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September 24, 2020

# 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:

**Alpine, Brecon FBC, Mignon, Oldfield, Shelvin Rock, Talladega Creek, and Union Springs**

**Churches with Interim Pastors:**  
**Cartersville:** Rev. Harold Bannister  
**Five Points:** Rev. Joshua Bell  
**Mountain View:** Rev. Roger Singleton  
**Rocky Mount:** Rev. John Vogel  
**Southside:** Rev. Josh Henderson

**Local schools, teachers and students** as they return to school for the new school year. Pray for the Lord's protection from COVID-19 for the students, teachers, and administrators.

**Oldfield Baptist Church** has had several members diagnosed with COVID-19 recently. Pray for this church that those affected will recover quickly.

Pray for all those in Alabama and Florida who were affected by **Hurricane Sally**.

Pray for **Disaster Relief workers** who volunteer to help others in need after Hurricanes Laura and Sally.

## News from our Churches

**Bon Air:** Bon Air Baptist Church hosted a celebration to honor 50 years of ministry service of their pastor, Rev. Jeff Thomas, on Sunday, September 20, 2020.

**Westside:** Westside Baptist Church has called Rev. Bryan Camp to be their pastor. He will begin his pastorate on October 11, 2020. We welcome Brother Bryan and his family to the Coosa River Association family!



**To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:**  
**Sept 29-**Megan Lytton, Calvary  
**Sept 30-**Sharon Hardy, Sylacauga FBC  
**Oct 1-**Cecelia Dean, Oak Grove FBC;  
Bobby Harville, Winterboro  
**Oct 2-**B. J. Wood, Fayetteville  
**Oct 4-**Roger Barber, Refuge; Dennis Jackson, Marble City  
**Oct 6-**Doris Williams, Brecon FBC  
**Oct 7-**Donnie Thompson, Westside;  
Terri Roesch, Eastaboga

Dear Coosa River Association Family,

As we continue through the challenges of the COVID-19 virus, I want to take a moment to encourage and challenge us. In Ephesians 4:1, Paul states that as followers of Jesus Christ we are to "walk worthy of the calling with which [we] have been called." He continues by giving us the character of our walk and the manner of our behavior. The character of our "walk" is to be in "humility (lowliness) and gentleness," yet in doing so, the manner of our "walk" should be with "patience" (long-suffering), "bearing with one another" (seeking to understand; enduring in difficulty) "in the attitude of love," . . . loving others as Christ has loved us . . . enduring with others as Christ endures with us. WHY? "Endeavoring to keep" (eager to maintain) "the unity of the [indwelling] Holy Spirit" found in

every believer . . . understanding that it is in the Holy Spirit's "indwelling" that we receive the "peace" that the world does not know . . . the "peace" that passes understanding . . . the "peace" that is "bonded" in the "love" of Christ.

During this trying time, let each of us . . . let each of our churches . . . "walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which [we] have been called."

### REMINDERS:

**1. Bi-Vocational Pastors' and Wives' Banquet - Saturday, October 10-** The event will be held at Eastaboga Baptist Church Family Life Center - 5:30pm. A meal will be served. No childcare provided. Cost is **FREE!** Reservations are required. Call the Association Office or return the Reservation Card you received in the mail by Wednesday, September 30.

**2. 2020 Annual Meeting has been suspended,** but we will be having an Executive Committee Meeting (2 representatives from each church) to address official business. The meeting will be held at Ridgeview Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon, October 18, at 3pm. Every church is strongly encouraged to send representatives to this meeting.

**3. Ministers' Wives Fellowship - Saturday, October 24, 8am-10am.** Hosted at the home of Joanie Albright (Missionary House). This time of fellowship is for every wife whose husband serves in a ministerial leadership position, whether full-time or bi-vocational. Don't miss this great time of fellowship and encouragement. Contact Joanie to let her know you will be attending (256) 452-2902.

In His Grace,  
Brother Stan

### Church Profiles

Today is the date that the Annual Church Profiles should be returned to the association office. These reports are used by the association, the state convention, Southern Baptist Convention and LifeWay to make plans for future events.

The leadership section is used by the association to update their address files when mailing out letters and cards.

The reports will be compiled for the Executive Committee meeting on October 18 which will show how our churches have changed in the last year.

### Executive Committee Meeting

The next Executive Committee Meeting will take place on **Sunday, October 18, 2020.** The meeting will take place at Ridgeview Baptist Church at 3 PM.

This meeting will take the place of the Annual Meeting. We will look at the proposed budget for 2021, hear reports from association ministry teams, and elect new officers for the coming year.

All members of the Executive Committee are encouraged to attend this important meeting. The committee is composed of the pastor of the each church, an elected representative from each church, and all association officers.

We will receive a offering designated for Disaster Relief to help rebuild churches in Louisiana following Hurricane Laura. You may also mail your offering to PO Box 516, Talladega, AL 35161.

### Bivocational Minister's and Wives' Banquet

The Coosa River Association in partnership with Eastaboga Baptist Church will host a Bivocational Ministers' and Wives' Banquet on Saturday, October 10 at 5:30 PM. The banquet will take place at Eastaboga's Family Life Center. There is **no cost** for this event.

Letters have been mailed to all Bivocational ministers in our association. Please make your reservation with the association office by returning the postage-paid reservation card. You may also call the association office at 256-362-7173 and let us know that you are coming.

We look forward to seeing all of the Bivocational ministers and their wives, for this night of fun, fellowship and great food! Please make your reservations by **September 30.**

### Christmas Backpacks

Coosa River Association will once again serve as the collection site for Christmas Backpacks. These backpacks will be sent to states along the Mississippi River to be given to children who would not otherwise have any gifts.

The State Board of Missions and Alabama WMU jointly sponsor this project. Go to [alabamawmu.org/](http://alabamawmu.org/) backpacks to order your supplies and see the list of suggested gift items.

Collection hours will be Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Evening hours and Friday hours are by appointment only.

## Bulletin Board

**September 24**  
Church Profiles are due

**October 10**  
Bivocational Banquet at Eastaboga

**October 18**  
Executive Committee Meeting. We will receive a Disaster Relief offering for churches affected by Hurricane Laura in Louisiana

**October 24**  
Ministers' Wives Fellowship at the home of Joanie Albright.

**October 26-29**  
Collection week for Christmas Backpacks. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Evening hours and Friday hours by appointment.

**November 26**  
Thanksgiving Day-Coosa River Association office is 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.  
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