

# ✠ COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWS ✠

18350 US Hwy 84 Andalusia AL 36421  
Phone 222-3009  
Proclaiming Jesus, Serving Churches Since 1856  
**AUGUST 2021**

## CORBITT'S COMMENTS

Corbitt's Comments for August 2021

My comments with month are a continuation of a theme that our churches, by and large, are rebuilding their ministries in the aftermath of COVID-19. I have recommended that our churches consider a list of Characteristics of a Healthy Church that the International Mission Board uses to help new churches become mature on the mission field. We could benefit from reflecting on these principles, and we will continue reviewing the in these pages in the months to come.

Last month, we looked at the first four characteristics taught by the IMB: Biblical Evangelism, Biblical Discipleship, Biblical Membership, and Biblical Leadership. Let's look at four more characteristics of a healthy church this month:

**Biblical Preaching and Teaching:** Baptists are known as "people of the Word" and rightfully so. The Scriptures are our guide for knowing God and for knowing His will and way. As you will have noticed, all of these characteristics of a healthy church are preceded by the word "Biblical" and that implies that we teach and preach God's Word faithfully so we can know both His standards and His heart.

**Biblical Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper:** Some of the few direct commands of Jesus in the Bible include these church ordinances. In fact, these elements of worship were ordained by Christ! They are key elements of a church's worship, and the right and privilege of celebrating them has been given to the church. Churches must be good stewards and practitioners of these so that they retain their meaning and their power of proclamation.

**Biblical Worship:** Although creation itself is a praise unto God, our Creator wants to hear the praises of His people. Worship is an act, and attitude, and a way of life for the church and all churches should strive to worship God well in accordance with the Word. If a church is growing, and it is impacting its community, but it doesn't worship well, then like 1 Corinthians 13 says about a person without love, it becomes a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal"

**Biblical Fellowship:** The Bible tells us that, even from the time of the Creation, it is not good for people to be alone. Humankind was made for fellowship, both with God and with each other. Churches should be a place of mutual care and encouragement for its members and those whom they love.

How do our churches measure up in these areas? Now is the time to make improvements!

Every blessing, Director of Missions Otis Corbitt

## ASSOCIATIONAL NEWS

### IT'S BACK

Comfort Care Hospice will restart its Grief Support Group every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month starting AUGUST 10, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Covington Baptist Association Office located at 18350 U.S. Highway 84 (Sanford), Andalusia, AL. No appointments are necessary, but questions may be directed to: Jay Beauford at 334-427-4000.

**This group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one and feel they could benefit from peer support. It is not solely for families that shared their loved ones with Comfort Care Hospice. Please spread the word to anyone you feel might find this group to be of value to their life.**

## VBS REPORTS

A reminder that VBS Reports are due within one week after completion of VBS. We have received very few reports as of this date. Forms were mailed to each church June 1, 2021. If you DID NOT have VBS please mark your form NO VBS and return. If you did conduct VBS please complete form and return as soon as possible so we may get these input in all systems. Questions? Please call Byram Lambert at the Association Office @ 222-3009.

## CHURCH PROFILES

The annual church letters (ACP's-Profiles) will be mailed to each church clerk during the last week of July. Churches are reminded the church year ends August 31, 2021 and reports **MUST BE** completed and returned to the Association no later than **October 1, 2021!** Please remember to elect your church messengers to the annual meeting during your business meeting in September so you will be able to forward this information on your church profile. This will give us time to consolidate and publish the list of messengers for the annual meeting on October 21, 2021 at Buck Creek Baptist Church at 5:00 p.m. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Questions? Please call Byram Lambert at 222-3009.

## ASSOCIATIONAL NEWS

Westview Baptist Church in Opp, Alabama is excited and honored to host our 3<sup>rd</sup> Man Church Main Event on August 13, 2021.

Westview would like to cordially invite all the men of not only our community, but all surrounding communities, to join us at 6:30 pm at our main campus, 1404 North Main Street, Opp, Alabama, as we welcome our guest speaker Mr. Rich Wingo. Rich is married to his wife of 41 years, Cheri, and is the father of two sons, Jake and Luke, who have their own families.

Rich is collectively an accomplished college & professional football player, successful business man & developer, and a current Representative for the Tuscaloosa District in Congress.

Rich is perhaps best known for being a part of several championship teams at The University of Alabama from 1974-1978 and playing for legendary Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. Rich makes his way around the nation, expressing his strong spiritual convictions and speaking about his daily journey with the Lord Jesus.

Please join men of our communities and our special guest, Rich Wingo, for a grand night of worship and celebration of our Lord Jesus Christ, Friday, August 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm at Westview Baptist Church in Opp Alabama. Please visit our website for more information, [www.westviewbaptist.com](http://www.westviewbaptist.com)

Thank you in advance,

The Westview Baptist Church Staff

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

### HOPEWELL

Hopewell Baptist Church will be celebrating homecoming on August 15th at 11:00 A.M. John McMath will be our guest speaker for that day. There will be lunch served afterwards.

### SOUTHSIDE ANDALUSIA

Southside Baptist Church, Andalusia will celebrate Homecoming August 8, at 10:00 AM with guest speaker Donald Rudd. Lunch will be served afterwards.