



# COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWS For August 2024

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<b>Director of Missions</b> Dr. Otis Corbitt
<b>Community Ministry Director</b> Katie Cooper
<b>Office Manager</b> Wayne Linton

## Corbitt's Comments

Dear Friends,

Was your church represented at the July Executive Committee Meeting? If not, you missed out on hearing about this news firsthand:

To: Mr. Barry Bonds, Moderator  
From: Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

*For the past twelve years it has been my honor to serve as the Director of Missions, Covington Baptist Association and Chief Executive Officer, Christian Service Center of Covington County. Over these years we have seen many developments in our ministries, not the least of which was the time of transition we have experienced in 2024 after the retirements of our long-time staffers, Leroy Cole and Byram Lambert.*

*We have recovered well from the loss of their combined 43 years of ministry experience; Wayne Linton and Katie Cooper have shown themselves to be worthy successors to Byram and Leroy. I am confident that the business affairs of this complex ministry enterprise are in good hands with Wayne. Katie has quickly developed into a highly competent and visionary leader of our compassion ministries. I consider that the transition period from Byram and Leroy to Wayne and Katie has come to a very successful conclusion. The time has come, however, for an additional period of transition.*

*I believe that in 2012 I was called to serve the Covington Baptist Association and Christian Service Center of Covington County because I had the skills and traits needed by them at that time to help them to move forward in ministry. The context of our collective ministry has changed since then, particularly in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, and I no longer believe that my skills and traits are a good match for the ministry needs of the Association and the Service Center going forward. Times have changed, churches have changed, and requirements have changed. I believe it would be poor stewardship to try to continue to apply the skills and traits of the past to the future ministry efforts of the Covington Baptist Association and Christian Service Center.*

*Therefore, I am giving notice of my intent to retire as the Director of Missions, Covington Baptist Association and Chief Executive Officer, Christian Service Center of Covington County not later than December 31, 2024. I am leaving open the possibility that God may call me to a different ministry position before that date; if so, I will endeavor to give as much notice as possible to you as our Moderator and the representative of both the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.*

*The Covington Baptist Association and Christian Service Center of Covington County will always have a special place in my heart and in my prayers. May God guide your search for your next Director of Missions!*

Please be sure that your church is represented at our Annual Meeting at 6pm on October 17<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Home Baptist Church when you will elect a search committee to find your next DOM.

Every blessing,

Otis Corbitt  
Director of Missions and CEO of the Christian Service Center of Covington County

## Churches Without Pastors

Pray for these CBA churches are currently without permanently called pastors: Beulah, East Highland, Enon, Fairmount, Lockhart, Salem, Smyrna, Victory, and Westview

## August Food Donation List

Hopewell, Oak Grove, Sweet Home, Westview, Bethany, Red Oak, Buck Creek, Judson, FBC-Gantt, Liberty Home, Lockhart, Sweet Water, River Falls

## Hopewell Homecoming

Hopewell Baptist Church will be celebrating homecoming on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Bro. Herbert Brown, pastor of Southside Baptist Church, Greenville, will be our guest speaker. Sunday School will be at 10:00 and worship at 11:00. There will be a covered dish lunch afterwards.

## Oakey Ridge Homecoming

Oakey Ridge will celebrate its 94<sup>th</sup> Homecoming on August 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am with lunch to follow. The featured speaker will be Brother Wayne Sharpe. You are welcome to come and experience the love of Jesus!



**HOMECOMING  
@ SOUTHSIDE**  
Sunday, August 18

**SPECIAL GUESTS**  
Shane, Anna, and Dylan Newton  
(preacher) (music)

"Dinner on Grounds" to follow in FLC Church will provide meat & drinks. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

## Annual Church Profiles

ACP's have been mailed to all our church clerks. Please submit them by September 15<sup>th</sup> so we can celebrate what God is doing in our churches!

## Praying For Each Other In 2024

Please join us in praying for a different member church each week: Aug 4: Zion Hill, Aug 11: Harmony, Aug 18: Babbie, Aug 25: Oakey Ridge