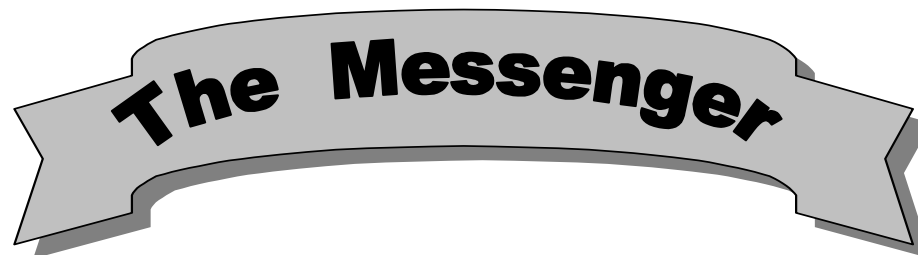


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Randy Hagan,
Associational Missionary
Ricky Milford,
Hearing-Impaired Missionary
Linda Cotton, Secretary
Sandy Locke,
Financial Secretary

January 11, 2018



Associational Prayer Requests

Please pray for these churches that are without a pastor. Also pray for their Pastor Search Committee:

Chandler Springs, Family Fellowship, Hepzibah, Jenifer, Westside and Winterboro

Churches with Interim Pastors:

Central-Rev. Trull Hill
Lincoln-Dr. Ben Chandler
Rocky Mount-Rev. John Vogel
Talladega Springs-Rev. Richard Bonds
Tallahatchie FBC-Rev. Darryl Wood

News from our Churches

Calvary: Susan Grondin, church secretary, retired December 31, 2017 following 18 years of service to the church. She also served as secretary at Odena before her time at Calvary.

Chandler Springs: Rev. Jeff Freeman has resigned as pastor of Chandler Springs Baptist Church effective December 31, 2017. Please pray for this church as they begin to search for another pastor.

Mignon: Jerry Lewis retired as the Minister of Music at Mignon Baptist Church on December 31, 2017 following 20 years of ministry. We wish Jerry and his wife, Rhonda, a long and happy retirement.

Westside: Rev. Jack Washington has resigned as pastor of Westside Baptist Church effective December 31, 2017. Please pray for this church as they begin to search for another pastor.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:

- Jan 11**-Stephanie Roberson, Mt. Vernon; Marie Cardwell, Mountain View
- Jan 14**-Randy Dobbs, Pleasant Grove; Terri Ferguson, Talladega Creek; Barry Owens, Ridgeview
- Jan 15**-Bobby Freeman, CrossPointe
- Jan 16**-Joe Pomeroy, Hepzibah; J. W. Garrett, Stemley
- Jan 18**-Kathy Garrett, Calvary
- Jan 19**-Chad Bell, Sycamore; Charlotte Vanzant, Fayetteville
- Jan 21**-Anne Churchwell, Mt. Sharon
- Jan 24**-Larry Garrett, Calvary; Tony Johns, Central

Samford's Ministry Training Institute Classes start soon

I trust you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Our goal is to celebrate the birth of Christ and honor Him by serving Him every day. I hope that you can come and study God's Word with us this semester and enjoy the fellowship as well.

Rev. Rick Cato, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Pleasant Grove, will teach the Spring Term I on Tuesday nights from January 23 through March 13 at 6 PM. The subject will be The Parables of Jesus.

Rev. Robert Klotz, pastor of Talladega First Baptist Church, will teach Spring Term II on Tuesday nights from March 27 through May 15 at 6 PM. The

subject will be Christian Apologetics.

The cost will be \$50 per course plus a \$10 registration fee if you don't register online. The book will be extra. To register, or see more information, go online to www.samford.edu/go/mti. You are encouraged to register online. You will get a class syllabus along with the information to help you obtain the required textbook.

If you need help, please call the Coosa River Association office at 256-362-7173. You can make an appointment to come by and we will help you

register.

We will work with everyone to make sure that everything goes smoothly. If, as a Bible teacher in Sunday School, you feel you need more help, this is for you. If, as a pastor/minister, you want to continue to sharpen your skill as a preacher, this is for you. If you just love the Word and want to take a course, this is for you.

In Christ's Service,
Dr. Randy Hagan,
Center Director



Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee will meet on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 6 P.M. for its regularly scheduled meeting. This committee is composed of the pastors of the churches, the elected officers of the association, and an elected lay representative of each church.

Each ministry team of the association will present reports from their team. The finances for the fourth quarter will be discussed.

Each member of the committee should mark their calendars and plan to be present for this important meeting.

Jail Ministry Training

Has the Lord called you to work with the inmates at the Talladega County Jail? You must complete a training course before you can minister at the jail.

The next training class will be held on Sunday, February 18 at the Coosa River offices at 2 P.M. Charles Rogers, our Jail Ministry Coordinator, will lead the class. There is no charge for the class. Just come and complete the required paperwork. Once you have been approved by the jail administrator you can help hold services with the inmates.

Pastor Date Night

Tuesday, January 30 is the date for this pastor and spouse event. It will take place at North Shelby Baptist Church from 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. Sponsored by LifeWay and the SBOM.

Pioneer Missions Offering

The 2018 Pioneer Mission Offering will be received on January 28, 2018. This offering enables the Carpenters for Christ to assist churches with construction costs.

Please prayerfully consider what you, or your church, can give. Materials will be mailed in early January.

Samford Ministry Training Institute classes

MTI classes will resume on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 6 PM.

Rev. Rick Cato will teach The Parables of Jesus beginning on January 23 until March 13. Rev. Robert Klotz, pastor of Talladega First Baptist Church, will teach Christian Apologetics beginning on March 27 until May 16.

Students should register for classes at www.samford.edu/go/mti. The cost is \$50 per class and a \$10 registration fee if you don't register online.

Save the Date: Children's Day Camp

The Coosa River WMU is planning a Children's Day Camp for Saturday, March 10, 2018. It will take place at Hepzibah Baptist Church. Kaley Stephens, camp director at WorldSong Missions Camp, will lead the activities with help from the WorldSong camp staff.

Children's leaders should watch your mail for a letter with the details.

Bulletin Board

January 18

Executive Committee meeting at 6 PM

January 23

Samford MTI classes begin at the Coosa River Association office at 6 P.M.

January 28

Pioneer Missions Offering will be collected.

January 30

Pastor Date Night at North Shelby Baptist Church at 6:30 P.M.

February 19

Missions Celebration at Bon Air

March 10

Children's Day Camp at Hepzibah

April 14

Tentative date for Coosa River Day. Watch for details to come.

Publication Deadline

The Messenger is published on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Do you have an announcement or event that you would like to have covered in an upcoming edition of *The Messenger*? Contact Linda at the Coosa River office by the **first or third Monday** of each month.
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