



The Messenger

October 2011

Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

*“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”
Philippians 1:3-6*

Under our association’s constitution, the Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association has come together as a network of churches to accomplish certain stated functions. The first section of Article V – Programs, reads as follows: “The program for fostering unity of faith and practice of this association shall: (1) provide spiritual fellowship and inspiration; . . .”

During the past few years there has become a growing concern among the leadership of the CPBA about the lack of fellowship among our churches. Last year, in order to address this concern, the association made a decision we believed would foster greater fellowship among our churches. Part of this decision was to plan and offer to our churches at least two Sunday nights a year for our churches to gather together for a joint time of worship. The success of our evangelism rally this past April was a united beginning to restoring times of fellowship and inspiration for the churches in our association.

I want to greatly encourage you not to miss two wonderful opportunities that the churches of our association have planned in the coming weeks. The first opportunity to fellowship with believers from other churches comes on October 16, at Central Baptist Church. Our annual meeting has been planned for this day. Check out the schedule posted in this newsletter.

What I would like to stress is that our annual worship service is for everyone! Our association has the privilege to have as our guest speaker Dr. Randy Davis. Dr. Davis recently became the Executive/Director Treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. What a great opportunity to hear the heartbeat of the leader that our state convention has chosen to lead them. I hope that you will be there.

Thirteen of our churches have come together to be a part of an On Mission Celebration November 6 – 9. Your church may not have chosen to host a missionary speaker during this week of celebration. However, that does not mean that your church cannot participate in the joint times of our celebration. For instance, on November 6 at 6:00 p.m. churches will gather together at Central Baptist Church for a Missions Celebration Service. All the churches of CPBA are invited to move their evening service and join in unity with one another celebrating missions! Check out the weeks schedule and join us when you can.

My hope and prayer is that you have been encouraged towards fellowship with one another and that you will not miss what our association has planned in the coming weeks.

Kirk

From the Pastoral Counseling Center October 2011

In our current climate of stress and economic pressures, many families have been sorely pressed. These are times that can bring out the best or the worst in us, depending upon our response. Much depends upon how we look at the changes that are being forced upon us. Scripture provides a framework for weary saints to receive encouragement from the Lord. We are urged to be like the eagles who soar on the winds of change:

Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

When a mother eagle starts building her nest, she begins using items we wouldn't at all expect for such a job -- sharp thorns, broken branches, rocks. She places on top of it a layer of wool, feathers, and fur from animals she has killed, making it soft and comfortable for her eggs. Her eggs eventually hatch and her little ones grow to flying age.

As with any creature, growing up is never an easy thing. They get crowded in the nest. That's precisely when mom begins "stirring up the nest." With her strong talons, she begins pulling up the thick carpet of fur and feathers, bringing the sharp rocks and branches to the surface. As more of the bedding gets plucked up, the nest becomes increasingly uncomfortable for the young eagles. Eventually, this and other urgings prompt the little eaglets to leave their once-comfortable abode and move on to bigger and better things. They learn to fly and eventually make homes and families for themselves. The LORD describes His working with His people in the same terms in *Deuteronomy 32:8-13*:

8 When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. 9 For the LORD's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. 10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. 11 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: 12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him. 13 He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock...

Some of us, like the eaglets, may become a little too comfortable in our nests. We've had all the warmth, comfort and free meals we could want, but we cannot remain in the nest. We must look forward to better things that come with spiritual growth. With the Lord's help, we can learn to fly!

Let's not be bitter at the Lord for plucking up our comfortable nests. He wants us to be all that we can be! He wants us to accomplish all the things He has for us, to reach our fullest potential, to experience the amazing sensation of soaring high above the problems and issues that distract us from growing up in Him. Let's take the leap of faith today. There's so much work to be done!

Beginning in October we have two more counselors at the center, Andy Loomis and Carolyn Scott, who will begin to carry on this work with me. During 2012, we will work together, and our plan is to transfer the remaining work to them as I enter partial retirement. We are grateful to pastors and congregations for their support for this ministry. – *Rev Bob Ridley LPC*

WMU News

This *is* the day *which* the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. As I prayed for guidance to write this, the first of my duties as your new Associational WMU Director, this verse is the first thought that came to me. It is the first day of my new journey that God has called me to do. Hello, my name is Yolanda Heuser, you may have seen me at the WMU meetings as Ms. Virginia's side kick for the past couple of years. I have tried to run away from this duty, BUT no more, the day is here.

