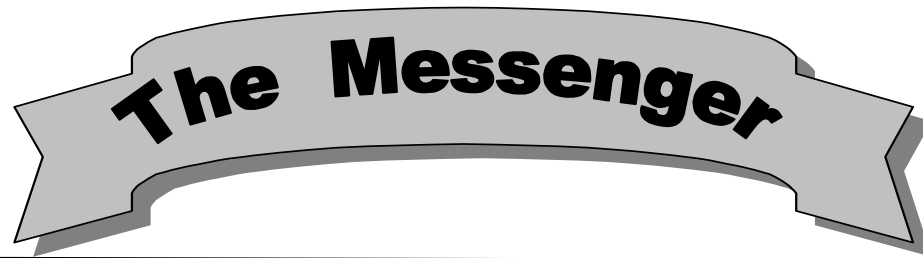


P. O. Box 516
Talladega, AL 35161
Phone: (256) 362-7173
Fax: (256) 268-8803
www.crba.org



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

December 7, 2017

Associational Prayer Requests

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

Family Fellowship, Hepzibah, Jenifer, Lincoln, Rocky Mount, Talladega Springs and Winterboro

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

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

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!

Lee Ann Ward, retired financial secretary, as she begins treatment for cancer.

News from our Churches

Hepzibah: Rev. Keith Wrenn resigned as pastor of Hepzibah Baptist Church on November 19, 2017. Pray for this church as they begin to search for another pastor.

Patton Chapel: Patton Chapel Baptist Church has called Rev. Calvin Brooks to be their pastor. He began his ministry on November 12, 2017. We welcome him to the Coosa River Association family!

Help Wanted

Burger King in Talladega needs to hire several new employees. Pay starts at \$8 per hour. Apply in person.



To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:
Dec 9-Mavis Bryant, Oldfield; Billy Lipham, Patton Chapel
Dec 11-Mary Alice Hagan, Coosa River Assn; Peggy Wood, Fayetteville
Dec 12-Kim Puckett, Childersburg FBC
Dec 16-Regina Culver, Brecon FBC
Dec 18-Dinah Sparks, Stemley; Kyle Paris, Hepzibah
Dec 19-Angie Smith, Munford; Vera Calhoun, Central; Patricia Shafer, Union Springs
Dec 20-Rick Patrick, Sylacauga FBC

Good News

Can you dream with me about a world without sin? There is no crime nor hate. No wars nor hunger will be in this world. We will have everlasting peace and harmony. Everyone wants to help their neighbor and all of us pull together for a common good, to give glory to God. A place where there is no jealousy, bitterness, and lying. What a world this would be!

Well, I have good news and bad news. The bad news is the world we currently live in is not that world. But the good news is that there is a place like this, only better, it is called Heaven.

In Heaven we will be in the unhindered presence of God where no sin abounds, nor does sickness have any place there. My heart breaks at the suffering many have to go through because of sickness, crime, and natural causes. In Heaven we will not be on a schedule, in fact I believe we won't use clocks there. We won't even have to go to bed for rest. We will not get tired.



I think about the splendor and beauty of Heaven but the greatest thing about Heaven is the absence of sin and sickness. Let's get this good news out and proclaim that Jesus I the only way to Heaven. He is our hope, our good news. As you get busy making ready for Christmas, please keep your Christmas spirit turned up and smiling. Tell everyone that Jesus is Lord! Is He your Lord and Savior?

God Bless,
Brother Randy

Christmas Banquet

The Coosa River Association Christmas Banquet takes place tonight at 6:30 at Hepzibah Baptist Church. We are looking forward to seeing all the ministers of Coosa River churches and their families for a time of food, fellowship and fun!

Operation Christmas Child

Hepzibah received 1,497 shoeboxes and Sylacauga FBC received 2,273 shoeboxes. That is a total of 3,770 shoeboxes donated by Coosa River churches! Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus at this holiday season.

Carey Association brought 1,322 and Hoover brought 1,642. The grand total collected was 7,234!

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

We are currently in the Week of Prayer for International Missions. Our churches will soon be collecting the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which supports our international missionaries. Please let the Lord lead you in what you should give to this worthy offering.

Pioneer Missions Offering

The 2018 Pioneer Mission Offering will be received on January 28. This offering enables the Carpenters for Christ to assist churches with construction costs.

Please prayerfully consider what you, or your church, can give. Materials will be mailed in early January.

Bulletin Board

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

January 18

Executive Committee meeting at 6 PM

January 28

Pioneer Missions Offering will be collected.

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

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
February 6, 2018 for our
175th birthday celebration
in Marion, Alabama

Ideal for church groups or anyone interested in Baptist history



For more information or to register

Call or email
1-800-803-5201, ext. 100
LHarrison@TheAlabamaBaptist.org