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August 23, 2018

The Messenger

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, Patton Chapel and Refuge

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

The **Administrative Team** as they begin the process of planning for the 185th Annual Meeting. **Dr. Danny Lanier** as he seeks the Lord's guidance to prepare the message that he will bring to the messengers on October 21.

Rev. Jeff Thomas, pastor of Bon Air Baptist Church, as he continues to recover from recent surgery.

News from our Churches

Immanuel: Immanuel Baptist Church will have Homecoming on Sunday, September 9 beginning at 10:30 A.M. Guest singers will be the Carter Family Band. Lunch will be served at noon. All friends and former members are invited to attend. Rev. Stephen Collings is the pastor.

Patton Chapel: Rev. Calvin Brooks resigned as pastor on Sunday, August 5. Please pray for this church as they begin to search for another pastor.

Stemley: Stemley Baptist Church will hold Revival Services August 26-29. Dr. Randy Hagan is the guest evangelist. Service times are 6:15 PM on Sunday and 7 PM. Monday through Wednesday. Rev. Carl Armstrong is the pastor.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:
Aug 23-Freddie Hughes, Union Springs; Leonard Johnson, Refuge
Aug 24-Joel Jones, Sylacauga FBC
Aug 25-Mike Johnson, Mt. Sharon
Aug 26-Connie Humphrey, Talladega Creek

Sept 1-Katheryn Butler, Mt. Sharon
Sept 2-Jonja Collier, Browns Chapel; Craig Spurlin, Providence
Sept 6-Blake Matson, New Hope
Sept 7-Charlene Buttram, Oak Grove FBC; Beverly Brock, Dry Valley
Sept 9-Brian Clifton, Mountain View; Wanda Lawrence, Village Street
Sept 10-Max Buttram, Oak Grove FBC
Sept 11-Amber Jones, Stockdale

I'm Just Thankful

I am sitting here and counting my blessings when I realized that I don't do this spiritual exercise enough. I am pretty good at complaining and criticizing but this thought process only leads to a negative attitude. So back to the blessing thing, I was able to get up this morning and eat the breakfast of my choice. (For your info, I had a rice cake with peanut butter, not bad.) I proceeded to get in my truck with $\frac{3}{4}$ a tank of gas and go to the office where I enjoy air conditioning on a hot day.

I was greeted by our association ministry assistant, Mrs. Linda Cotton, with her smiling face. (She was going to the Post Office.) I have been able to check on several pastors by phone and able to

answer some questions about our Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 21 at Talladega First Baptist Church (notice how I got that advertisement in there). Oh yeah, back to my blessings. I just talked with my wife who is at work (thankful for her and the insurance her job provides). I am planning to speak at one of our churches tonight and excited for the opportunity. You know if we can get up and go to work, we already have many blessings to be thankful that have come our way.

I know that it is not November 22nd but every day ought to be Thanksgiving for the Christian. We choose to complain or be thankful. Today I choose to be thankful and pray I do it with a humble heart. I am thankful to be a

Christian first, then my list continues. I am grateful to be a Baptist that supports missionaries through the Cooperative Program. We are far from perfect, but I believe we do try to live by the Word of God. I am thankful for the living word and the written word of God. I am thankful for prayer and our Heavenly Father who listens to his children when we pray. I am thankful for God who forgives my sin and washed me with the blood of Jesus. I am thankful for another opportunity to go our and serve my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

II Corinthians 9:11 states "Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God."

Thankful,
Brother Randy

Jail Ministry Training

Has the Lord called you to work with the prisoners at the Talladega County Jail? The sheriff requires all volunteers to take a training class before working with prisoners.

The training class is offered at the Coosa River Association office. The next training class will be held on September 9 at 2 PM. Charles Rogers, our Jail Ministry Coordinator, will lead the class. Please call Linda at the association office, 256-362-7173, and let her know if you plan to participate.

Worship Concerts

Marble City Baptist Church will host two worship concerts in the next few weeks. The first one will be the **Kempton Family** from Slapout, Alabama on Sunday, August 26, 2018 at 5:30 P.M. This family has sung in many Coosa River churches.

The second worship concert will be with the **Shepherd Family** from Paris, TN on Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 5:30 P.M.

These concerts are free and all friends and sister churches are invited to attend. Rev. Mac McCaleb is the pastor.

Church Profiles are ready

The Annual Church Profiles are in the association office. Church clerks should stop by the office and pick them up during the month of August. They need to be completed and returned by September 27, 2018.

Thanks for your help.

NAMB Evangelism Workshop

The North American Mission Board will host an evangelism workshop at Trussville FBC on September 17-18. All pastors and pastoral staff are invited to the ENGAGE 24 EVANGELISM WORKSHOP.

Speakers include: James Merritt, Johnny Hunt, Ted Traylor and others.

Cost for the workshop is \$29 but if you can't afford that, they will cover the registration cost by using the code **E24COMP**. Register now at <http://www.cvent.com/d/kgqqt8>. Three meals are included in the cost.

Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

The week of prayer for the third annual Myers-Mallory State Mission Offering is nearing. Last year \$1,140,000 was raised by the offering. Of that amount, 32 Coosa River churches contributed \$26,263. Was your church one of them?

Materials for the offering can be obtained by calling Alabama WMU at 800-264-1225, ext. 226. Some materials may be downloaded at www.myers-mallory.org.

Help Wanted

First Baptist Church of Childersburg is searching for a Church Secretary/ Financial Secretary. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 AM to 4 PM. Please send resumes to First Baptist Church, 200 8th Ave SW, Childersburg, AL 35044 attention Larry Riddle.

Bulletin Board

August 26

Worship Concert with the Kempters at Marble City at 5:30 P.M.

September 9

Jail Ministry Training class at the Coosa River office at 2 P.M.

September 9

Homecoming at Immanuel Baptist Church

September 9-16

Week of Prayer for Myers-Mallory State Mission Offering

September 17-18

ENGAGE 24 EVANGELISM WORKSHOP at Trussville FBC

September 30, 2018

Worship Concert with the Shepherd Family at Marble City at 5:30 P.M.

October 21

185th Coosa River Annual Meeting will take place at Talladega FBC

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