

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

✚ **COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWS**

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Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches Since 1856

JUNE 2014

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CORBITT'S COMMENTS:

Corbitt's Comments for June, 2014

As I am sure you are aware, your associational leadership is currently in the process of revising our collective ministry strategy to address the challenges of the next 5 to 10 years. We are making good progress with the help of input from our church leaders, our State Board of Missions, and our colleagues from other Baptist associations in Alabama. We have gotten close to a solution on our Mission, our Vision, and our Core Values. We are also close to deciding on the key emphases for our future ministry together. I am confident we will be able to present our new strategy document to the July Executive Committee for approval. We are not finished, yet, but we are getting closer, much closer!

I want you to note, however, that I called it "OUR COLLECTIVE MINISTRY" and "OUR FUTURE MINISTRY TOGETHER." A local Baptist association of churches does not replace the local church. Local church autonomy is a bedrock Baptist doctrine and one that I believe in intensely. No! The association is not a church, but it is an EXTENSION of local church ministry. As far back as 1707, Baptist churches in America realized that they could accomplish more by partnering with each other than they could by pursuing ministry solely on their own. Indeed, our own association's constitution and by-laws state that the purpose of the CBA is to help its member churches advance the Gospel. I intensely believe in that principle also.

Here's the rub: too often I hear folks in our churches speaking of the CBA as some other organization that is different in some way from our local churches. The truth is this: without the churches there would be no association. There would be no mission scholarship program. There would be no Christian Service Centers. The association is the COLLECTIVE EXPRESSION of the ministry of the local churches. Associations live and die based on the will of the local churches to take an active part in MINISTRY TOGETHER. That's why the leadership of your association conducted an on-line survey and held town hall meetings to hear from our churches about our future ministry. We are not separate from you, WE ARE YOU!

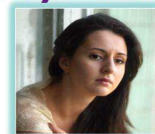
Dr. Rick Lance, the Executive Director/Treasurer of the Alabama Baptist State Convention recently said that our cooperation is what makes us different from "generic evangelicals." Being a Southern Baptist means something. It means we voluntarily cooperate together to take the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the world.

My vision for the CBA is to become a fellowship of churches who help each other obey the Great Commandments and fulfill the Great Commission. My prayer is that in the CBA there will be no "us vs. them." I see only "we, together!"

Every blessing,
Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Journey to Freedom



**After Abortion Ministry Training Workshop
for
Pastors / Counselors & Lay Ministry Leaders**

September 30, 2014

**Covington Baptist Association
Andalusia, AL**



SECURITY TRAINING

SATURDAY JUNE 7TH

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Southside Baptist, Andalusia

This is the most basic security training for the missions volunteer who travels occasionally to low risk areas on mission trips.

Participants will receive a full day of instruction led by Sentinel Trainers certified by Fort Sherman Academy covering topics like: travel security, code of conduct, crime survival and basic crisis policy all from a faith-based perspective.

This training is highly recommended for all churches taking mission trips and **required** for churches who participate in State Board of Missions projects

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

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

NEWS FROM CHURCHES (Cont)

JUNE FOOD BANK DONORS

Brooks, East Highland, New Hope, Pigeon Creek, Fairmount, Beda, Blue Springs, Carolina, Northside, Enon, FBC, Florala, FBC-Andalusia, FBC-Opp, Zion Hill

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Covington Baptist Association held it's 9th Senior Adult Revival May 6, 2014 at Babbie Baptist Church.

Special music was presented by Mr. Wayne Goodwin of Hueytown, Alabama and worship was led by Rev. Jamey Pruett of Arab, Alabama. Some 300 attended the services and enjoyed a delicious meal afterwards. The Association thanks Babbie Church members for their hard work in serving the meals and hosting the revival.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ASSISTANCE

If your church could use some additional help with your VBS this summer Carla Mooney would be delighted to come and help. Contact her at: Carla_mooney@hotmail.com or 343-0636

NEWS FROM CHURCHES

EAST HIGHLAND

East Highland Baptist Church of Andalusia had missionary Matthew Michalke of "Designs for Hope" as guest speaker, April 27, 2014. "Design for Hope" is a faith based Ministry that meets the practical needs of the mission fields. They supply bicycles for transportation, bicycle generators to charge Cell phones and electric lights to host a Bible study or run a business, solar powered generators and water purifiers for clean drinking water.

Their mission emphasis is not in preaching or teaching but giving the tools to preachers and teachers to carry the gospel. They provide bicycles for transportation to the native missionaries so they can Carry the gospel. Bicycle generators can generate enough power to light a room for 18 hours or Charge 9 cell phones. The water purifiers called "Miracle Buckets" that can turn muddy contaminated Water instantly into clear, clean drinking water. 1/9 of the world lack clean water and 1/4 lack electricity.

\$100 buys a bicycle , \$150 a bicycle generator or a solar generator and \$75 a water filtration kit. At the present time they are ministering in India, some areas of Africa and South America. East Highland's Men's ministry has adopted this ministry as a project. For information You can contact them at designsforhope.org or contact Hank Roberts at 222-8726

FBC FLORALA

The First Baptist Church of Florala will have VBS, June 8th – 12th, 6-8 pm nightly, all children are invited

BUCK CREEK

A Youth revival was held at Greentree Christian Fellowship Friday, May 16th. Bro. Tyler Ingram, (Pastor of Buck Creek) brought the message. Food was served at 6 pm and Praise & Worship began at 7 pm. Buck Creek Baptist Church recognized its seniors with a graduation party on May 18th at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.

CONECUH RIVER

CONECUH BAPTIST CHURCH will have their revival June 2 – June 6, 2014 Homecoming is June 1st. starting at 11:00 A.M.

Revival - June 2 -6 @ 7 p.m. each night

Monday night - Brother Dennis Knowles

Tuesday night - Brother Ashley Mckathan

Wednesday night - Brother Derwood Cleland,

Thursday & Friday night - Brother Russell Thrift from Equality Alabama

Services start each night @ 7:00 P.M.

Russell Thrift leading music.

VBS Dates: June 16-20, 6-8 p.m

Oakey Ridge

Oakey Ridge Baptist Church, 20680 Lindsey Bridge Road, Andalusia, AL is proudly sponsoring the Southern Gospel Group " Chuck Wagon Gang" on May 31, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Everyone has a special invitation to come. There will be no admission charge but a Love Offering will be taken. Please mark your calendars, ask a friend to come with you and plan to enjoy some of the best gospel music ever!!

For more information, please contact Dianne Foshee at 334-222-6245 or 334-427-6065.

MT. PISGAH

Mt Pisgah BC will conduct their Vacation Bible School June 7th from 8 AM to 4 PM (One day).

ADELLUM BAPTIST CHURCH

VBS will be held June 8-12, 2014 at 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Children 4 years thru 6th grade will be using Agency D-3 (Discover, Decide, Defend)

Directors: Mrs. Charlotte Morgan and Mrs. Teresa Holloway. All children are invited.

WEST HIGHLAND

West Highland Baptist Church will celebrate their 74th Homecoming on Sunday, June 1, 2014 with Rev. Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions, leading the worship service at 10:30 a.m. with fellowship meal served at 12:00 noon. Rev. Larry Stewart is Pastor.

CAROLINA

Weird Animals VBS – June 2-6, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Youth going to Global Youth Camp in Chatsworth, GA - June 16-20

FIRST BAPTIST ANDALUSIA

COVINGTON LEADER SUMMIT

For Sunday School and Discipleship Training

First Baptist – Andalusia – August 9, 2014

8:30 – 12:00