

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

✝ COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWS ✝

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Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches Since 1856
DECEMBER 2020

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CORBITT'S COMMENTS

Corbitt's Comments for December 2020

With 2020 being as difficult year as it has been, I am sure we are all looking forward to the New Year. Truth be told, however, as the current year winds down, we probably don't have any greater clarity about what 2021 will bring. What I do know is that God's Great Commission to go and make disciples and to be His witnesses in the world has not been suspended. I also know that our churches are doing well at conducting their ministries while limiting people's exposure to COVID-19. With these factors in mind, let me describe what our Associational ministry will be like during the next few months.

First, we will be offering our ministers and their wives a much-needed opportunity for fellowship with our Annual Christmas Banquet on December 7th. The stress of ministry during the pandemic cannot be underestimated and we want to encourage our pastors and other church ministers. I am grateful for Southside Baptist Church, Andalusia for hosting us and providing the meal, and I am looking forward to enjoying music from Flint and Christine Harrelson and the message by Dr. Ric Camp.

Next, in January we will be celebrating our call to missions through an Association-wide Missions Conference over the weekend of January 23-25. We are recruiting international and state missionaries, church planters, and chaplains to speak in our churches on Sunday, January 24th, and we will be hosting a missions fair on that Sunday afternoon as well. We all need to recharge our missions efforts and I pray that our missions conference will be a sparkplug for that in 2021.

In February, we are still planning to conduct our United Youth Conference. We are not yet sure how we will offer this opportunity to the youth and parents of our county, but our youth pastors are praying and planning even as I write this.

Finally, we have begun the renovations on the Andalusia Christian Service Center which will allow us to support our food distribution ministry better as well as to provide space for additional community ministries. I am particularly excited that Shirley Smith and Judy Phillips are following God's leadership to establish a Christian Women's Job Corps. This has the potential to have a tremendously positive impact in our county. Please pray for them and the founding of this ministry.

When confronted with a crisis, human tendency is to either fight, flee, or freeze. I propose that we do none of the above, but instead continue to serve our God resolutely, judiciously, and faithfully. Pray with us that we can ministry together wisely and with joy.

Every blessing, Director of Missions Otis Corbitt

ASSOCIATIONAL NEWS

The Baptist Faith and Message
In the year 2000, the SBC adopted a revised statement of faith. This is what the BF&M 2000 says about Evangelism and Missions:

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

The entire Baptist Faith and Message can be downloaded from:
<https://bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000>

It's almost time for our Christmas

Banquet!

You are cordially invited to attend Covington Baptist Association's Annual Christmas Dinner for Ministers and Spouses to be held at Southside Baptist Church, 1213 Western Bypass, Andalusia, AL 36420, on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Dress: Christmas/Casual
Speaker: Dr. Ric Camp,
Pastor of Ridgecrest Baptist Church,
Trussville, AL
Music: Flint and Christine Harrelson

We will observe social distancing. For catering purposes, please call our office at 222-3009 to confirm your reservation NO LATER THAN December 1, 2020 or click here for an RSVP on-line form: [On-Line RSVP Form](#)

Every blessing, Otis Corbitt

Praying for Each Other in 2020

In Paul's teaching about the gifts of the Holy Spirit in Ephesians 6, he told us we should be "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints, . . ." In 2020, I'd like you to join me in praying for a different one of our churches each week. Every blessing, Otis Corbitt, Director of Missions

DECEMBER 2020

December 6: West Highland
December 13: Westside
December 20: Westview
December 27: Zion Hill

DECEMBER FOOD BANK DONORS

FBC- Andalusia, Zion Hill FBC- Opp, Mt. Pisgah, West Highland, Oakey Ridge, Northern Heights, Brooks, East Highland, New Hope, Pigeon Creek, Fairmount, Beda

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following churches who are without pastors:

Brooks Baptist Church
Enon Baptist Church
FBC, Opp
Lockhart
Moble Creek
Southside – Opp
Victory