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April 25, 2019

# The Messenger

Randy Hagan,  
Associational 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:

**Cartersville, Jenifer, Mountain View, Russell Chapel, Southside, and Sycamore**

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

**Alabama Raceway Ministry** as they begin to prepare for the coming race on April 28. Pray that many souls will be saved at this event.

**Lee Ann Ward**, retired Financial Secretary, has had a recurrence of her cancer.

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

**Southern Baptist Convention** being held in Birmingham, AL on June 11-12, 2019. Pray for the leaders as plans are being made.

**Sandy Locke**, Coosa River Financial Secretary, and her family in the recent death of her mother, Jeanne Bevis, in Chipley, Florida on April 10, 2019.

## News from our Churches

**Talladega Springs:** Talladega Springs First Baptist Church called Blake Barnes to be their pastor on April 7, 2019. We welcome Brother Blake, his wife Michelle, and their 4 sons to the Coosa River Association family!



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:  
**Apr 25-**Deena Williams, Fayetteville  
**Apr 26-**Larry Morrison, Sylacauga FBC  
**Apr 27-**Bill Phillips, Eastaboga; Billy Williams, Sylavon; Jackie Crump, Refuge; Laura Taunton, ChristPoint; Sandra Bannister, Bon Air  
**Apr 29-**Billy Wayne Curtis, Bon Air  
**Apr 30-**Wes Johnson, Talladega Creek  
**May 1-**Kathy Gaither, Talladega Creek  
**May 4-**Billy Paul Williams, Fayetteville  
**May 5-**Linda Cotton, Lincoln  
**May 7-**Christy Bell, Sycamore  
**May 8-**Becky Wood, Central

As Director of Missions (or the new title, Associational Mission Strategist) I have one of the best jobs in the world. I never think "I *have* to go to work", but "I *get* to go to work." It is how I view my ministry. Its not a job but an opportunity to serve the Lord through our local association.

The Coosa River Baptist Association has wonderful

### It's More than a Job!

churches pastored by awesome men of God. I am thankful for the local association because of the cooperation as we team together to reach people for Christ. I have always considered myself as an associational missionary. We work with our churches to share your vision. We want to see our Christian commitment reaching people for Christ and to help disciple young

Christians. Some of the best people I know have their lives planted in the churches here in the Coosa River Association.

Yes, I get to go to work, and I am truly thankful for the opportunity I have, to serve our Lord through the Coosa River Baptist Association. If I can help, please call on me!

Brother Randy

### Thank You!

A special "Thank You" to the Coosa River Association WMU leaders and ladies for your thoughtful gift of the brick placed in the Honor/Memorial Walk at the WMU Building in Birmingham. You honor us by placing the brick in Bill and Ann Casaday's name. Both of us have had a great love of missions during the 60 years of my husband's ministry. It is touching and most appreciated gift.

Also a special "Thank You" to the churches that sent flowers. Our family appreciated the many fellow Christians that came to the visitation and funeral. The many cards encouraged and lifted our hearts. Our husband and father loved this association and for 50 years supported and worked to make it what God wanted it to be. You are a great people and we love you.

Ann Casaday and family

### Snacks Needed

Our association will once again collect snacks for the Camp of Champions, the yearly camp of the Alabama Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries. This camp will take place on June 7-9, 2019 at Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center.

Letters were sent out to all WMU Directors recently with a list of suggested snacks. If you would like to receive a list of suggested snacks call Linda at 256-362-7173. You may also request one via email at [lcotton@crba.org](mailto:lcotton@crba.org).

Snacks should be individually wrapped (no large bags of chips or cookies). They should be brought to the association office by **May 23, 2019**.

Thank you to all who have helped in previous years.



### Cookies and Prayer Day

Ridgeview Baptist Church will be having a Cookies and Prayer Day in their parking lot on Saturday, April 27 from 9 AM until 12 PM. Everyone is invited to stop by for a bag of cookies and a prayer for any need. You don't have to exit your vehicle, just pull in and they will have a prayer, give you homemade cookies and water. They just want to show God's love to everyone. Rev. Tommy Strickland is the pastor of Ridgeview.

### "CROSSOVER BHM"

Each year on the Saturday prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, the North American Mission Board leads an intensive door-to-door outreach campaign known as CROSSOVER in the convention's host city. Birmingham is hosting the convention June 11-12, 2019.

On Sat. June 8 we want to touch 20,000 homes across the seven metro associations with the gospel. That is a daunting, but also doable task if we have your help. We need all Alabama Baptists and folks from all over the SBC to join with us in touching these homes with the Gospel. Go online to register at [CROSSOVERBHM.com](http://CROSSOVERBHM.com). (NOTE: Do not spell out Birmingham, it will take you to the wrong site!)

You will be asked to choose a hub church with which to work. Training on how to Share Jesus Without Fear will be offered on Wednesday thru a great simulcast rally and from each hub church on Saturday morning at 8:30AM.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For security purposes NAMB requires that everyone must register and attend one session of the training. There is no charge for either. For more info you may contact the Office of Evangelism at the State Board of Missions (800-264-1225) or me at 334-590-1079 or at [mstokes@alsbom.org](mailto:mstokes@alsbom.org). Praying for a great harvest!

Mark Stokes  
Office of Evangelism  
Alabama State Board of Missions

## Bulletin Board

### April 25

Executive Committee Meeting at the Coosa River office at 6 PM

### April 27

Cookie and Prayer Day at Ridgeview from 9 AM to 12 PM

### April 28

Alabama Raceway Ministry at the Talladega Superspeedway

### May 5

Jail Ministry training at the association office, 2 PM

### May 23

Last day to bring snacks for the Camp of Champions

### June 7-9

Camp of Champions at Shocco Springs

### June 8

CROSSOVER BHM, see article at left for details

### June 9-10

WMU (SBC) Annual Meeting, B'ham

### June 11-12

Southern Baptist Convention, B'ham

### 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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