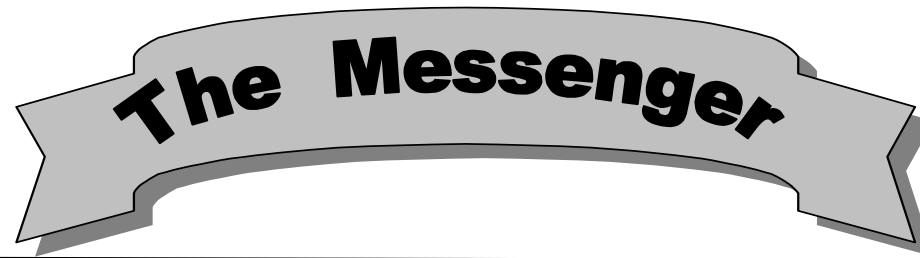


P. O. Box 516
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www.crba.org



Linda Cotton, Ministry Assistant
Sandy Locke,
Financial Ministry Assistant

February 27, 2020

Associational Prayer Requests

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

Brecon FBC, Oldfield, Providence, and Shelvin Rock

Churches with Interim Pastors:
Cartersville: Rev. Harold Bannister
Five Points: Rev. Joshua Bell
Mountain View: Rev. Roger Singleton
Odena: Rev. Trull Hill
Rocky Mount: Rev. John Vogel
Southside: Rev. Josh Henderson
Union Springs: Rev. Charles Bradshaw

Please be in prayer for the **Director of Missions Search Team** as they begin to search for the next Director of Missions: Robert Klotz, Kevin Jones, Mike Snyder, Max Buttrum, Skip Parvin, Mac McCaleb, Lisa Compher, Tommy Strickland

Rev. Tommy Strickland's granddaughter, Tobie Lynn Strickland, was born prematurely on January 10, 2020. Pray for Tobie Lynn, her parents, Joseph and Jessica, and her big brother, Sammy. Brother Tommy is the pastor of Ridgeview Baptist Church.

The family of **Rev. Lamar Duke**, lead Church Planting Strategist for the Alabama State Board of Missions, who passed away on February 11, 2020.

News from our Churches

Mignon: Donna Garrett retired as Church Secretary on February 13 following a total of 25 years of service to the church. Rev. Rick Deerman is the pastor of Mignon.

New MTI Class

A new class, *Effective Disciple Making*, will begin on Tuesday, March 24. Go to www.samford.edu/go/mti for information and registration.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:
Feb 27-Robbyn Moncus, Stemley
Feb 28-Cindy Deerman, Mignon
Mar 3-Jessica Strickland, Ridgeview
Mar 4-Donald Jenkins, Oak Grove
Mar 5-Wren Heath, Brecon FBC; Steve Hullett, Mt. Olive; Cooper Thomas, Mountain View
Mar 6-Katie Chappell, Fayetteville
Mar 8-Jeanette Curtis, Bon Air

Thank You!

Dear Friends of the Coosa River Baptist Association,

I want you to know how grateful Mary Alice and I are for the retirement reception you gave us on Sunday, January 26th. For every church and individual who shared gifts, food, and sweet fellowship, I am humbled. I have been so blessed to have been your Associational Missionary for the past eleven years and six months.



A "Thank You" to First Baptist Church of Talladega for hosting the event. I understand that the WMU Leadership Team came through with an abundance of great snacks which we all enjoyed. I am also grateful to Linda and Sandy for your faithful commitment to the Coosa River Baptist Association. Your help reaching out to our churches made this event possible.

I must give a "Thank You" to the churches of the Coosa River

Baptist Association who generously gave a monetary gift to me upon my retirement. Many individuals also gave gifts and words of encouragement. Please know your friendship and fellowship will be there when we spend the money and use the gift cards. If I can ever help, or you just need a friend, please call on us. I will continue to pray for you and will look forward to the future under new leadership.

With a thankful heart,
Brother Randy and Mary Alice

Annuals are ready

The annuals from the 186th Annual Meeting are finally completed and ready to be picked up! Each church should send someone by the association office to pick up their annuals. The office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM. Call Linda at 256-362-7173 if you have any questions.

Concert

Hepzibah Baptist Church will host Darrell and Dawn Ritchie in concert on Sunday, March 29 at 5 PM.

The duo are singers, songwriters, and worship leaders that share blended gospel songs/hymns and contemporary songs. They actively tour throughout the southeast sharing their music, ministry, and passion for God. For more information on them go to their website, www.RightPlaceMusic.com.

A love offering will be taken. Everyone is invited to stay for a fellowship afterwards. Bring a food item.

Bivocational Fellowship

All Bivocational ministers and their wives are invited to attend the Bivocational Fellowship on Friday, March 20 at the Coosa River offices at 6:30 PM.

Rev. Stan Wheeler, pastor of Plainview Baptist Church, will lead us in gospel songs.

Letters have been mailed with all the details. Please let us know if you are coming by March 16 so that we can plan the food.

Volunteer Help needed

Since Brother Randy's retirement, the office is being staffed by our Ministry Assistants. During the second week of March they will be attending the Alabama Association of Baptist Secretaries conference at Shocco. Volunteers are needed at the office to take the phone messages. If you would like to volunteer a few hours or a day, call Linda at 256-362-7173.

Scholarship Applications

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama administers more than \$500,000 in scholarship awards each year. The application period opened on January 1, 2020 and will close on March 31. Applications are being accepted online only and can be accessed at <http://tbfa.org/scholarships/> For more information call (334) 394-2000 or email at scholarship@tbfa.org.

Quarterly Jail Ministry Training

The quarterly Jail Ministry Training will take place on Sunday, March 15 at the Coosa River office at 2 PM.



Anyone interested in participating in the weekly ministry at the Talladega County Jail must take this training. It is required by the Sheriff. For more information contact Angela Minor, ministry leader, at 256-404-4871.

Bulletin Board

March 8-11

Alabama Association of Baptist Secretaries conference at Shocco Springs

March 9-11

Volunteers are needed to work in the Coosa River office

March 15

Jail Ministry Training at the Coosa River office at 2 PM

March 20

Bivocational Minister Fellowship at associational office at 6:30 PM

March 24

Effective Disciple Making class begins at the Coosa River office at 6 PM

March 29

Darrell and Dawn Ritchie in concert at Hepzibah Baptist Church at 5 PM

April 4

VBS Extravaganza at Hepzibah Baptist Church from 8:30 - 11:30 AM

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