



COMMUNITY OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

Gulfside Assembly
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April
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

During the April Board of Directors meeting, Charles Allen, President and CEO of Lakeside Chautauqua, shared a message of encouragement and forward-thinking vision. He challenged attendees to see the recent loss of buildings not as a setback, but as an opportunity to reimagine the future with creativity and purpose. His remarks inspired meaningful reflection on how Gulfside Assembly can thoughtfully reshape its property while staying aligned with its mission.

Mr. Allen also highlighted the strength of the Chautauqua model, noting that its success lies in intergenerational programming that brings families together. These shared experiences help build lasting relationships and carry important values across generations. He emphasized the importance of remaining grounded in these foundational principles—especially in times marked by division—by continuing to uphold the core pillars of the Chautauqua experience.

Board members traveled from near and far to participate in Gulfside Assembly's Spring meeting, joining together in a shared commitment to the organization's mission and future. Over two days, the Board engaged in strategic planning, thoughtful discussion, and careful decision-making. The meeting provided a valuable space for collaboration and reflection, helping ensure Gulfside Assembly remains well-positioned to serve its community with purpose and impact. We extend our sincere thanks to each board member for their dedication, insight, and continued support.



Celebrating Stories of Faith, Fellowship, and Legacy at Gulfside Assembly



We extend our sincere gratitude to Mt. Zion UMC of New Orleans for the opportunity to share the ministries and rich legacy of Gulfside Assembly with the Senior Ministry, AA ECHO. This gathering was more than a presentation—it was a meaningful exchange filled with heartfelt memories and deep connections.

Participants warmly reflected on their experiences at Gulfside Assembly, recalling cherished moments from retreats, worship services, summer camps, family picnics, and reunions. Each story carried a sense of joy and nostalgia, painting a vivid picture of the vital role Gulfside has played in the lives of so many.

These reflections also offered an important window into the past, reminding us of the historical context in which Gulfside served as a sanctuary during the era of segregation in the South. For many, Gulfside was not just a destination, but a sacred space—one that provided rest, refuge, peace, and safety in a time when such spaces were not always accessible.

We are honored to continue this legacy today as an inclusive and welcoming place where all individuals can feel seen, heard, and valued. Gulfside Assembly remains committed to fostering community, preserving history, and creating spaces of belonging for generations to come.

UPCOMING EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We're excited to share a full lineup of upcoming events designed to educate, connect, and serve our community. Mark your calendars and join us!

April Highlights

Kick off the season with meaningful opportunities for learning and fellowship. On April 22, seniors are invited to gather for our Lunch & Learn session. Later in the month, we'll host the MS State Extension Garden Committee Training on April 27, followed by our Faith-based Coalition Meeting on April 28. All April events will take place at Gulfside Assembly.

May Gatherings

In May, we continue building momentum with important meetings and community connection. Join us for the GOALS Meeting on May 12, and our Faith-based Coalition Meeting on May 26. We'll wrap up the month with another Senior Lunch & Learn on May 27. Each event will be held at Gulfside Assembly.

June Programs & Conferences

June brings a variety of impactful programs and regional conferences. The Summer Feeding Program, in partnership with the Hancock County School District, will take place weekly on June 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at Gulfside Assembly. We're also offering Life Skills Training Workshops on June 1, June 18, and June 25 at the Hancock County Boys and Girls Club, providing valuable tools for personal and professional growth.

Our Mission Education Travel Study Seminar (METSS) annual college tour and Harambee spiritual retreat dates are scheduled for June 23-28, 2026.

For those attending conferences, the Mississippi Annual Conference will be held June 3-5, followed by the Louisiana Annual Conference in Baton Rouge from June 9-12.

To close out the month, join us for our Senior Lunch & Learn on June 24 at Gulfside Assembly.





Gulfside Assembly

2020 Annual COLLEGE TOUR

June 23 - 28



- 📍 Spelman College
- 📍 Morehouse College
- 📍 Clark Atlanta University
- 📍 Paine College
- 📍 Claflin University

Meet College Representatives & Learn about Programs & Scholarships

\$375.00
Early bird registration fee
Deadline- April 30th
*Cost includes Harambee Registration. \$395 after deadline date

Harambee
📍
Claflin University
Orangeburg, South Carolina

For more information:

📞 ORA FRANKLIN RODGERS
601.408.2080

Jeremiah 20:9

All students grades 8th-12th are invited.



Every **Legacy** Needs a Friend to Carry It Forward into the Future

Become a Friend of Gulfside

Your support helps us continue providing quality programs in a safe, welcoming space. Choose the level that works for you:



Friend of Gulfside
\$30/month (\$360/year)

- ✓ Receive the Gulfside Newsletter
- ✓ Listed as a "Friend of Gulfside" in printed materials



Special Friend of Gulfside
\$50/month (\$600/year)

- ✓ Receive the Gulfside Newsletter
- ✓ Listed on Gulfside's website and printed materials as a "Special Friend"



Sustaining Friend of Gulfside
\$100/month (\$1,200/year)

- ✓ Receive the Gulfside Newsletter
- ✓ Listed on Gulfside's website and printed materials as a "Sustaining Friend"
- ✓ One free annual use of Gulfside Grounds (based on availability)

How to Give:

- Scan the QR code or visit www.gulfsideassembly.org to make your gift.
- Mail your donation to: Gulfside Assembly, PO Box 27, Waveland, MS 39576.
- Questions? Email cthompson@gulfsideassembly.org or call 504-710-4884.



Together, we can carry Gulfside's mission forward for generations to come.