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March 14, 2019

# The Messenger

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## Associational Prayer Requests

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

**Cartersville, Jenifer, Mountain View, Russell Chapel, Talladega Springs, and Southside**

Former Director of Missions, **Rev. J. William Casaday**, went to be with the Lord on March 1, 2019. Please pray for his family during their time of grief.

Remember the families of the 23 people who lost their lives in **Lee County** to the tornado on March 3, 2019.

**Disaster Relief** workers that are ministering in Lee County following the tornados.

**Alabama Raceway Ministry** as they begin to prepare for the coming spring race in April. Pray that many souls will be saved at this event.

## News from our Churches

**Cartersville:** Please pray for this church as they begin to search for another pastor following the death of their pastor, Rev. William Casaday.

**Cragdale:** Rev. Sam Walker is the new pastor at Cragdale Baptist Church. He began his ministry on February 19, 2019. We welcome Brother Sam and his wife, Kristel, back into the Coosa River family!

**Eastaboga:** Rev. Ben Curlee has resigned as youth pastor at Eastaboga Baptist Church. He has been called to pastor Lineville Baptist Church in the Carey Association. He begins his ministry there on March 31, 2019. Congratulations Brother Ben!

**Westside:** Westside Baptist Church ordained their youth pastor, Tony Hickman, to the gospel ministry on March 10, 2019. Rev. Joel Davis is the pastor at Westside.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:  
**Mar 14-**Cory Harris, Browns Chapel  
**Mar 17-**Kathy Haywood, Providence  
**Mar 18-**Patsy Hubbard, Alpine  
**Mar 19-**Jesse Wyatt, Dry Valley  
**Mar 21-**Cindy Arnold, Sylacauga FBC  
**Mar 22-**Crystal Pomeroy, Hepzibah  
**Mar 23-**Howard Fornwalt, Russell Chapel

## In Memory of Rev. William Casaday

Coosa River Baptist Association lost a friend this past week, Rev. William Casaday went to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, March 1, 2019. Bro. Casaday is survived by his wonderful and faithful wife of 60 years, Ann. He is also survived by his children; Bill Casaday (Kathy), Cindy Allen (Mark), Allen Casaday (Beth); eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Bro. Casaday pastored 14 churches during his ministry but was a help and encourager to many throughout his service to the Lord. He served as Associational Missionary, Director of Missions of the Coosa River Baptist Association. He was an example of faithfulness in God's Kingdom,



the humblest man I have ever known. I told him many times that I wanted to be just like him when I grow up and he would laugh and encourage me. I followed in his steps as pastor at Hepzibah Baptist Church then as Director of Missions of Coosa River Association so I was always checking on his health concerned that I might follow him in his homegoing to Heaven. He thought that was funny and would give me periodic health updates.

Mrs. Ann shared with me that when he went to be with Jesus, they had church in that hospital room! People of Faith can see the joy of going to be with our Savior. I know the family will truly grieve and miss him, but we can all learn a lesson of what life

is all about when it comes to an end on this earth. Many people have shared with me about things he and Mrs. Ann would do for them such as taking them to church, giving wise counsel and just being a great pastor! I would love to be more like Bro. Casaday because he was like Jesus and that's who we are to pattern our lives like.

He left this world at the age of 88 years old after preaching the Sunday before his death. Yes, I pray at whatever age God calls me home, I would leave this world faithfully serving my Jesus. I know the Lord said to Bro. Casaday, "Well done my faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord" as he moved into his eternal home.

Humbly,  
Brother Randy

### Revival Services

Sylavon Baptist Church will host revival services on March 18-20 at 6 PM nightly. Rev. Danny Cotton, former pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, will be the guest evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend. Rev. Billy Williams is the pastor at Sylavon.

### WMU Annual Meeting

The Coosa River WMU Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday, April 11 at Trinity Baptist Church. Grace Thornton, contributor to *The Alabama Baptist* and author of "Unshakable Pursuit," will be our speaker. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

We look forward to seeing all our church WMU ladies at this event!

### Secretary Luncheon

All church secretaries are invited to attend the 2019 Secretary Luncheon at the association office on Thursday, April 18 beginning at 11:30 AM. We will focus on friendship. These friends may just make an appearance! Watch your mail for your invitation letter to arrive soon!



### Vacation Bible School Clinics

The time has come to start planning for your 2019 Vacation Bible School! Our association will host **two** clinics to help train your leaders for the 2019 theme "In the Wild".

On Tuesday, April 2 the clinic will be held at Sylacauga First Baptist Church. On Thursday, April 4 the clinic will be held at Talladega First Baptist Church. At each location, dinner will be served at 6 PM and classes will be held from 6:30 -8:30 PM.

So enlist your leaders, choose the location which best suits your needs, and come and learn all about VBS! Our associational team is busy preparing for these clinics. We hope to see you at one of them!

### Volunteers Needed

Citizens Baptist Medical Center is looking for volunteers to help in the hospital. They are looking for adults (ages 18 or older) with a smiling face and friendly demeanor. Volunteers work at the reception desks, gift shop, surgery waiting rooms, and also do patient escort.

Interested? Apply online at [www.brookwoodbaptisthealth.com](http://www.brookwoodbaptisthealth.com). Choose the family-visitors tab. Then choose volunteer with us. You may also call 256-761-4293 to speak with a volunteer coordinator.

## Bulletin Board

**March 18-20**  
Revival Services at Sylavon at 6 PM

**April 2**  
VBS Clinic at Sylacauga FBC at 6 PM

**April 4**  
VBS Clinic at Talladega FBC at 6 PM

**April 11**  
Association WMU Annual Meeting at Trinity Baptist Church

**April 18**  
Secretary Luncheon at 11:30 AM

**April 25**  
Executive Committee Meeting at the Coosa River office at 6 PM

**April 28**  
Race Day - Talladega Superspeedway

### 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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