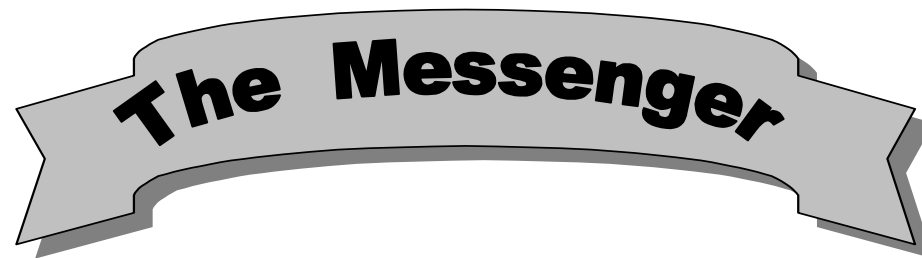


P. O. Box 516  
Talladega, AL 35161  
Phone: (256) 362-7173  
Fax: (256) 268-8803  
www.crba.org

October 28, 2021



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:

**Brecon FBC, Chandler Springs, Dry Valley, Mt. Ida, Patton Chapel, Plainview, and Union Springs**

**Churches with Interim Pastors:**  
**Bemiston:** Rev. Jerry Colquett  
**Cartersville:** Rev. Harold Bannister  
**Central:** Rev. Ricky Clark  
**Oldfield:** Rev. Danny Cotton  
**Rocky Mount:** Rev. John Vogel

**Rev. David Turner**, pastor of Village Street, as he continues to battle an ongoing medical condition.

## Association News

### New Coosa River Officers

New officers were elected at the 188th Annual Meeting held recently at Eastaboga. **Dr. Robert Klotz**, pastor of Talladega First, became the Moderator at the conclusion of the meeting.

**Rev. Wesley Johnson**, pastor of Odena, was elected to serve as Moderator-Elect.

**Rev. Mac McCaleb**, pastor of Marble City Baptist Church, was elected to serve as Treasurer. He will replace Rev. Tommy Strickland who concluded his service as Treasurer.

**Mrs. Linda Cotton**, from Oldfield, was elected to continue her service as Clerk.

Please remember these in prayer as they lead our association in the coming year.

### Sound System Available

Jerry Ford has a older sound system which he would like to give to a church who could use it. Call Jerry at 256-245-2624 for more information.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:  
**Oct 30**-Susan Smith, Winterboro  
**Oct 31**-Carl Armstrong, Stemley;  
Jearldine Heath, Mountain View  
**Nov 1**-Joseph Strickland, Ridgeview  
**Nov 2**-Jeremy Clifton, Oak Grove  
**Nov 5**-Jeff Weathers, Sycamore  
**Nov 7**-Connie Morrow, Oak Grove  
**Nov 8**-Kelsey Files, Immanuel  
**Nov 9**-Calvin Mann, Hepzibah; Hudson Chappell, Fayetteville

## Report of 188th Annual Meeting

What a fantastic time we had!! Wonderful preaching, great fellowship, and meaningful missions . . . what else would you want?!

It was so good to see our churches "gathered" again for our Coosa River Association Annual Meeting. I want to express a very special "Thank You" to Pastor Jeremy Tuiolosega and the fellowship of Eastaboga Baptist Church. They did an outstanding job of preparing, hosting, singing, . . . and feeding! You guys and gals knocked it out of the park!

I would be amiss if I didn't mention the outstanding preaching from Dr. Robert Klotz (FBC Talladega) and Rev. Rick Barnhart (Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions). Their messages were right on target.

I want to express a special "Thank You" to Linda Cotton. The list is too long to mention all she did in preparing for our meeting. And last of all but not least, I want to thank all of those who attended our meeting. Your presence was a blessing.

As we look beyond 2021, let us focus on the opportunities of 2022. In our churches individually, and our association corporately, let us seek to strengthen one another . . . preparing to serve more effectively in our ministries . . . engaging in sending our congregations into areas of great need and lostness . . . celebrating what the Lord is doing among us through His goodness and love, and . . . seeking the Lord in prayer daily to know His perfect will in all we do and all we are.

Therefore, let us **REMEMBER** who's we are. That we are not our own, but we belong to Christ. Let us **REAFFIRM** our faith in Christ, daily placing our absolute trust in Him. Let us **RENEW** our commitment to faithfully follow Christ's mission, not our own selfish desires. Let us allow the Holy Spirit to **RESTORE** us as the people of God that our walk of faith will be authentic before Him, and before the world.

There is still much to do in this world for Christ's Kingdom and His glory. Let us not look back, but we must press forward that the Name of Jesus Christ will be proclaimed to the nations and in our communities.

Pressing Forward!  
Stan

### Christmas Backpacks

We are in collection week for the Christmas Backpack project! Have you finished packing your backpack yet?

Coosa River Association is a regional collection site for the backpacks. Collection week is **October 25-29**. Collection hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Friday hours are by appointment only. Watch the next newsletter for a report on the amount of backpacks collected.

### Minister and Wives Appreciation Reception

Stan and Joanie Albright invite all ministers and their wives to come to their home on Sunday, November 7 between 2 PM to 4 PM for a time of fellowship.

They would love to meet those whom they have not yet had the opportunity to meet and fellowship with all of our church staff. Come when you can and stay as long as you like. See you on November 7!

### Music Leader Needed

Odena Baptist Church is seeking a bivocational Music and Worship Leader. This person will provide leadership for the church choir at all rehearsals and weekly services. Interested persons should contact Pastor Wesley Johnson at 256-493-9575.



### Operation Christmas Child

Hepzibah Baptist Church and Sylacauga First Baptist Church will once again serve as collection sites for Operation Christmas Child in 2021. Collection dates are November 15-22.

**Hepzibah Baptist Church** is a regional collection point for the shoeboxes. Collection hours are Monday, Nov 15: **5-7 PM**; Tuesday, Nov 16, Wed, Nov 17, Thurs, Nov 18, Fri, Nov 19, and Sat, Nov 20: **10 AM-12 NOON**; Sunday, Nov 21: **1-3 PM**; and Monday, Nov 22: **7-9 AM**.

**Sylacauga First Baptist Church** is a local collection point. Their collection hours are: Monday, Nov 15: **10 AM-1 PM**; Tuesday, Nov 16: **4-6 PM**; Wed, Nov 17: **9-11 AM**; Thurs, Nov 18: **4-6 PM**; Fri, Nov 19: **11 AM-1 PM**; Sat, Nov 20: **10 AM-12 PM**; Sun, Nov 21: **2-4 PM**; Mon, Nov 22: **8-10 AM**.

### Christmas Banquet

Plans are being made for the 2021 Christmas Banquet. It is being planned for Thursday, December 2 at Shocco Springs. All church staff, whether paid or volunteer, are invited to attend with their families.

Letters have been mailed with a reservation card. Cards should be returned to the association office by November 22.



## Bulletin Board

### October 25-29

Collection week for Christmas Backpacks

### November 7

Minister and Wives Appreciation Reception at the home of Stan and Joanie Albright, 2-4 PM

### November 15-22

Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child

### November 16-17

Alabama Baptist State Convention, Whitesburg Baptist Church in Huntsville

### November 22

No Pastor Conference

### November 25-26

Office closed for Thanksgiving

### December 2

Christmas Banquet at Shocco Springs

### 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