

◆ Director of Missions
Rev. Otis Corbitt

✚ COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWS

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Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches Since 1856

MARCH 2015

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CORBITT'S COMMENTS:

Corbitt's Comments for March:

Understanding and living by *Core Values* is an essential element in an intentional ministry strategy. Last month discussed *Appreciation*. We appreciate our churches, our pastors and ministers, our volunteers, our staff, and, course, our God (1 Chron 16:8 & 1 Thess 5:12-1). This month I want to turn our attention to the *Core Value* of *Community*. I believe this is a critical but also a very difficult *Core Value* for our Association.

Covington County is both very large and very diverse. Even though we are not very diverse racially, we are very diverse in terms of the number of cities, towns, and schools with which we identify. The Yellow River has become a symbol for the gap between Opp and Andalusia, and the Conecuh National Forest and miles and miles of highway separate Florala from both of them. We also must not forget Pleasant Home and Red Level and Rose Hill (where I live) and literally dozens of other places in the county that people are proud to call home. Yes, we are diverse and we are, in truth, far from united.

This should not be the case in Christ, however. Jesus declared in Mark 3:35, "For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother." Paul went on to comment in Ephesians 4:4-6, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." We should be becoming one in Christ!

I was recently reminded of a principle from geometry that explains how this can happen very naturally. If two people begin walking toward the same place on the map, they will naturally begin to grow closer to each other, no matter how far apart they were when they began their separate journeys. If we are individually growing closer to Christ, we will also be growing closer to one another. As we grow closer spiritually, then what divides us geographically and socially will become less and less important so that we can become a true fellowship of churches that help each other obey the Great Commandments and fulfill the Great Commission.

Let us purpose to grow closer to Christ and also in Christ! Let a spirit of *Community* begin to reign in our midst!

Every blessing,

Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

Covington Baptist Association VBS Training Clinic

Date; Thursday, March 26, 2015

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Place: Harmony Baptist Church

Schedule for the Training –

6:00 – 6:15 p.m. Worship Rally music

6:15- 7:15 p.m. Bible Study Rotation

7:15- 7:45 p.m. Missions/Crafts

Elder Care Ministry of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama

The Elder Care Ministry of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama is a unique ministry of the foundation that helps elderly people with everyday life issues. Members of an Alabama Baptist church who establish a trust with the Baptist Foundation of Alabama equal to 10% of their estate are eligible to participate. The Elder Care Ministry can then help a senior with paying their bills, arranging transportation to doctor's offices, and managing their other business affairs.

Tom Randall, the Vice President of the Foundation who leads the Elder Care Ministry, has about 100 clients, but there are about 50 that he considers "critical care" clients. He explains that, "Many of our clients of various reasons make us power of attorney and healthcare proxy, some of them have no close relatives that live near them or even at all, others have children that might live far away. These are the people that I have a lot of hands-on things with like transport them to their physicians, manage the paying of their bills, balancing their checking account and all of the things that normally fall on family."

For more information on the Elder Care Ministry of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama contact Vice President of Development Randy Driggers at 334-394-2000.

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

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

ASSOCIATION NEWS

UNITED D-NOW 2015

The United team would like to let you know the time is NOW to register for D-NOW 2015.

The theme is "Unashamed" and we will focus on equipping our students to be Unashamed of their faith, UNashamed in sharing their faith, and UNashamed in living their faith!

MARCH 6-7, 2015 - Andalusia HS Auditorium

You can sign up by e-mailing:

carrot_3102@hotmail.com

or by calling any of the D-Now Team!

Garret - Carolina BC	222-1922
Eric - FBC Andalusia	222-5152
Jack - Westview-Opp	493-6467
Chris - FBC Opp	493-3235
Jason - Babbie	303-9870
Jonathon- S.Side-Opp	493-6340

The cost is \$30.00 as always and will cover:
T-Shirt, Lunch & Dinner on Saturday.

"DIVORCE CARE" - Spring 2015

13 Week Support Group – Open To Anyone That is Separated or Has Been Through Divorce.

Tuesday Evenings 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

02/10/15 – 04/14/15

@ Covington Baptist Association

Contact: 222-3009

or mholley@covingtonbaptist.org

URGENT

The US Postal Service has advised they will return mail that is not properly addressed. Please use the following when sending us correspondence:

IF USING P. O. Box 416 USE 36420

IF USING STREET ADDRESS: USE 36421

ATTENTION: CHURCH CLERKS/PASTORS

Association Annuals are now ready for pickup at Association office. Each church is authorized two. The annual will afford Church Clerks the names, addresses, and phone number of other Church Clerks when needed to request letters, etc. You will also find churches, pastors, and other church positions listed with addresses and phone numbers. The annual is a very important tool. Please pick yours up as soon as possible.

Byram Lambert – Office Manager

[334-222-3009](tel:334-222-3009)

MARCH FOOD BANK DONORS

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

ASSOCIATION NEWS (Cont.)

State RA Leader Training

March 21, 2015

First Baptist, Pinson

Save the date for this years State RA Leader Training!
Subjects to be covered include:

Royal Ambassador materials, resources and methods.

What do we use and how?

Royal Ambassador Advancement – resources and "how to". National plan (TREK) and Alabama plan (Advancement for All Ages)

Interest Activities. Camp Outs/Pinewood

Derby/Soapbox Derby/Camp craft/RA CONGRESS/
Crafts/Basketball

A weekly lesson – what do I do. How do I handle tough situations? How to reach and keep.

There is no cost for this event. Registration is not required.

Event is from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

POC: **Steve Stephens 334-613-2268**

RA Congress

March 27–28, 2015

Camp Hobbs Boy Scout Camp, Prattville

Save the Date for this years RA Congress!

RA Congress includes camping, missions' emphasis, RA Mission Fair displays, a state pinewood derby (\$1 entry per car), and over twenty field events including archery, air rifles, tomahawk, sling shot, sprints, relays, log saw, rope climb, horse shoes, soccer kick, blow darts, missions, farm games, frisbee, hammer, football and baseball throws.

- Registration is \$5.00/person (Camp Hobbs usage fee).
- Camping fee is an additional \$2.00/person or cabins are \$5.00/person (limited number of cabin beds).
- Meals are \$4.00 for full breakfast and \$4.00 for a hotdog lunch with all the extras.
- Meal and cabin reservations must be mailed in prior to Congress. Use fee and camping fee is paid upon arrival.

RA Congress begins Friday after 5:00 p.m. and concludes Saturday after 1:30 p.m.

POC: **Steve Stephens 334-613-2268**

NEWS FROM CHURCHES

BUCKCREEK

The Buck Creek Baptist Church enjoyed a Valentine's Banquet, hosted by the youth, in appreciation for the church's support throughout the year.