

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

November 23, 2017

The Messenger

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

Associational Prayer Requests

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

Family Fellowship, Jenifer, Lincoln, Patton Chapel, Talladega Springs and Winterboro

Churches with Interim Pastors:
Central-Rev. Trull Hill
Rocky Mount-Rev. John Vogel
Tallahatchie FBC-Rev. Darryl Wood

The **Truckers Chapel** ministry as it holds services each week in Lincoln.

Lee Ann Ward, former Coosa River Financial Secretary, as she recovers from recent surgery.

Members of **First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas** as they recover from the horrific shooting that took place on November 5, 2017.

Pray that God would lead in the **Special Election for US Senator** that will take place on December 12, 2017. Make sure to go vote!

News from our Churches

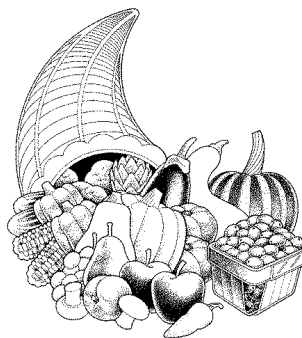
Jenifer: Rev. Garry Wyatt has resigned as interim pastor at Jenifer Baptist Church. Please pray for this church as they seek another pastor to lead them.
Shiloh: Congratulations to Rev. Danny Cotton and his wife, Linda, who celebrated their 42nd anniversary on November 8, 2017.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:
Nov 23-Hilda Haywood, New Hope
Nov 27-Jacque Lovett, Sylacauga FBC
Nov 28-Tommy Strickland, Ridgeview
Nov 30-Margaret Henderson, Tallahatchie FBC
Dec 1-Darren Anglin, Stemley; Bobby Hubbard, Alpine
Dec 2-Patricia Johnson, Talladega Creek; James Lovett, Sylacauga FBC; Jack Washington, Westside; Randy Roberson, Mt. Vernon
Dec 3-Bobby Brantley, Mountain View
Dec 5-Brian Hibbs, Mignon
Dec 6-Tonya Hendrix, Hepzibah; James Smith, Providence

Someone once said, "it's that time of year to be thankful." I say yes, it is, but every day we should be thankful. I pray we let the holiday of Thanksgiving remind us of how important it is to be thankful every day.

So, what are you thankful for? I am thankful for my salvation and my Christian brothers and sisters. I am grateful to God for His calling me into the ministry. If the Lord keeps me here through August 2018 I will have been preaching for 50 years.



Being Thankful

I preached my first sermon at age 14. My pastor, Rev. Doug Welch, got behind me and was always creating ways for me to preach. I started with the adult Sunday School assembly, preached at the nursing home,

and then preached a Tuesday night service at the TB sanatorium. I was called to my first church at age 20.

God put me in places that took care of me and mentored me, so, yes, **I am thankful.**

I am thankful for my job as your Director of Missions. If God

allows me to work until August 2018, I will have been here for 10 years.

I am grateful for a loving wife, Mary Alice, who supports me in my ministry. We have 2 wonderful sons and 2 beautiful daughters-in-love. My cup runs over with blessings that our 2 grandsons, Ethan and Creek, give us daily. So, yes, it is the time of year to be thankful, but I hope that you and I are thankful every day!

With gratitude,
Brother Randy

Christmas Backpacks Update

We recently learned that Odena made 25 backpacks and took them to the collection site in Trussville. That means that **13 churches** collected a total of **206 backpacks!**

The following churches donated backpacks: Bon Air; Cartersville; Childersburg FBC; ChristPoint; Mountain View; Mt. Sharon; Oak Grove FBC; Odena; Sylavon; Tallahatchie FBC; Trinity; Talladega FBC; Village Street.

Thank you again for your generous spirit in spreading the gospel to underprivileged children.

Printer Donation

The office has been notified that the FAA Montgomery Airport has a printer that they would like to donate to a church or charitable organization. The printer is practically new and is a Lexmark X862DE. If your church is interested in this printer, please call 334-284-0384. Make sure to say that you are interested in the printer being offered for donation.

Open House

The Alabama Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries will have an open house at their Oxford facility on Sunday, December 3 from 2-5 PM. The home is located at 1931 Donna Drive in Oxford.

Come and visit with the house parents and see the facility. Delicious refreshments will be provided. Mrs. Amber Albright is the director of this facility.

Coosa River Christmas Banquet

All ministers of Coosa River Churches are invited to attend the Coosa River



Association Christmas Banquet on December 7 at Hepzibah Baptist Church beginning at 6:30 P.M. Surrendered, a gospel trio from Gadsden, will provide our entertainment for the evening. Our meal will be provided by

Rev. Steve Walley and the Servants Alive ministry.

All ministers should return their reply cards **before** Monday, November 27. Please include the names of everyone attending on the back of the card.

Block Party Trailer

Reservations to use the Block Party Trailer in 2018 are now being accepted. Call Linda at the association office to make your reservation.

Happy Thanksgiving

From the Coosa River Association staff:

Dr. Randy Hagan
Rev. Ricky Milford
Linda Cotton
Sandy Locke

Bulletin Board

November 23-24

Coosa River Association office closed

December 3

Open House at the Friendship House in Oxford.

December 7

Coosa River Christmas Banquet at Hepzibah Baptist Church 6:30 P.M.

December 12

Special Election for US Senator- make sure to vote!

December 25-January 1

Coosa River Association office will be closed so our staff may spend time with their families.

January 7, 2018

WMU Leadership Team Meeting at 2 PM

January 11

Financial Team Meeting, time TBA

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