

P. O. Box 516
Talladega, AL 35161
Phone: (256) 362-7173
Fax: (256) 268-8803
www.crba.org

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

April 26, 2018

The Messenger

Associational Prayer Requests

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

Chandler Springs, Family Fellowship, Hepzibah, and Jenifer

Churches with Interim Pastors:

Brecon FBC: Rev. Garry Wyatt
Central-Rev. Trull Hill
Lincoln-Dr. Ben Chandler
Rocky Mount-Rev. John Vogel
Trinity-Rev. John Woodall
Winterboro-Rev. Milton Smith

Lee Ann Ward, retired association financial secretary, as she battles cancer.

The family of **Della Ward** who passed away on April 7, 2018. She served as WMU Director for many years at Five Points Baptist Church.

Rev. Craig Spurlin, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, is now recovering at home following surgery.

Rev. Stephen Collins, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, and his family in the recent death of his father.

Rev. William Casaday, retired DOM, who is recovering from a recent fall.

Rev. Brian Clifton, pastor of Mountain View Baptist Church, is dealing with a health issue.

News from our Churches

Shiloh: Mrs. Nettie Gaither passed away on April 10. She led the music at Shiloh Baptist Church for more than 20 years. Rev. Danny Cotton is the pastor.



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

Apr 26-Larry Morrison, Sylacauga FBC

Apr 27-Bill Phillips, Eastaboga; Billy Williams, Sylavon; Jackie Crump, Refuge; Laura Taunton, ChristPoint

Apr 30-Wes Johnson, Talladega Creek

May 1-Kathy Gaither, Talladega Creek

May 2-Billy Paul Williams, Fayetteville

May 5-Linda Cotton, Shiloh

May 7-Christy Bell, Sycamore

May 8-Becky Wood, Central; Heather Wesley, New Hope

May 9-Billy Matthews, Plainview

How will you run the race of Life? In NASCAR the winner is the one who finishes first. But in the realm of our spiritual journey, it is the one who finishes that will experience victory. Paul refers to life as a race in the book of Acts. In chapter 20, verse 24 the Scripture says "but none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy and ministry which I received from the Lord." His goal was always Jesus and he wanted to finish well.

To get to heaven we must finish our race. That means we

Crossing the Finish Line

can only be qualified to race by coming into a relationship to know Jesus as our Savior and Lord. Now we serve him daily, we work for His glory, and we are to put our best effort into the race of life.



We may not finish first, but we must finish. He would say in Second Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Then in verse eight we see there is a great reward for the faithful runners in this race.

"Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved is appearing."

I would like to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for my victory. Also, His church and each team member who was there to encourage me to finish well. Just glad that Jesus took the wheel!

Celebrating Victory,
Brother Randy

Coosa River Day

Once every two years the ministry teams of the association host a day of fun and information. We want to make sure that the churches know how the association can help them do ministry.



Saturday, May 5 is the date for you to come to the association office and learn more about what we do. Come and see the new look in our office. We will be here from 2-5 PM.

Help Needed: Minister of Music

Two churches have notified us that they are looking for a Minister of Music.

Munford Baptist Church is looking for a bivocational (part-time) Minister of Music. They desire someone who will lead the church in worshipping God through music. He will be the upfront worship leader and the behind the scenes shepherd for the worship ministry.

For more information, contact the church at 256-358-4536.

Lakeview Baptist Church in Oxford is also looking for a bivocational Minister of Music. He is expected to lead a blended style of worship that appeals to multiple generations on Sunday morning and evening, including directing the choir. A music education background with the ability to read music is strongly preferred. Interested, qualified individuals should submit their resume to lbepersonnel@bellsouth.net.

Gospel Music at the Ritz

Saturday, May 19 is the date for a gospel music night at the Ritz Theatre on the square in Talladega. Country music recording artist Shellum Cline will share song, comedy and testimony with us. The event will begin at 6 PM.

The event is free but a love offering will be received to help with the expenses. Come and bring your friends and neighbors as we enjoy this time of music, fellowship and fun together.

Graduate Edition

Coosa River Baptist Association will honor all high school and college graduates in a graduate edition of *The Messenger* to be published on May 24, 2018. We ask that all youth ministers send us the names of their graduates by Monday, May 14. Please send them in writing and let us know the name of the school from which they are graduating.

Raceway Ministry at the Talladega Superspeedway

The Coosa River Raceway Ministry Team is gearing up for the spring race on April 29th. Eddie Varnadore heads up this ministry which sponsors a pinewood derby on Saturday afternoon at 4 PM and a worship service on Sunday morning at 9 AM.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this ministry contact Eddie Varnadore at 256-404-7636.



Bulletin Board

April 26

Secretary Luncheon at the Coosa River office at 11:30 AM

April 29

Race Day at the Talladega Superspeedway

May 5

Coosa River Day from 2-5 P.M. at the association office. Come and see what the association can do for your church.

May 13

Mother's Day. Alabama Baptist Children's Home offering day

May 19

Come to the Ritz Theatre in Talladega for an evening with Shellem Cline at 6 PM

May 24

Graduate Edition of *The Messenger*

May 28

Memorial Day, CRBA office closed

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