

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

✠ COVINGTON BAPTIST ✠ ASSOCIATION NEWS

◆ **Office Manager**
Byram Lambert
(334)222-3009

18350 US Hwy 84 Andalusia AL 36421
Phone 222-3009

◆ **News Editor** – Ray Lambert
CONTACT

Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches Since 1856

covingtonbaptistnewsletter@gmail.com

MARCH 2014



CORBITT'S COMMENTS:

Like many people, my mother was proud of her hometown. What was unique about that was that she was born and raised in Phenix City and anyone with even a basic knowledge of Alabama history knows about the checked past of that town. Yet, none of that fazed my mom in the least. She loved her home town and she was a proud graduate of Central High School. You didn't say a bad word about Phenix City in front of my mom!

We had lived in P.C. (as we called it) when I was born, but I grew up in Columbus GA. My attitude toward Mom's home town was actually quite Biblical: I wondered if "any good thing could come out of" P.C. (see John 1:46). Though my arrogance did not extend to disrespecting my mom, I thought that P.C. was an unsophisticated backwater town that time had forgotten.

Years later I was called to pastor Crawford Baptist Church in Russell County and I discovered that P.C. was not what I had thought it was. The people were friendly, the city government was efficient and effective, the fellowship among pastors was strong, and in general, life was good there. I learned that I had held an unspiritual prejudice against the people of P.C.

Paul wrote about that kind of attitude in his letter to the Ephesians. He taught that Jesus had broken down the wall between the Jews and the Gentiles, and that there was only one faith, one Body, one Bride of Christ. Paul said that God had taken two men and through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross had created one new man. Paul made one of the strongest pleas for unity in the church that is found in the New Testament. It was the foundation on which the balance of Ephesians was based.

If our Association is to be a fellowship of churches who help each other to obey the Great Commandments and to fulfill the Great Commission, then we must overcome the fragmented culture of our county. We are all proud of where we live, but there is not one Jesus for Andalusia, and another for Opp. Red Level does not have one Spirit, and Florala another one. If we live in Pleasant Home or Lockhart or Babbie or Carolina or Gantt or Heath or any of the many other communities in our county, we must realize there is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, and one ministry. We need to overcome these biases to be able help each other reach a world that is lost and dying without Christ.

Every blessing,
Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The 2014 VBS theme is "Agency D-3" (Discover-Decide-Defend) I Peter 3:15. This Lifeway material offers a six-step outline this year. Whether you're the VBS Director or a class leader, VBS is easy this year. Follow six simple steps and you'll be on your way to filling the streets with special agents who are ready to share the truth about Jesus!

1. Know your Purpose and Theme.
2. Start Planning
3. Enlist and Train Workers
4. Promote and Publicize
5. Register Participants
6. Continue the Connection

This year we have changed our approach to two optional CBA-Walk Through Fairs. **You may choose, Sunday, March 16th from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. OR Sunday, April 6th from 3:00p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

ALL MATERIALS WILL BE SET UP AT COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OFFICE FOR YOU TO WALK THROUGH AND VIEW MATERIALS AND ASK ANY QUESTIONS.

We hope one of these dates will be appropriate for you to attend. **PLEASE NOTE: The clinic previously planned for Thursday, March 20th HAS BEEN CANCELLED!**

SENIOR ADULT REVIVAL

All Senior Adults mark your calendars for TUESDAY, May 6th at 10:15 a.m. for the Senior Adult Revival to be held at Babbie Baptist Church. Bro. Jamie Pruett from Gilliam Baptist Church will be our guest speaker and Bro. Wayne Goodwin will return for our music leader. He will have a 15 minute concert prior to the revival (10:15 – 10:30). Please plan to attend. Further information will be forthcoming.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 139
Andalusia, AL 36420

Covington Baptist Association
P.O. Box 416
Andalusia, AL 36420

Town Hall Meeting and Strategy Review Process

Dear Colleagues;

Hello again from the Covington Baptist Association!

