

ASSOCIATION STAFF:

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WEATHERING THE STORM

Hurricane Sally attracted national attention as it crashed into Baldwin County with 100 mile per hour winds and historic flooding. There was torrential windfall, rain as well as incredible damage.

I was awake in the gulf region about 4:30 A.M. There was not only howling winds and rain but a massive tree fell on the house where we were staying. Soon rain began to come through the roof. It was a scary night and one that I will never forget.

I have traveled around the county checking on churches and talked to pastors. I am grateful for their leadership in the face of damaged church buildings and their personal homes.

I am also grateful for our Southern Baptist Disaster Relief workers, whom are well trained and have been serving across our county. There have been three staging sites: First Baptist Church, Bay Minette, First Baptist Church Robertsdale and First Baptist Church, Gulf Shores. From there, teams have been responding to requests for help. Several of our churches have also provided meals, items and assisting our ministries in various ways. Lam also

items and assisting our ministries in various ways. I am also grateful for other Disaster Relief groups who have served in our county.

Thanks to our Associational Disaster Relief Coordinator, Steve Brooks and many others working with him. We also had a number of trees damaged at Camp Baldwin and are grateful for those who helped there.

2020 has been a challenging year with the Covid Pandemic and now Hurricane Sally. Our pastors have given exceptional leadership and our churches have remained strong and continue to minister. Many prayers are being lifted.

I am so grateful that Jesus is with us in the storm. Let us pray that many hearts will turn to Christ during these dark days but bright days for ministry and sharing the gospel of hope. Through the storm God can be glorified.

I am also grateful and humbled to serve as your Director of Missions in these challenging times. I love and respect our churches and those who serve faithfully through them. We serve because we love the Lord.



"REMEMBER YOUR LEADERS, WHO SPOKE THE WORD OF GOD TO YOU. CONSIDER THE OUTCOME OF THEIR WAY OF LIFE AND IMITATE THEIR FAITH."





Ministers & Families Appreciation Baycation October 8-10, 2020 Camp Baldwin Cost: \$55/person

This retreat is for ministers serving in paid staff positions at churches and their immediate family. A weekend of rest, fun and fellowship. Ages 5 and under FREE.

For more info visit campbaldwin.org!

106th Gathering ^{of} Baldwin

Baptists

Annual Meeting October 18

5-6 pm

First Baptist Church Robertsdale

In Christ, Rick Ellison