**Ridglea Heights Baptist Church Profile**

1. **Organization:**

Ridglea Heights Baptist Church (RHBC) is a local autonomous congregation or a dynamic spiritual organism which is organized to accomplish God’s work in Jackson County, Mississippi, and around the world. Our body agrees with The Baptist Faith and Message, where the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God. We band ourselves together as a body of baptized (by immersion) believers in Jesus Christ, personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to the lost. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are the ordinances recognized by the church.

1. **Objectives:**

RHBC Objectives are simply to be in alignment with the will of God. We believe His will includes the following:

* 1. To be a dynamic spiritual organism empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible in our church, community and throughout the world.
  2. To be a worshipping fellowship, experiencing an awareness of God, recognizing His person, and responding in obedience to His leadership.
  3. To experience an increasingly meaningful fellowship with God and fellow believers.
  4. To help people experience a growing knowledge of God and man.
  5. To be a church that ministers unselfishly to persons in the community and the world in Jesus' name.
  6. To be a church whose purpose is to be Christ-like in our daily living by emphasizing total commitment of life, personality, and possessions to the Lordship of Christ.
  7. Upon completion of recent church surveys, future RHBC objectives are:
     1. Improving focus on Preaching ability by efficient deacon and lay leadership support.
     2. Discipling believers to focus on obedient active leaders from membership for service to Christ.
     3. Improve Sunday School structure and advertisement to fully welcome new members and get them plugged into the service to which they are called.Additionally, to promote the current members to share the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
     4. Discipling believers is very high on our future priority list. We are looking forward to addressing our current schedule to ensure our discipleship studies are more accessible to our membership.
     5. RHBC performs some community outreach, but we aim to have more regular outreach engagement with our local community.
     6. RHBC has an active children’s ministry with children’s church but would like to expand to add children’s music/ choir with associated activities both within the church as well as community outreach events.
     7. Administrative growth aim is to form a personnel committee and a spiritual gifts committee to both steer and support our paid ministers as well as our volunteer membership.
     8. Finally, RHBC visitation/counseling needs improvement. If we can effectively disciple our members with the guidance of our Lord and strong leadership; We believe this will be a strong compliment the great commission to, “go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations… “

1. **Operational Details**

RHBC member enrollment, attendance, receipts, giving and debts for the past 10 years can be reviewed in Appendix A.

Our current Staffing is listed below.

1. Pastor- Vacant
2. Minister of Students/ Education
3. Minister of Music/ Facilities
4. Children’s/ Women’s Coordinator
5. **Vision, Mission, Values**

Our mission brief is displayed in various areas as, “Believe. Become. Bear”. This brief is a quick visual representation of our mission statement, which says, “We exist to help people believe in God and become like Jesus so that they can bear Spirit-filled fruit.”

Below is a reiteration of the description fromour website “About” page. It provides a good summary of our core beliefs:

“The Bible is God's complete revelation to man. It was written by men who were divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit. It has God as its author and salvation as its end. It is without error and is absolute truth. There is only one true God. He manifests His Presence in three persons: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and as the Holy Spirit. Man was created in the image of God. Because of Sin all people are under condemnation. Only by God's grace through the blood of Jesus can a person be redeemed. Believers are regenerated at the time of surrendering to Jesus Christ as Lord. Believers are justified by the work of Christ on the cross and are called to a life of sanctification until the day of their final glorification.

The New Testament church is made up of all those who are born again. Ridglea Heights Baptist Church is a local autonomous congregation organized to accomplish God's work in Jackson County, MS, and around the world. All believers are to be baptized by immersion after conversion. God, in His time and in His way, will bring the world to an end. Christ will return personally and visibly. The dead will be raised, some to everlasting life and some to everlasting contempt. All members are to be fully involved in leading individuals to Christ and discipling them. This body is in agreement with the Baptist Faith and Message.”

1. **Gatherings**

RHBC worship style is contemporary with screen-prompted lyrics. Our praise band is comprised of various instruments including piano, guitars, and drums. We also have a choir and praise team to suit various styles of worship. On typical Sundays, dress attire varies from casual to dressy casual. Ordinance ceremonies may be dressier for deacons and staff.

Sunday Services:

9:00 a.m. Small Group Bible Study

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship/Children’s Church

5:00 p.m. Adult Choir

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Tuesday:

8:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Time

Wednesday:

6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal (seasonal)

7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/Youth/Kids Mission Friends

1. **Community**

Jackson County is in South Mississippi with a population of 143K. Its Median Household Income is $55K as compared to the national average of $69K. The Median Home Value is $146K, compared to the national average of$245K. The median rent is $930 compared to the national average of $1,150.

Ridglea Heights Baptist Church is located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, between Biloxi, Mississippi, and Mobile, Alabama. The church is located approximately 25 miles north of the coastline.

Some annual local events throughout the year include Thunder Over the Sound, Cruisin’ the Coast, various Arts and Crafts festivals, Biloxi Seafood Festival, and many more.