner - \$10.00

Tuesday

Continental Breakfast - \$5.00

# Conference Schedule

## Monday, March 17, 2025

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 8:00  | Registration & Complimentary Continental Breakfast                      |
| 9:00  | Conference begins   |
| 9:45  | Worship   |
| 11:00 | Records Retention   |
| 12:00 | Lunch   |
| 1:00  | Q&A Session   |
| 2:30  | Break   |
| 2:45  | Breakout Session #1   |
| 3:45  | Break   |
| 4:00  | Breakout Session #2   |
| 5:00  | MBMAA Business Meeting  |
| 6:00  | Supper  |
| 6:45  | Join us for a fun-filled game night with lots of fellowship and prizes! |

## Tuesday, March 18, 2025

|       |                           |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 7:30  | Breakfast                 |
| 8:30  | Training Session – part 1 |
| 9:45  | Break                     |
| 10:00 | Training Session – part 2 |
| 11:30 | Closing remarks           |
| 11:45 | Dismiss                   |

## Monday Afternoon Breakout Session Choices: (please choose 2)

1. Office Organization and Calendar Keeping
2. Communication Etiquette
3. Smart Phone Photography
4. Prayer

## Tuesday Morning Training Session Choices: (please choose 1)

1. Microsoft 365
2. Church Finances

# Conference Speakers

## **Worship Speaker** – *Cindy Townsend*



Dr. Cindy Townsend is currently the Minister to Women at First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi. Cindy has served as Director of Women’s Missions and Ministry for the Baptist Conventions of both Louisiana and Mississippi, a National Lifeway Women’s Ministry Trainer, and was founder of the Student Global Leadership Institute at Jackson Preparatory School in Mississippi. Cindy is a child of God, wife, mother, Meme, freelance writer, educator, and minister. Her passion is to equip women to discover their full potential in Christ Jesus.

## **Worship Leaders** – *Cassidy Crenshaw, Kristie Reddoch, & Kameryn Heath*



Cassidy, Kristie, and Kameryn have shared worship ministry leadership at Pinelake Church (Clinton) for several years, working with ages that range from students all the way to seniors. They share a deep desire to encounter God in worship, and to help others do the same.

## **Records Retention** – *Vesta Clary*



Vesta has served as a Ministry Assistant at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for the past nine years, where she currently enjoys her role as the State ACP Contact. She and her husband, Chip, have been married for 47 years and are grateful parents of two children and grandparents to two. Before their time in Mississippi, Vesta and Chip spent 27 years serving with the International Mission Board in the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Taiwan. Whether she’s gathered with her family or in the kitchen cooking, Vesta is in her happy place.

## **Office Organization and Calendar Keeping – Lisa Fortner & Becky Combs**



Lisa has been the Ministry Assistant for the Tri-County Baptist Association for 13 years. Tri-County Association is three individual associations (Lawrence, Marion and Walthall) that share associational staff. Lisa and her husband, Ricky, have been married for 21 years. They have one daughter, Kate, who is 14 years old. Lisa and her family are members of Edna Baptist Church in Columbia, where Lisa also serves as the Children’s Minister. In her spare time, Lisa enjoys gardening, hunting, fishing, spending time with her family and watching Kate play softball and volleyball.



Becky has been the Ministry Assistant at Rankin County Baptist Association for almost seven years. She and her husband of thirty years, Darby, have one son, Joey (Camilla), and one GRANDson, Dmitri. She served as a pastor’s wife for 25 years, until Darby was called as the Rankin County AMS, in 2021. Becky enjoys spending time with her family, filling her Amazon and Etsy carts (only to delete everything later), and daydreaming about the next opportunity to have her toes in the sand.

## **Communication Etiquette – Dawn Pippen**



Dawn has served as the Ministry Assistant at the Pine Belt Baptist Association since 2017. She is married to Brian Pippen and serves alongside him at Macedonia Baptist Church in Petal, MS. After 14 years of marriage, God blessed them through adoption with their little “Christmas Miracle” – a spunky little girl, Olivia “Livy” Caroline. Ask Dawn about their story anytime, she LOVES to tell it!

## **Smart Phone Photography – Russ Daniels**



Russ is the Student Pastor and Director of Communications at First Baptist Church Jackson and the owner of Russ Daniels Photography. He has a heart for investing in the next generation and a creative eye shaped by years behind the camera. Russ has been married to his wife, Emileigh, for seven years, and together they are raising their two kids – Hudson (4) and Parker (9 months). When he's not serving students or photographing life's moments, you can usually find him enjoying good coffee, going for a run, or spending time with his family.

## **Prayer – Jerebeth Mehler**



Jerebeth has been married for 58 years and has two children and two grandsons. She served as a church ministry assistant for 37 years. Although she recently retired, the daily opportunities for ministry to His Church continue.

## **Microsoft 365 – Dale Bridges**



Dale serves as a Programmer/Analyst in the Computer Information Services Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, where he supports MBCB staff by maintaining and enhancing essential technology systems. His work includes managing and monitoring the computer network server, overseeing the telephone system, and ensuring that staff have the tools they need to work efficiently and securely.

## **Church Finances – Paula Fleming**



Paula is the Church Accountant/HR Director for First Baptist Church Columbus where she has worked since 2003. Paula became a believer when she was 27, while attending Mount Vernon Church. Paula and her husband Patrick live in Caledonia, MS and have been married since 1996. They have two boys, Dalton and Cole. They joined First Baptist Church in 2011. Paula loves to cook, paint, and travel in her free time.

## Optional Events

### Door Prize

Join in the “fun”! If you bring a door prize (\$20.00 or less in value) you’re guaranteed to receive a door prize – **AND**: Your name will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing!

### Mission Project



Each year we choose a mission project for the conference. This year our offering will be donated to Shower Power in Jackson, MS. This ministry has been restoring dignity to the Jackson Metro area one shower at a time for over six years. They provide mobile shower services weekly at a consistent location in downtown Jackson. However, Shower Power is a lot more than “just” a shower. Not only do they deliver hygiene services, they also take time to show people that they care by providing resources needed for self-care. **If you choose to participate, there will be a designated box for you to contribute your monetary donations (cash or checks).**

### Silent Auction

- God has blessed us with so many talented Ministry Assistants and we utilize the Silent Auction to showcase those talents.
- Individuals can participate by bringing and/or bidding on the items.
- Items should be handmade & non-perishable. (Handmade gifts are not only cherished, but they also add something special to the auction by showing off your very own talent.)
- The items will be displayed with bid sheets beside them, so please have a starting value in mind for your item.

At the end of the conference, winning bids for each item will be announced and those individuals can make payment to the MBMAA Treasurer.

**Please remember to bring your cash/checks to pay for your winning bids.**