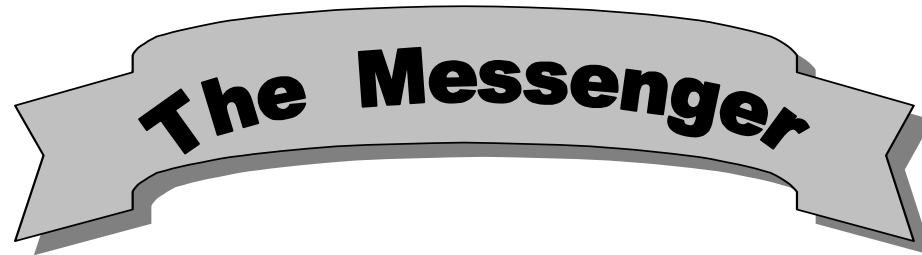


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August 13, 2020



Dr. Stan Albright,
Director of Missions
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:

Alpine, Brecon FBC, Mignon, Oldfield, Shelvin Rock, Union Springs and Westside

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

Rev. Tommy Strickland's granddaughter, Tobie Lynn, 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.

Our **WMU Leadership Team** is in the process of restructuring. Ask the Lord to lead those involved to follow His direction for this ministry.

Thank You!

The Coosa River WMU collected school supplies for the Friendship House of the Alabama Baptist Children's Home in Oxford. Thank you to the following 12 churches who donated supplies: ChristPoint; Cragdale; Lincoln; Mt. Sharon; New Hope; Oak Grove FBC; Russell Chapel; Stemley; Stockdale; Sylavon; Talladega FBC; Trinity



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

Aug 6-Dot Lewis, Plainview; Donna Carter, Fayetteville
Aug 8-Brandy Grissom, Eureka; Melissa Lewis, Sycamore
Aug 9-Kim McCaleb, Marble City
Aug 10-Sheryl Gaither, New Hope
Aug 12-Cal McIntire, Mt. Olive
Aug 14-Dianne Burke, Patton Chapel
Aug 15-Ronnie Collier, Browns Chapel; Cotton Freeman, Dry Valley
Aug 16-Billy Freeman, Brecon FBC
Aug 18-Harold Bannister, Cartersville
Aug 20-Lynn Phillips, Eastaboga
Aug 23-Freddie Hughes, Union Springs; Leonard Johnson, Refuge
Aug 24-Joel Jones, Sylacauga FBC
Aug 25-Kaylon Bates, Shelvin Rock; Randy Howell, Lincoln
Aug 26-Connie Humphrey, Talladega Creek

As the long days of COVID-19 continue, I want to remind each of us to remain faithful in encouraging those in our congregations (as well as those outside of our churches) that there is hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. Recently, I read an outstanding article from Ken Braddy (Director of Sunday School at LifeWay) on how to minister to those who may have become discouraged by the current pandemic, and are no longer attending our churches. It is entitled, **"5 Ways to Reach People Who Have Not Returned to Church."**

Braddy states, "Across America, churches that have

Keep the Faith

reopened worship or groups are finding that between 30-40% of the people have returned for on-campus interactions (this will likely rise in time, especially when a vaccine is introduced). . . Church leaders are wondering just how many people (as a percent) will ultimately return. No one knows, and hindsight will be 20/20." So, the question is, "How will we reengage a percentage of our church members who once attended with more regularity than they have over the past 5 months?" Take time to read this thoughtful and helpful article.

Here is the link: [https://kenbraddy.com/2020/08/03/5-](https://kenbraddy.com/2020/08/03/5-ways-to-reach-people-who-have-not-returned-to-church/)

ways-to-reach-people-who-have-not-returned-to-church/

Plans are in the works for the Annual Meeting of the Coosa River Baptist Association scheduled for Sunday, October 18. Please be in prayer for the planning team as they consider every option in this COVID-19 influenced time for informing, and potentially gathering, our people for this important time of fellowship, worship, encouragement, and business. We will let you know what is decided very soon.

By His Grace!

Brother Stan

Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

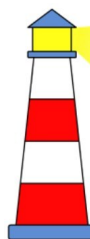
The Week of Prayer for the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering will be September 13-20, 2020. This offering supports Alabama WMU, Disaster Relief, Church Planting, Partnership Missions and Church Revitalization.

This offering is named for two spiritual giants in Alabama, Dr. Martha Myers and Miss Kathleen Mallory, who dedicated their lives to Christ. Both leave a legacy of lives well lived for one mission...the Great Commission.

Materials for observing the Week of Prayer may be ordered at myers-mallory.org. Let us prayerfully consider our gifts to the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering.

Church Profiles

All church clerks who were not able to attend the Church Clerk Conference today should stop by the Coosa River office to pick up their church profile. Come by at any time during the month of August during regular office hours, Monday through Thursday



from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Any other time by appointment. Call Linda at 256-362-7173 for more information.

Remember that the profile needs to be returned to the office by September 24, 2020.

Blue Eye Homecoming

Blue Eye Baptist Church will host Homecoming services on Sunday, August 16, 2020. Singing begins at 10:30 AM featuring The Appointed Quartet from north Georgia. The service time has been adapted to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions. There will be no meal this year. The church is located on US Hwy 78 in Lincoln near the Honda plant.

Samford Ministry Training Institute Fall Classes

Samford University's Ministry Training Institute will begin its fall classes on Tuesday, August 25, 2020. Rev. Robert Klotz will teach the Book of Hebrews, beginning at 6 PM on August 25 and continuing for 8 weeks.

Rev. Heath Walton will teach The Gospels beginning on October 27 and continuing for 8 weeks. The cost of each class is \$50 plus \$10 registration fee assessed once each semester.

To register for these classes go to www.samford.edu/go/mti. You can register and pay for each class there.

WMU Annual Meeting

Our associational WMU will hold their Annual Meeting at Stockdale Baptist Church on Monday, September 14 at 6:30 PM.

Candace McIntosh, Executive Director of Alabama WMU, will be the featured speaker. Anne Churchwell, associational WMU Director, will "retire" from her position at the conclusion of the meeting. Make your plans to attend this meeting.

Bulletin Board

August 16

Homecoming service at Blue Eye Baptist Church in Lincoln featuring The Appointed Quartet.

August 25

Samford MTI fall classes begin

September 13-20

Week of Prayer for the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

September 14

WMU Annual Meeting at Stockdale Baptist Church at 6:30 PM

September 24

Church Profiles are due

October 26-29

Collection week for Christmas Backpack s-Bring during regular office hours, Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Other hours by appointment. Call 256-362-7173 for more information.

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