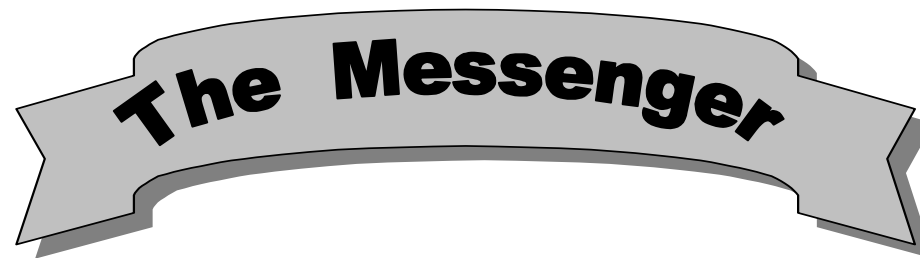


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December 20, 2018



Randy Hagan,  
Associational Missionary  
Ricky Milford,  
Hearing-Impaired Missionary  
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:

**Jenifer, Lincoln, Mountain View, Russell Chapel, Talladega Springs and Village Street**

**Rev. Clyde Pettus**, pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, as he recovers from a recent hospitalization.

**Mrs. Debra Thompson**, wife of Rev. Donnie Thompson of Westside Baptist Church, as she continues to fight cancer.

**Rev. Don Hamilton** as he recovers from surgery.

**Rev. Richard Bonds**, former pastor of Talladega Springs, as he recovers from surgery.

**Harold Griffitt**, Truckers Chapel minister, as he recovers from bypass surgery on December 5.

**Dr. Bill Pruitt and his wife Judith**, in the death of her mother, Grace Glaze, on December 4, 2018 in Graceville, Florida. Brother Bill serves as pastor of Dry Valley Baptist Church.

## News from our Churches

**Patton Chapel:** Patton Chapel called Rev. Jim Burke to be their pastor on November 25, 2018.

**Village Street:** Rev. Sam Walker has resigned as pastor of Village Street Baptist Church. Pray for this church as they being to search for another pastor.



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

**Dec 20**-Rick Patrick, Sylacauga FBC  
**Dec 21**-Rickey Mullins, Stemley  
**Dec 22**-Paula Johnson, Talladega Creek; Trull Hill, Central  
**Dec 24**-Vickie Fain, Dry Valley  
**Dec 25**-Ida Laura Burns, Oak Grove; Clint Bradshaw, Plainview  
**Dec 26**-Necie Hazel, Dry Valley  
**Dec 27**-Judy Maness, Russell Chapel; Donna Jackson, Marble City  
**Dec 28**-Rex Gaither, Talladega Creek  
**Dec 30**-Randy Hagan, CRBA  
**Jan 1**-Elbert Butler, Mt. Sharon  
**Jan 5**-Jacky Morgan, Blue Eye; Kerri Sanders, Sylacauga FBC  
**Jan 6**-Peggy Freeman, Brecon FBC  
**Jan 7**-Nelda Vogel, Rocky Mount  
**Jan 9**-John Locke, Talladega Creek

On behalf of the staff at the Coosa River Baptist Association, I would love to say, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" Truly Christmas can only be merry when we are at peace with our Lord and Savior. Take every opportunity to worship, walk, and pray with God. Be faithful in attending His church, fellowshiping with the family of God, and reading His book. God has something to say to us in the Bible! II Corinthians 9:15 states "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!". Luke 2:11 states "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." Isaiah 9:6 states "For unto us a

child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

This baby grew up, suffered, and died for you and I. He will come back, not as a baby but as Lord of Lords and King of Kings. The greatest gift of Christmas is to know Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Do you want to know more about the Bible? Here is your opportunity: Samford University's Ministry Training Institute spring semester will begin on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at the association office at

6 PM. The first class will be Introduction to New Testament taught by Dr. Bill Pruitt. The second class, Introduction to Old Testament, will be taught by Rev. Robert Klotz and starts on Tuesday, March 26. Each class will last for eight weeks. You need to register online at [www.samford.edu/go/mti](http://www.samford.edu/go/mti). The best deal in college courses, \$50 per class. If you want to have a better understanding of the Old Testament and New Testament sign up and come learn with us in the Coosa River Association.

Christmas Blessings,  
Brother Randy

### Coosa River Holiday Hours

The office will also be closed December 21 through January 1, 2019 for the **Christmas** holidays to allow our staff to spend time with their families.

We will open on Wednesday, January 2 at 8:30 A.M. Thank you for allowing us this time away from the office.

### VBS Early Bird Clinics

Our VBS Director, Tommy Strickland, has scheduled **two** early bird clinics for the new year. A early bird clinic will introduce the new VBS theme for 2019, In the Wild.

A conference for church pastors will be held on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 10:30 AM. Lunch will be served following the clinic.

A conference for VBS Directors will be held on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 6 PM. This conference will include a meal also. Both of these clinics will be held at the Coosa River Association office.

### Samford's Ministry Training Institute

The fall semester ended on December 11. The spring semester will begin on Tuesday, January 22 at 6 PM. Dr. Bill Pruitt will teach Introduction to New Testament beginning on January 22. Rev. Robert Klotz will teach Introduction to Old Testament beginning on March 26. All students should register online at [www.samford.edu/go/mti](http://www.samford.edu/go/mti). Payment will also be received online.

### Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee will meet for their quarterly meeting on Thursday, January 17 at the Coosa River office at 6 P.M. The committee is composed of all association officers, the pastors of the churches, and an elected lay representative of each church. The committee will discuss financial reports for the 4th quarter of 2018. Please add this important meeting to your calendar.

### Financial Team Meeting

The Financial Team will meet on Thursday, January 10 at the Coosa River office at 9 AM to prepare for the upcoming Executive Committee Meeting. All team members should be present for this important meeting.

## Merry Christmas!



### Coosa River Baptist Association Office Staff

Dr. Randy Hagan  
Linda Cotton  
Sandy Locke



### December 21– January 1

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

### January 10, 2019

Financial Accountability Team meeting

### January 14

Early Bird VBS Clinic for church pastors, 10:30 AM. Lunch provided.

### January 17

Executive Committee Meeting at 6 PM

### January 22

Spring classes begin for Samford's Ministry Training Institute

### February 11

Early Bird VBS Clinic for VBS Directors, Coosa River office, 6 P.M.

### 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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