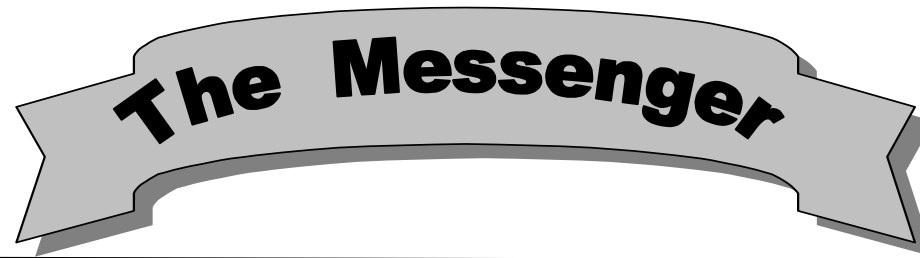


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June 28, 2018



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

Associational Prayer Requests

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

Brecon FBC, Chandler Springs, Family Fellowship, Jenifer, Lincoln, and Refuge

Churches with Interim Pastors:
Central-Rev. Trull Hill
Rocky Mount-Rev. John Vogel
Winterboro-Rev. Milton Smith

Lee Ann Ward, retired association financial secretary, as she battles cancer.

Vacation Bible School which is going on in churches through out Talladega County and Coosa River Association. Pray that the lives of children will be touched and many will added to the kingdom of God.

Concert at Odena

Odena Baptist Church will host the contemporary Christian group, Mass Anthem, in concert on Sunday night, July 15, 2018. The group is from Nashville, TN. The concert will begin at 7 P.M. in the church's Christian Life Center.

Everyone is invited to attend this time of worship and praise. This is a **free** event. Dr. Danny Courson is the pastor of Odena.

Executive Committee Meeting

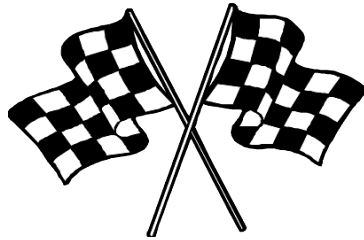
The Executive Committee of the Coosa River Association will meet on Thursday, July 19 at the association office at 6 P.M. The committee is composed of all pastors, association officers, and an elected rep from each church. It conducts the business of the association on a quarterly basis.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:
June 28-Cindy Currie, Dry Valley
June 29-L. D. Thompson, Brecon FBC
June 30-Harold Webster, Pleasant Grove
July 1-David Gaither, New Hope
July 2-Anneliese Varnado, Odena
July 4-Tom Haywood, Providence; Rob Russell, Calvary
July 5-Harold Catchings, Odena
July 7-Sammuel Culver, Brecon FBC
July 8-Bethany Paris, Hepzibah
July 10-Melany Hanrahan, Five Points

Crossing the Finish Line

How will you run the race of Life? In NASCAR the winner is the one who finishes first. But in the realm of our spiritual journey, it is the one who finishes that will experience victory. Paul refers to life as a race in the book of Acts. In chapter 20, verse 24 the Scripture says "but none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy and ministry which I received from the Lord." His goal was always Jesus and he wanted to finish well.



To get to heaven we must finish our race. That means we can only be qualified to race by coming into a relationship to know Jesus as our Savior and Lord. Now we serve him daily, we work for His glory, and we are to put our best effort into the race of life. We may not finish first, but we must finish. He would say in Second Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Then in verse eight we see there is a great reward for the faithful runners in this race. "Finally, there is laid up for me

the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved is appearing."

I would like to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for my victory. Also, His church and each team member who was there to encourage me to finish well. Just glad that Jesus took the wheel!

Celebrating Victory,
Brother Randy

Editor's Note: Brother Randy is on vacation so we reused this article from earlier this year. Thanks for your understanding.

Clerk Conference

The annual Clerk Conference will be held on Thursday, August 9 at the association office. Our theme will be Flip Flops and Faith. We will offer two identical sessions,



12 NOON and 6 P.M.

We will share a meal, learn about the clerk duties, and distribute the Annual Church Profile. Call Linda at 256-362-7173 before August 2 to reserve your spot.

VBS Reports

Vacation Bible School is here! Kids will be involved in missions, stories, crafts, and lots of fun. Once your school has concluded, directors remember to send your VBS report to the association office. No matter what material you use, we need a report. At print time, we have received reports from 4 churches. They report a total enrollment of **481** with **23** professions of faith! Praise the Lord! Send your report to Linda at the association office, PO Box 516, Talladega, AL 35151. You may also email it to lcotton@crba.org. Thanks for your help.



Homecoming

Patton Chapel Baptist Church will celebrate their 75th Homecoming on Sunday, July 15, 2018.

Surrendered will be the guest singers. Lonette Berg, Executive Director of the Alabama Baptist Historical Commission, will present the church with a plaque. The service will begin at 10:30 A.M.

All friends, family and former members are invited to attend. Rev. Calvin Brooks is the pastor of Patton Chapel.

Children's Home Collection

For many years Coosa River Association WMU has collected school supplies for the Children's Home in Oxford. It is time to bring in those supplies again. A list was mailed to all WMU Directors and church pastors.

Bring your supplies to the association office during the week of July 9-12 during regular business hours, 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Can Food Drive

Oak Grove Baptist Church in the Munford community is taking canned foods to Copper Basin, Tennessee. They will leave on Saturday, July 28 to deliver the canned goods.

If your church would like to help this sister church feed a needy community, call pastor Raymond Miller at 256-493-6795. They hope to carry a truck and a trailer load of canned goods to the Copper Basin community.

Bulletin Board

July 4

Independence Day, Coosa River offices are closed

July 9-12

Collection week for school supplies for the Children's Home in Oxford

July 15

Patton Chapel celebrates their 75th Homecoming at 10:30 A.M.

July 15

Mass Anthem concert at Odena, 7 P.M.

July 19

Executive Committee meeting at the association office at 6 P.M.

July 28

Oak Grove Baptist Church will take canned food to Copper Basin, Tennessee.

July 27-28

EQUIP, training conference for Alabama WMU at Shocco Springs

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. Phone: (256) 362-7173 Fax: (256) 268-8803 E-mail: lcotton@crba.org