



The Coast: A Newsletter of the Treasure Coast Baptist Association

A Statement on the Office of Pastor/Elder/Overseer from TCBA

TCBA affirms the Baptist Faith and Message (2000) including its clarity that the office of pastor/elder/overseer is limited to biblically qualified men as stated by Scripture. Our position is rooted not in cultural preference or tradition alone, but in our commitment to the authority, sufficiency, and trustworthiness of God's Word.

We also believe it is important to clarify several points that have been misunderstood in discussions surrounding this issue:

- This conviction is not based on the superiority of men or the inferiority of women. Scripture teaches that men and women are created in the image of God, equally valued by God, and equally essential to the mission of the church.
- The discussion concerns the specific office and function of pastor/elder and should not be interpreted as limiting the many ways women faithfully lead, teach, disciple, evangelize, serve, and minister within the church.
- We reject any attitude or practice that minimizes, dismisses, or undervalues the gifts and contributions of women. Our churches are strengthened every day through the faithful service of women in ministry, missions, worship, discipleship, administration, and countless other areas of church life.
- We recognize that sincere and faithful Christians may disagree about the application of these biblical texts. However, our position is rooted in our view of Scripture and a desire to submit to its authority rather than to cultural pressures or changing social expectations.

- We also recognize concerns expressed regarding Baptist polity and local church autonomy. As Baptists, we affirm that each local church is self-governing under the Lordship of Jesus Christ while voluntarily cooperating with other churches around shared doctrinal convictions and missional priorities.

The recent discussion within the Southern Baptist Convention is about more than a single ministry position. At its core is the question of whether Southern Baptists will continue to order their churches and ministries according to their understanding of Scripture. While Christians may disagree on this issue, TCBA believes faithfulness requires that we continually submit our beliefs and practices to the authority of God's Word.

We recognize and celebrate the indispensable contributions of women throughout the life of the church. Women serve as disciple-makers, ministry leaders, missionaries, teachers, counselors, worship leaders, and faithful servants whose ministries advance the gospel and strengthen the body of Christ. Our affirmation of biblical qualifications for the office of pastor/elder/overseer should never be interpreted as diminishing their value, calling, or kingdom impact.

Throughout its history, Southern Baptists have sought to remain anchored to biblical truth while carrying out the Great Commission. We believe every generation must make its own commitment to stand firmly upon the authority of Scripture, not because it is popular, but because it is God's revealed truth. At the same time, we are called to demonstrate humility, grace, and love toward those with whom we disagree.

Above all, TCBA seeks to keep its focus on the Great Commission—making disciples, strengthening churches, supporting new church starts and advancing the gospel starting with the Treasure Coast. We pray that Southern Baptists will continue to be known as a people who believe God's Word, proclaim Christ faithfully, value every member of the body of Christ, and cooperate together for the good of the Treasure Coast and the glory of God!

We are excited for all that God is doing - and will continue to do - through our partnership! If you have any questions, concerns, in need of pulpit supply, want to reserve the big events trailer, need specific resources, place to retreat, have prayer needs, or Gospel projects that we might be able to support; please contact our office at 772.834.2735 or email mike@tcbachurches.org. John Keith, our Church Engagement Strategist, can also be reached at 435.238.0277 or johnkeith@tcbachurches.org. As always, I am just a text, call, email, or drive away! My cell is 772.370.8720 and email is tim@tcbachurches.org.

For His Glory, Tim O'Carroll
Associational Mission Strategist
Treasure Coast Baptist Association

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LOOKING AHEAD



COHORT

ST. LUCIE COUNTY PASTOR PANEL

Join us on July 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for our monthly Pastors Cohort, where we'll hear from a special panel of St. Lucie County pastors. We will be meeting at Glendale Baptist Church's' new campus as well which is located at 455 58th Ave. SW Vero Beach, Fl 32968. Let us know you're coming by RSVPing today!

RSVP



MAY'S REPORT

Financial Status

Budget Need: **\$11,835**

Total Received: **\$9,110.36**

Churches That Gave: **23/61**

Grant and Micro-Loan Program

If your church could use financial assistance, or if you would like to let the association be involved in a particular ministry at your church, let us know. An application must be completed so the Admin Team can decide. Please call the office at 772-834-2735 or email

mike@tcbachurches.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9th at 11:00AM / *Pastors Cohort* at Glendale Baptist Church / St. Lucie County Pastors Panel.

For more information and to register, please click on this link: [REGISTER.](#)

September 24th / Send Network One Day Orlando, Fl. For more information and to register, please click on this link: [REGISTER.](#)

October 4th at 4PM / *TCBA 137th Annual Meeting / Parkview Baptist Church*
To register, Please click [HERE.](#)

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