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December 6, 2018

# 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:

**Jenifer, Lincoln, Mountain View, Patton Chapel, Russell Chapel, and Talladega Springs**

**Churches with Interim Pastors:**  
Central-Rev. Trull Hill  
Rocky Mount-Rev. John Vogel

**Rev. Gary Plummer** as he grieves the recent death of his daughter, Leaha Plummer.

**Rev. Clyde Pettus**, pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, as he continues to be hospitalized.

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

**Mrs. Lorie Duncan**, wife of former pastor Rev. Jeff Duncan, as she continues to fight cancer. Brother Jeff now serves Calvary Baptist Church in Oxford.

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

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

## News from our Churches

**Dry Valley:** Dry Valley Baptist Church honored deacon, Edward Harrison, on Sunday, December 2, 2018. He is 99 years old. Dr. Bill Pruitt is the pastor.



**To the following Coosa River pastors, ministers, staff members and spouses:**  
**Dec 6-**Tonya Hendrix, Hepzibah; James Smith, Providence; John Vogel, Rocky Mount  
**Dec 9-**Mavis Bryant, Oldfield; Billy Lipham, Patton Chapel  
**Dec 11-**Mary Alice Hagan, Coosa River Assn; Peggy Wood, Fayetteville  
**Dec 13-**Sissy Johnson, Munford  
**Dec 14-**Janis Murner, Brecon FBC  
**Dec 18-**Christina Norris, Sylacauga FBC; Kyle Parris, Hepzibah; Pam Turner, Sycamore; Kim Puckett, Childersburg FBC  
**Dec 19-**Angie Smith, Munford; Vera Calhoun, Central; Patricia Shafer, Union Springs

Dear Coosa River Baptists,  
I am hoping you are having a Christ-honoring holiday season. After all it is about **HIM!** December will close out 2018 and we will be preparing for another new year real soon. The Coosa River Baptist Association has had an incredible year because of churches like yours. We thank you for your prayers and your involvement in associational mission work. We could not make it without your commitment to give financially to associational missions. Please remember for us to close out our 2018 budget receipts, we need to have your giving in before



## Holiday Greetings

December 28<sup>th</sup>. We hope you are involved in giving to your local association as we are here to serve you and the community of Talladega County. You support the many ministries that come along side of the 66 local churches we partner with. I do look forward to another blessed year to serve you and fellowship with our churches.

On another subject, our Truckers Chapel Ministry, located at Embry Crossroads in Lincoln, will be providing a Christmas Party for the employees of the store and the restaurant on Sunday evening,

December 23<sup>rd</sup>. I need some help with Christmas goodies (i.e. food, snacks, candy, etc.) for that evening. We are also providing gifts for their employees and their small children. Our ministry is there at the invitation of the owners and this helps build strong relationships, as we minister not only to truck drivers but the employees as well. So, if you can help, or your WMU, Sunday School class, wants to help plant seeds, let us know here at the office, 256-362-7173. Let us know what you want to do, and we can give you more details for this special event.

Blessings,  
Brother Randy

## Christmas Events

Marble City Baptist Church will host the dramatic Christmas musical "All Year Long" on December 8 & 9, 2018. The Saturday performance will take place at 6 PM and the Sunday one will take place at 5:30 PM.

Marble City will also host a Christmas candlelight service on Sunday, December 23 at 5:30 P.M. All friends and family are invited to attend these events. Rev. Mac McCaleb is the pastor of Marble City.

## Operation Christmas Child

Two churches in Coosa River Association served as collection points again this year. Hepzibah received 1,696 shoeboxes and Sylacauga FBC received 1,877 shoeboxes. This is a total of 3,573 shoeboxes in Talladega County.

Sylacauga FBC also 6,213 shoeboxes from other collection sites for a grand total of 9,786 shoeboxes collected for their region. Praise the Lord for the generous gifts of God's people to those in need!

## 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.

## 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.

## Christmas Backpacks

Seventeen Coosa River churches gave 163 backpacks to be sent to ministries along the Mississippi River. The following churches participated in this event: Sylavon, Village Street, Mt. Sharon, Hepzibah, Tallasahatchie FBC, Childersburg FBC, Bon Air, Cartersville, Mountain View, Dry Valley, Trinity, Sylacauga FBC, Immanuel, Fayetteville, Lincoln, ChristPoint, and Talladega FBC.

Our collection center receive another 100 backpacks form 4 churches in 3 other associations.

Thank you for giving so that needy children inside the US will have gifts this Christmas.

## Thank You

The membership of Shiloh Baptist Church would like to say "**Thank You**" to all our sister churches who prayed for our final service on November 18. A spirit of peace prevailed in the service along with the sadness of saying goodbye to our friends and family.

Rev. Danny Cotton  
Members of Shiloh Baptist Church

## Bulletin Board

### December 2-9

Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon  
Christmas Offering

### 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, 12 PM. 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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