

Covington Baptist Association
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2014 MINISTRY STRATEGY

GENERAL

Covington Baptist Association is an autonomous and voluntary association of Southern Baptist Churches in Covington County Alabama. The Association ministers in friendly cooperation with other local Southern Baptist associations, the Alabama Baptist State Convention and its entities, and the Southern Baptist Convention and its entities.

MISSION, MAJOR MINISTRIES, AND VISION

Covington Baptist Association exists to assist member churches to work cooperatively to advance the Christian faith through the ministries of:

Church and Minister Equipping and Encouragement

Community Missions

Global Missions

Mission Support

In order to become a fellowship of churches that help each other obey the Great Commandments and fulfill the Great Commission.

CORE VALUES

The collective ministry of the churches of the Association is guided and informed by the following Core Values:

APPRECIATION

Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! (1 Chronicles 16:8)

And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves. (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)

COMMUNITY

For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother. (Mark 3:35)

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. (Ephesians 4:4-6)

COMPASSION

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. (Matthew 9:36)

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering . . . (Colossians 3:12)

HERITAGE

For You, O God, have heard my vows; You have given me the heritage of those who fear Your name. (Psalm 61:5)

And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. (Luke 1:50)

INFLUENCE

You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:13-16)

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. (Galatians 6:9-10)

RELATIONSHIPS

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. (John 13:14)

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

STEWARDSHIP

Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. (1 Corinthians 4:2)

But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—*see* that you abound in this grace also. (2 Corinthians 8:7)

He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. (Luke 16:10)

TRUTH

But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. (2 Corinthians 4:2)

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. (John 16:13)

MAJOR MINISTRIES

CHURCH AND MINISTER EQUIPPING AND ENCOURAGEMENT

1. Conduct equipping events for church leaders to help strengthen the ministry of their churches. (e.g. Sunday School, Discipleship, VBS, Samford Ministry Training Inst, etc.)
2. Conduct family ministry events to encourage and equip church members. (e.g. United DNow, men/women's ministry, parenting, marriage, Sr Adult Revival, etc.)
3. Conduct a ministry of encouragement to pastors and other ministers. (e.g. Ministers' Conference, study groups, Christmas Banquet, etc.)
4. Use multiple means of communication to inform, encourage, and equip churches and ministers. (e.g. newsletter, website, social media, email, letters, podcast, etc.)

COMMUNITY MISSIONS

1. Conduct a county-wide benevolence ministry to help member churches obey Christ's command to love our neighbor as ourselves. (e.g. food distribution, referrals for household items, etc.)
2. Collaborate with compatible community development organizations to help member churches to be salt and light in our communities. (e.g. Crossover, AA, Sav-A-Life, Children's Policy Council, DHR, hospice ministerial associations, etc.)

3. Conduct a ministry of community outreach to help member churches take the Gospel ministry to those outside our churches. (e.g. chaplaincy, community education classes, collegiate ministry, counseling ministry evangelistic events, etc.)
4. Conduct a Disaster Relief Ministry to help member churches give a cold cup of water in Jesus name during a local crisis. (e.g. laundry trailer, chain saw team, etc.)

GLOBAL MISSIONS

1. Conduct a ministry of mission education to motivate and equip churches to be on mission with God. (e.g. WMU, mission conference, Sentinel Training, etc.)
2. Conduct a ministry of mission involvement to help member churches fulfill the Great Commission. (e.g. mission scholarships, mission projects, etc.)
3. Conduct a Disaster Relief Ministry to help member churches give a cold cup of water in Jesus name during a state, national, or international crisis. (e.g. laundry trailer, chain saw team, etc.)

MISSION SUPPORT

1. Effectively govern the Association in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws and Core Values in order to be good stewards of the collective ministry entrusted to the Association. (e.g. Officers, Board of Directors, EXCOM, Annual Meeting, etc.)
2. Effectively manage the operations of the Christian Service Centers to provide a platform for community missions and to provide funding for ministry endeavors. (e.g. internal controls, maintenance, staffing, security, etc.)
3. Exercise effective stewardship over the physical, fiscal, and personnel assets of the Association in order to sustain the collective ministry of the Association. (e.g. budgeting, accounting, maintenance, personnel policy, operating manual, etc.)
4. Mobilize and equip volunteers to operate the collective ministry of the Association. (e.g. CSC volunteers, committee members, program leaders, etc.)
5. Optimize the annual returns from funds held in trust by the Baptist Foundation of Alabama to provide additional funds for ministry for many years to come. (e.g. to fund mission projects, benevolence, equipping events, etc.)