

CORBITT'S COMMENTS

Corbitt's Comments for July 2022

A recent report commissioned by the Executive Committee of the SBC as required by the messengers of the 2021 meeting has found that it has not done enough to provide such vital information to churches. Our churches must be safe places for all people of all ages, and it goes without saying that a church leader who abuses anyone deserves to be punished. Jesus Himself said in Matthew 18, "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea." I fully expect that our denomination will act to improve the assistance that it can provide to local churches to protect their members from abusive leaders.

Any action by the SBC, however welcome as it might be, is not enough, because the headquarters of the SBC is the local church. As your Director of Missions, I want to urge each of our churches to review their policies and procedures for examining, ordaining, and calling ministers. I also urge you to do the same for your ministry volunteers and teachers as well. Any failure in these areas has the potential to cause unimaginable spiritual, emotional, and psychological impacts on the members of our congregations. Let me encourage you to seriously consider taking advantage of the following resources:

- Ask your Association or the Alabama Baptist Convention to train your pastor or staff member search committee. We fully support your responsibility under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to call God's pastor for your church. We just want to help you understand that process better.
- Be rigorous in your examination of potential leaders and ministers. Conduct an extensive review of references and require a background check of ministers and anyone who will work with children and youth. See this webpage for more tips: <http://www.alsbom.org/safe>
- Take advantage of the resources offered by the Ministry Safe organization through the Alabama Baptist Convention: www.alsbom.org/ministrysafe My wife and I attended a Ministry Safe briefing recently and it was an eye-opening experience.
- Review how Dr. Rick Lance, the Executive Director of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, has responded to the recommendations of this report here: <https://ricklance.com/alabama-baptist-leaders-respond/>

Please know that your Association and your State Convention stand ready to help you negotiate these waters. We respect and honor your autonomy, but, as friends of your church, we urge you to take these precautions seriously. Please let me know how I can help and if I can answer any of your questions!

Every blessing, Director of Missions Otis Corbitt

ASSOCIATIONAL NEWS

Praying for Each Other in 2022

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 2022, join us in praying for a different member church each week.

JULY

July 3: Conecuh River
July 10: Mobley Creek
July 17: Salem
July 24: River Falls
July 31: Zion Hill



JULY FOOD BANK DONORS

Babbie, Beulah, Cedar Grove, Rawls, Pleasant Home, Southside-Andy, Damascus, Southside-Opp, Damascus, Conecuh River, Pleasant Grove, Victory, Mt. Gilead, Mobley Creek



SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following churches who are without pastors:

Brooks	Oakey Ridge
Victory	Floral FBC
Southside Andy	Adellum
Lockhart	Enon
Sweet Home	Pigeon Creek
Smyrna	

Oakey Ridge Baptist Church

20680 Lindsey Bridge Road
Andalusia, AL 36420
WILL CELEBRATE
92nd HOMECOMING
SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022
At 10:00 A.M.

With
LUNCH TO FOLLOW
SPEAKER: CORY STEWART
SPECIAL MUSIC: TEN MILE
BRANCH

We invite you and your family to come experience the love of Jesus!

COVINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION'S

15TH SENIOR ADULT REVIVAL WILL BE HELD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022
AT 10:00 A.M.

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
1213 BYPASS WEST

ANDALUSIA, ALABAMA 36420

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE

DR. HERBERT BROWN

SOUTHSIDE BC, GREENVILLE, AL

AND OUR SPECIAL MUSIC WILL BE BY

THE WAYLIGHTERS QUARTET

CORDOVA, ALABAMA

THE ASSOCIATION WILL FURNISH THE

CATERED MEAL AND NO-ONE HAS TO

BRING ANYTHING. WE DO NEED A

HEADCOUNT NO LATER THAN THURSDAY,

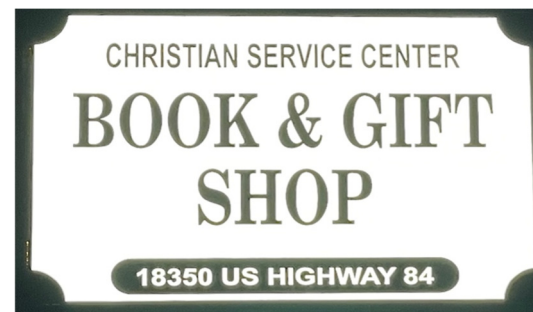
AUGUST 18, 2020 FOR FOOD.

PLEASE CALL 222-3009 WITH YOUR CHURCH

HEADCOUNT.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR SENIORS ARE

AWARE OF THIS EVENT.



New Hours for the CSC Book and Gift Shop.

The Christian Service Center Book and Gift Shop has new hours:

Monday-Friday, from 9am to 5pm

We will open again on Saturdays during the Christmas Season.

If you have questions or need to find a resource, call Pat or Robin at 222-3711.