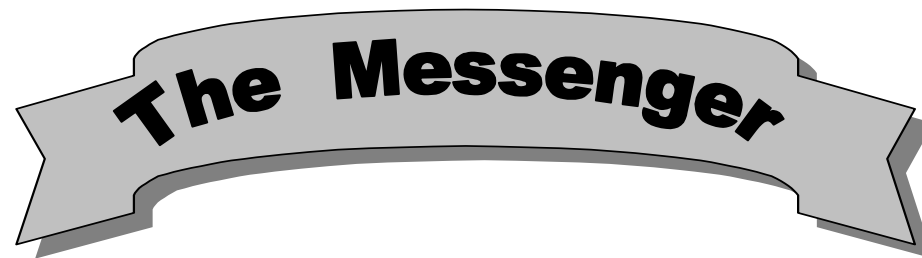


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Randy Hagan,  
Associational Missionary  
Ricky Milford,  
Hearing-Impaired Missionary  
Linda Cotton, Ministry Assistant  
Sandy Locke,  
Financial Ministry Assistant

November 8, 2018



## Associational Prayer Requests

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

**Jenifer, Lincoln, Mountain View, Patton Chapel, Russell Chapel, and Talladega Springs**

**Churches with Interim Pastors:**  
Central-Rev. Trull Hill  
Rocky Mount-Rev. John Vogel

**State missionaries** as they make plans and prepare for the Alabama Baptist State Convention on November 13-14 at Trussville First Baptist Church.

All the people who were affected by **Hurricane Michael** in the panhandle of Florida and the Dothan area of Alabama.

The membership of **Shiloh Baptist Church** as they make plans for their final church service on November 18.

## News from our Churches

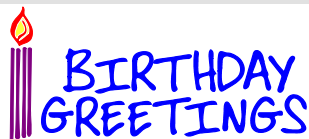
**Refuge:** Refuge Baptist Church has called Rev. Darryle Hammonds to be their pastor. Welcome Brother Darryle to the Coosa River family!

**Talladega Springs:** Rev. Richard Bonds has resigned as pastor of Talladega Springs Baptist Church.

**Westside:** Congratulations to Rev. and Mrs. Joel Davis on the birth of their second son, Micah, on October 24.

### Christmas Banquet

Coosa River Association Christmas Banquet will be held on December 6 at Shocco Springs Conference Center. Letters have been mailed to all pastors with the details. All church staff and their families are invited to attend.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:  
**Nov 9**-Calvin Mann, Hepzibah; Hudson Chappell, Fayetteville  
**Nov 12**-Margaret Hill, Central; Steve Lewis, Sycamore  
**Nov 13**-Bryan Taunton, ChristPoint; Mike Owen, Sycamore  
**Nov 15**-Barron Dulaney, Refuge  
**Nov 16**-Amanda Snyder, Eastaboga; Becky Brooks, Mignon  
**Nov 17**-Christopher Varnado, Odena; Sandy Green, Marble City  
**Nov 19**-Mickey Green, Marble City

O Lord, we come this morning  
Knee-bowed and body-bent  
Before thy throne of grace.  
O Lord -this morning—  
Bow our hearts beneath our knees,  
And our knees in some lonesome valley.  
We come this morning –  
Like empty pitchers to a full fountain,  
With no merits of our own.  
O Lord—open up a window of heaven,  
And lean out far over the battlements of glory,  
And listen this morning.

Lord, have mercy on proud and dying sinners—  
Sinners hanging over the mouth of hell,  
Who seem to love their distance well.  
Lord—ride by this morning—  
Mount your milk-white horse,  
And ride-a this morning—  
And in your ride, ride by old hell,  
Ride by the dingy gates of hell,  
And stop poor sinners in their headlong plunge.

### Operation Christmas Child

Collection week for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes is almost here! Two locations will be receiving shoeboxes the week of November 12-19.

