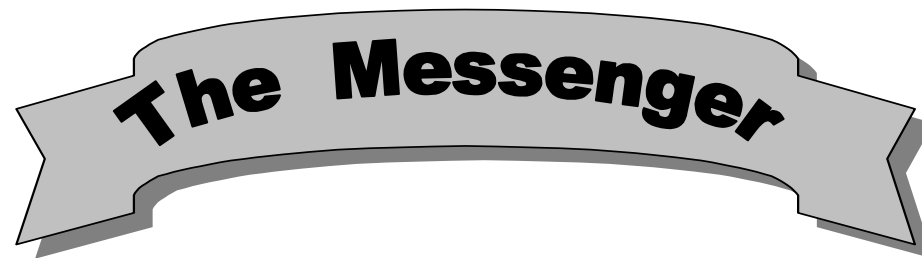


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January 10, 2019



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:

**Jenifer, Lincoln, Mountain View, Russell Chapel, Talladega Springs, Southside and Village Street**

**Mrs. Debra Thompson**, wife of Rev. Donnie Thompson of Westside Baptist Church, passed away on December 16, 2018. Keep her family in your prayers.

**Harold Griffitt**, Truckers Chapel minister, as he recovers from bypass surgery on December 5.

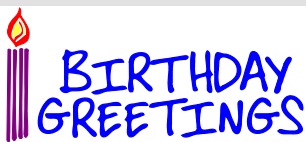
**Mrs. Lorie Duncan**, wife of former pastor Rev. Jeff Duncan, as she continues to fight cancer. Brother Jeff now serves Calvary Baptist Church in Oxford.

## News from our Churches

**Southside:** Rev. Craig Little has resigned as pastor of Southside Baptist Church. He began Youth Minister at Eden Westside Baptist Church in Pell City. Please pray for this church as they begin to search for the pastor that God is preparing for them.

### Missions Celebration

Plans are being made for the 2019 Missions Celebration. It will take place on Monday, February 18 at Hepzibah Baptist Church at 6:30 PM. We will hear from those who have taken missions trips in the previous year.



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

- Jan 10**-Rachel Crowe, Hepzibah
- Jan 11**-Stephanie Roberson, Mt. Vernon; Marie Cardwell, Mountain View; Emily Davis, Westside
- Jan 13**-Kyle Culver, Talladega Springs
- 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; June Thompson, Brecon FBC
- Jan 18**-Rachel Van Gieson, Chandler Springs
- Jan 19**-Chad Bell, Sycamore; Charlotte Vanzant, Fayetteville
- Jan 21**-Anne Churchwell, Mt. Sharon; Debbie Blackburn, Talladega FBC

To be Southern Baptist is to cooperate. It has been so from the beginning. We cooperate to send missionaries, to plant churches, to provide disaster relief. We give to the Cooperative Program, and we send messengers to cooperate at meetings on the local, state, and national levels. But as we begin a new year, may we be challenged to grow both in our understanding of cooperation, and in the practical ways in which our churches cooperate with one another.



For the past two years, I have been deeply encouraged and energized by our association-wide worship services at our annual meeting, and I commend Randy Hagan for this formatting change. As I left each of those services, my ears ringing from the fullness of worship in song and my heart full from the preaching of the Word, I was compelled with a desire to "do that more often." The churches of the Coosa River Baptist Association work very well

together in associational ministries. But let us think prayerfully together over the course of this new year as to how the Lord might be leading us into a season of even greater cooperation: joining together more frequently to worship our Lord with brothers and sisters in Christ from our sister churches, and working shoulder to shoulder as sister churches to see Christ's kingdom advance through our area and to the ends of the earth.

Rev. Robert Klotz,  
Talladega First Baptist Church,  
Coosa River Moderator

### Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee will meet for their quarterly meeting on Thursday, January 17 at the Coosa River office at 6 P.M. The committee is composed of all association officers, the pastors of the churches, and an elected lay representative of each church. The committee will discuss financial reports for the 4th quarter of 2018. Please add this important meeting to your calendar.

### Financial Team Meeting

The Financial Team will meet on Thursday, January 10 at the Coosa River office at 9 AM to prepare for the upcoming Executive Committee Meeting. All team members should be present for this important meeting.

### VBS Early Bird Clinics

Our VBS Director, Tommy Strickland, has scheduled **two** early bird clinics for the new year. A early bird clinic will introduce the new VBS theme for 2019, In the Wild.

The conference for church pastors will be held on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 10:30 AM.

Lunch will be served following the clinic.

A conference for VBS Directors will be held on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 6 PM. This

conference will include a meal. Both of these clinics will be held at the Coosa River Association office.



### Music Minister Needed

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

### Samford's Ministry Training Institute

The spring semester will begin on Tuesday, January 22 at 6 PM. Dr. Bill Pruitt will teach Introduction to New Testament beginning on January 22. Rev. Robert Klotz will teach Introduction to Old Testament beginning on March 26.

All students should register online at [www.samford.edu/go/mti](http://www.samford.edu/go/mti). Payment will also be received online.

### Christmas Backpacks

Alabama WMU recently notified us that they received **9,441** backpacks this year for distribution along the Mississippi River region. That is an increase of 2,383 over last year! Praise the Lord!

Coosa River Association received **263** backpacks at our collection site. 163 of these came from Coosa River churches and 100 came from churches in three other associations.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus to children who live in areas where poverty is widespread.

## Bulletin Board

**January 10, 2019**

Financial Accountability Team meeting

**January 14**

Early Bird VBS Clinic for church pastors, 10:30 AM. Lunch provided.

**January 17**

Executive Committee Meeting at 6 PM

**January 22**

Spring classes begin for Samford's Ministry Training Institute

**February 8-9**

Bivocational Minister Spouse Retreat at Shocco Springs

**February 11**

Early Bird VBS Clinic for VBS Directors, Coosa River office, 6 P.M.

**February 18**

Missions Celebration at Hepzibah Baptist Church at 6:30 PM

### 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  
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E-mail: [lcotton@crba.org](mailto:lcotton@crba.org)