We are making great progress in reviewing our ministry strategy, but we still want to get your input! Don't forget our next Town Hall Meeting will be at 6:30pm on February 24th at Liberty Home Baptist Church.

In the meantime, here are a couple of our working documents for your consideration: <http://ow.ly/tvTDF>

Every blessing,
Otis H. Corbitt, III

1. DISTRICT SIX DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING:

March 20th-22nd we will host a Disaster Relief training school for District Six @ Westview Baptist Church. Training will be provided for Chaplains (3 day course), the Feeding Unit (1.5 day course) and Clean-up/Recovery/Chainsaw (1.5 day course). Register through www.sbdr.org.

2. SUMMER MISSION TRIPS TO OSCODA, MICHIGAN AND BROOKLYN, NEW YORK:

FBC Andalusia will be conducting these trips this summer and they welcome others to join them. Anyone who is interested in participate should attend an interest/orientation meeting at FBC Andalusia on the following dates:

Oscoda, Michigan:
Sunday February 9th and Wednesday February 19th

Brooklyn, New York:
Sunday February 23rd and Wednesday February 26th

All meetings will be at 7:00pm in the conference room at FBC.

CROSSOVER MINISTRY TO HOLD APPRECIATION BANQUET APRIL 22

Crossover Ministries will hold its 10th Annual Appreciation Banquet on Tuesday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the Opp First Baptist Church Fellowship Center.

The banquet will feature special music, an update on the ministry, and a message from Phil Waldrep, an evangelist since 1975 who has lead 1000+ revivals. Phil Waldrep is also the founder of the Annual Gridiron Men's Conference.

Seating is limited. Tickets will be \$10 per person. For ticket information, call Crossover Ministries at 493-1030.

Individuals and businesses who would like to be a banquet sponsor can contact the Crossover Ministry. Sponsor names will be listed in the banquet program, which will be printed the week before the banquet.

The mission of Crossover Ministry is to provide a Christian recovery solution for substance abuse and addiction through the use of education, work, counseling, partnering with churches and the knowledge of Jesus Christ; that will help people rebuild their lives and their communities.

Crossover Ministry opened its doors in January 2005 and it is located on Highway 52 East of Opp.

MARCH FOOD BANK DONORS

Blue Springs, Carolina, Northside, Enon, FBC Florala, Mt. Pisgah, West Highland, Oakey Ridge, Searight, Northern Heights, FBC- Andalusia, FBC- Opp, Zion Hill

SAMFORD EXTENSION

The Samford 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.

"M" DAY

March 2nd. 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. Contact Marty Holley, CBA, at 222-3009.

NEWS FROM CHURCHES

VICTORY

Victory Baptist Church would love to invite everyone to our Homecoming on March 2nd, 2014. Bro. Walter Brewer will be doing the service and Judd Holderfield will be leading the song service. We will begin at 10:30. We encourage everyone to come and celebrate with us and enjoy the meal to be served following the service.

BUCK CREEK

The Buck Creek Baptist Church will host revival services Sunday, February 23rd through Wednesday February 26th, with Bro. Wayne Sharpe bringing the message. Special music will be provided each night. Sunday services will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday services will be held at 7:00 p.m.

EAST HIGHLAND

The WMU ladies from East Highland Baptist Church gathered Saturday morning, Feb. 1, 2014 to make "stone soup" also known as homemade vegetable soup to be distributed to patients of Comfort Care Hospice. The ladies each brought a different ingredient for the soup and the result was a LARGE pot of soup. The soup was distributed by Comfort Care nurses along with crackers and pound cake.

MOBLEY CREEK

Mobley Creek Baptist Church, located on Brooklyn Road, will be in revival March 2 – 5, 2014. Sunday services will be held at 11:00 am and 6:00 pm with evening services on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday beginning at 6:30 p.m. Guest evangelist will be Bro. Barry Wilkinson of Hopewell Baptist Church. Jason Gunter, Bethany Baptist Church, will be leading the music. There will be special music each service. Everyone is invited to attend. Point of contact for further information is, Rev. Terry Powell at 222-9896 or Bro. Randy Kelley at 222-7822.