

◆ **Director of Missions**  
Rev. Otis Corbitt

# ✠ COVINGTON BAPTIST ✠ ASSOCIATION NEWS

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Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches Since 1856  
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## Corbitt's Comments:

Corbitt's Comments for February:

One of my favorite quotes by an American general was the statement William Tecumseh Sherman made about his relationship with his boss, General Ulysses S. Grant. Both of them had experienced rough patches in their personal lives and their military careers, but they helped each other through those bad patches on the way to becoming an unbeatable team for the Union Army in the Civil War.

Sherman described their relationship this way: "Grant stood by me when I was crazy, and I stood by him when he was drunk, and now we stand by each other, always."

What an example of friendship, mutual support and loyalty (both up AND down the chain of command)!

We all need friends and family to whom we can turn in times of need. As Proverbs 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity," while Proverbs 18:24b proclaims, "There is a friend *who* sticks closer than a brother."

We know, of course, that Jesus is our friend and that when we have asked Him to be our Savior that He becomes our Brother. We can rely upon Him, and know that He certainly will stand by us, always.

We also need to remember, however, that God saw that it was not good for Adam to be alone in this world, and so He made Eve to be His wife. It is clearly God's intent for us to learn to rely upon one another as we travel together through our own rough patches of life. We need to fellowship with God, but we also need to experience true fellowship with one another.

One of my favorite memories of my time as pastor of Crawford Baptist Church in Russell County was the first morning we observed the Lord Supper. As the deacons and I rehearsed how we would lead the congregation in communion, one of them turned to me and said, "Don't worry, preacher, we got your back!" My eyes well up a little when I remember that movement, not because it was a time of crisis, but because I know he really meant what he said. He would have been there for me in a crisis, "a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

My vision for our Association is to be a fellowship of churches who help each other to obey the Great Commandments and the Great Commission. The way to become that kind of Association is to learn to "stand by each other, always" regardless of what the future brings.

Every blessing, Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

## Associational Ministry Survey:

Covington Baptist Association church members, we need your help! We are examining our ministry strategy and we need your input. Please go to the webpage below and complete this on-line survey. Thanks so much for your help!

<http://ow.ly/sAHyo>

Otis H. Corbitt, III Director of Missions

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## Town Hall Meetings to Review Our Associational Ministries

As a part of our review of our Associational ministries, we will hold two Town Hall meetings so we can get input from all across our Association. This is YOUR opportunity to give YOUR input to our strategy development process.

State Missionary Rick Barnhart will moderate these two identical sessions for us: February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am at the Associational Office and February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Liberty Home Baptist Church.

These sessions are open to all CBA church members. Won't you help us discern how God is leading us to serve him together in the future as we become "A FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES WHO HELP EACH OTHER OBEY THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS AND THE GREAT COMMISSION"?

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## **Derwood Cleland Champlain With Hospice**

I started volunteering with the Ministerial Association of Andalusia about three years ago. We meet the first Monday of every month at the Andalusia regional Hospital. Breakfast is at 7:30 followed by an 8:00 meeting. This is where joint efforts for things like the National Day of Prayer and the Community Thanksgiving Services are organized.

There are three areas for ministers to volunteer in. They can write articles, (sermons) for the Star News, they can preach at the nursing homes, or they can be Chaplains at the hospital, this is option I chose. It has a rotation of about every two months.

During this time we make visits to the patients at hospital at which time I introduce myself at the chaplain.. During the visits I ask if there are any prayer needs they may have.

It's a wonderful opportunity to minister to the needs of others. It usually produces plenty of opportunities for prayer, there are occasions when some won't want prayer, but they are few and far between.

It is such a blessing to return to a patient's room the next day and see them feeling so much better or have the room empty because they went home.

This can also open doors to share the gospel with people. This is always an exciting time when you have an individual that accepts Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. It's truly a joyous time.

I am also a Champlain with Comfort Care Hospice. This presents more opportunities as well. Not everyone gets better, some are diagnosed with terminal illnesses and diseases. Some go home with their days being numbered. This has provided an occasional opportunity to continue to minister to them.

This is a difficult place for the family and their loved ones to be. What an honor it is to be able to escort an individual to the doors of eternity. To be able to love, encourage and support the individual and their family as the dear loved one takes their last steps, their last breaths into eternity. It is so rewarding to be able to impact the lives of individuals, all for the glory of GOD.

### **UNITED D-NOW**

It's almost time for the United D-Now 2014! We are excited to have Chris Brooks joining us again as the speaker along with Matt Papa as the worship leader. The dates of the event are Feb. 14-15, 2014. The Kickoff Rally will be at FBC Andalusia at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 12, 2014. To register your youth group, please contact Garrett Davis at (334) 222-1922 or (334) 488-6022. Registration deadline is January 22, 2014. You must register with total number of students, and pay for total number of t-shirts you will need by this deadline. Please make checks payable to: Covington Baptist United D-Now.

If you have any questions feel free to contact any of the D-Now team:

Jack -- Westview  
Jeff -- FBC Opp  
JT -- Southside Opp  
Shane -- Southside Andalusia  
Jason -- Babbie  
Garrett -- Carolina

## **FEBRUARY FOOD BANK DONORS**

Bethany, Red Oak, Buck Creek, Judson, Hopewell, Oak Grove, Sweet Home, Westview-Opp, West County Line, Adellum, Harmony, Mill Creek, Salem

### **Sanford extension**

The Sanford Extension class for this semester will be "Theology of the Holy Spirit", taught by Rev. Barry Wilkinson. Classes begin Thursday, February 6, 7:00-9:00 PM at the Covington Baptist Association Office, and continues on Thursday night for 12 weeks. The cost is \$10.00 registration, \$40.00 tuition, plus the book. Some scholarships are available and discounts for those 65 and older. For more information call the association office at 222-3009 or Ed Ganus at 222-4870.

### **HELP!**

In order to keep our newsletter in publication we desperately need your help. We need to publish all current events in your church, but can only do so if we receive that information. PLEASE furnish any church events to: covingtonbaptistnewsletter@ gmail.com or mail to: CBA, P.O. Box 416, Andalusia, AL 36420. Event dates MUST BE received no later than the 15th of the month PRIOR to the month event is to take place.

### **"M" DAY**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. We want to offer the ministerial students @ University of Mobile an opportunity to preach in our churches on that day in our churches' a.m. services only.

## **NEWS FROM CHURCHES**

### **BUCK CREEK**

The Buck Creek Baptist Church will be playing "The Bible" series on Sunday evenings, beginning at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The youth will be attending a concert entitled "The Road Show" at the Mitchell Center in Mobile on February 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the youth will attend D-Now at Opp High School on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **WESTVIEW**

#### *Fantastic February Nights*

*FEBRUARY 3rd*

*Jay Wolfe From Montgomery Speaking 7:00 pm*

*FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup>*

*Ted Traylor From Pensacola Speaking 7:00 pm*

*FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>*

*Ray Jones Speaking*

*Ridgecrest Baptist Choir Of Dothan Singing at 7:00 pm*

*FEBRUARY 24<sup>th</sup>*

*Craig Conner Of Panama City Speaking 7:00 pm*

### **LIBERTYHOME**

Liberty Home Baptist Church is searching for a pianist to be available Sunday a.m. and p.m. as well as Wednesday nights and Sunday afternoon choir practice.

For more information call 334.465.9220 or 334.465-9224.