**Hepzibah Baptist Church** is located at 5329 Renfro Rd, in the Talladega area. Collection hours are:  
Mon, Nov 12: 5-9 PM  
Tues-Sat, Nov 13-17: 9 AM -12 PM  
Sun, Nov 18: 2:30-4:30 PM  
Mon, Nov 19: 6:30-8:30 AM

**Sylacauga FBC** is located at 10 Broadway Avenue South in Sylacauga. Collection hours are:  
Mon, Nov 12: 8-11 AM  
Tues, Nov 13: 5-7 PM  
Wed, Nov 14: 4-6 PM  
Thurs, Nov 15: 4-7 PM  
Fri-Sat, Nov 16-17: 9 -11 AM  
Sun, Nov 18: 3-5 PM  
Mon, Nov 19: 8-11 AM

### Pastor's Wives Christmas Brunch

The Sylacauga Chamber of Commerce is opening its doors for a Christmas Brunch for the wives of senior pastors of all denominations on Saturday, December 1, 2018. The event will take place at 10:30 AM. It is a fellowship gathering for pastor's wives of various ages and denominations to celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The cost is \$5 per person which includes the meal. Jackie Champion, wife of Brother Jeff Champion of Jemison, AL, will be the speaker. For more info, or to make reservations, send an e-mail to gomakedisciples28@gmail.com.

## Listen, Lord—A Prayer

And now, O Lord, this man of God,  
Who breaks the bread of life this morning—  
Shadow him in the hollow of thy hand,  
And keep him out of the gunshot of the devil.  
Take him, Lord—this morning—  
Wash him with hyssop inside and out,  
Hang him up and drain him dry of sin.  
Pin his ear to the wisdom-post,  
And make his words sledge hammers of truth—  
Beating on the iron heart of sin.  
Lord God, this morning—  
Put his eye to the telescope of eternity,  
And let him look upon the paper walls of time.  
Lord, turpentine his imagination,  
Put perpetual motion in his arms,  
Fill him full of the dynamite of thy power,  
Anoint him all over with the oil of thy salvation,  
And set his tongue on fire.

And now, O Lord—  
When I've done drunk my last cup of sorrow—  
When I've been called everything but a child of God—  
When I'm done travelling up the rough side of the mountain—  
O—Mary's Baby—  
When I start down the steep and slippery steps of death—  
When this old world begins to rock beneath my feet—  
Lower me to my dusty grave in peace.  
To wait for that great gittin' up morning—Amen.

Reprinted from "God's Trombones, Seven Negro Sermons in Verse" by James Weldon Johnson

### Music Minister Needed

Lincoln Baptist Church in Lincoln, Alabama is seeking a part-time music director to lead blended worship services. Please e-mail resumes to Leaders@lincolnbaptist.org. Or mail resumes to Music Director Search Committee, Lincoln Baptist Church, PO Box 182, Lincoln, AL 35096.

### Fall Bazaar

Immanuel Baptist Church will host their Fall Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 10 from 8 AM to 2 PM. They will offer bakery & confections, plant sale inside and outside, crafts, flea market, county store, face painting, sausage biscuits for breakfast and spaghetti plates for lunch.

All proceeds will go the building fund. The church is located at 66471 Alabama Hwy 77 North, Talladega. Rev. Stephen Curtis is the pastor.

### Christmas Open House

You are invited to attend the Christmas Open House at the Alabama Baptist Children's Home in Oxford, AL on Sunday, December 2 from 2 PM until 5 PM. The Friendship House is located at 1931 Donna Drive in



Oxford. Come and meet the house parents, children and the staff of the Children's Home. You will be blessed to see how the Lord is working in the lives of the children who live there.

## Bulletin Board

**November 10**  
Fall Bazaar at Immanuel Baptist Church

**November 13-14**  
Alabama Baptist State Convention at Trussville FBC, Trussville, Alabama

**November 12-15**  
Coosa River office will be closed while our staff attends the state convention

**November 12-19**  
Collection week for Operation Christmas Child. Bring your boxes to Hepzibah or Sylacauga FBC

**November 22-23**  
Coosa River office will be closed for Thanksgiving

**December 1**  
Pastor Wives Brunch in Sylacauga

**December 2**  
Christmas Open House at the Alabama Baptist Children's Home in Oxford

### 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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