Ms. Virginia has been our director for 11 years, wow, there in lies my problem with accepting this position, how do I fill her shoes? Then with much prayer and a conversation with Angela, our associational secretary I realized I cannot fill her (Virginia's) shoes. So I have come to realize that I will wear a different pair of shoes. So I ask that each of you pray for me and accept these "different pair of shoes".

Thank you to all that participated in the "Baby Comfort Station". We will have the stats at our next Missions Emphasis Meeting, I think you will be surprised at how many families were served.

Upcoming events:

Missions Emphasis Meeting @ Oak Hill Baptist Church on Genesis Road October 13th @ 6:00 pm. Our guest speakers will be the WMU Directors from each church. Each director will give a brief account of their WMU 's work for the 2010 year. This will enlighten all of us on just how broad the mission field is and the obedience of our associational WMU's. Please encourage as many men, women & children as you can to come and see what missions work can and is being done, refreshments will follow the meeting. We will also be honoring Ms. Virginia for her dedication to our association and the WMU.

Cumberland County Christian Women's Job Corps

The Cumberland County Christian Women's Job Corps (CC-CWJC) will be hosting a Ladies Ministry Tea on Thursday, November 3 at 9:30 a.m. at the Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association located on Sparta Hwy, Crossville, TN.

All women who serve in any ministry position are encouraged to attend. The purpose of this tea is to bring awareness of the Christian Women's Job Corps and to update all area churches on the exciting progress we are making and how the local churches can become involved or make referrals to our organization.

The purpose of CWJC®, a ministry of WMU®, seeks to equip women in a Christian context in which women in need are equipped for life and employment; and a missions context in which each participant commits to a weekly Bible study and is paired with a Christian mentor for encouragement and accountability.

The CC-CWJC provides free services to any woman 18 years of age or older who desires to advance professionally and to improve their life practically and spiritually. The CC-CWJC is a 501c3 non-profit organization. The tea is free of charge. Please R.S.V.P. to 931-787-9033 or 931-787-1806.

For additional information or to request a speaker from the organization to present at your church



November 5th– 9th

Schedule of Events

November 6th– Missionaries speaking in Churches during the Morning Service

5:00 p.m. Missions Fair at Central Baptist

6:00 p.m.– Celebration Service at Central Baptist with Dr. Richard Land

November 7th– 10:30 a.m. Pastor’s Luncheon at Memorial Baptist

November 8th– 10:30 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon at Bethlehem Baptist

November 9th– 10:30 a.m. Senior Adult Luncheon at Lantana Road Baptist

Monday, November 7th– Wednesday, November 9th

Missionaries speaking in participating Churches

The Association Office needs a count on all Luncheons so please

RSVP by Tuesday, November 1st.

Associational Mass Choir Practice– October 20th & 27th at 6:00 p.m.

at Central Baptist Church

Next planning Meeting: Tuesday, October 18th @ 10:00 a.m.

Make plans now to attend this meeting.

Men's Discipleship Conference 2011

When: November 4th-6th

Where: Central Baptist Church

Times: Friday 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Saturday 12:00-5:00 p.m.

Featured Speakers: Pastor Herb Hodges

Soup Campbell

Dr. J.B. Selecman

Champion disciple maker, Pastor Herb Hodges, along with Downline Ministries disciples Soup Campbell and Dr. J.B. Selecman will teach biblical discipleship with clarity and passion **UNLIKE YOU HAVE EVER HEARD IT BEFORE!!!** Brother Herb has been on over 188 international mission trips teaching and training others how to make disciples.

Come Learn How To Make Disciples From Men Who Are Getting It Done!

If you have any questions or would like more information contact 931-200-5718 or www.cbccrossville.com

The 57th CPBA Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, October 16th at Central Baptist Church. Please make plans to attend now.

Business Session @ 4:00 p.m.

Ministry Fair @ 5:00 in Atrium

Annual Meeting Cooperative Program Banquet @ 5:00 p.m.

Annual Associational Worship Service @ 6:00 p.m. with Dr. Randy Davis, TBC Executive / Director Treasurer

~ R.S.V.P. Deadline for Banquet is Friday October 7th at noon. ~

Cumberland Plateau Baptist
Association

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Annual Church Profile

A.C.P.s were due on September 15th. If your church has not completed their A.C.P. please do so as soon as possible and send a copy to the Associational Office. If you have any questions please call the Associational Office.

Upcoming Events

CPBA 57th Annual Meeting
Sunday, October 16th @
Central Baptist Church

On Mission Celebration
November 5th– 9th



Dates to Remember

- October 3rd– Pastors Conference
- October 10th– Pastors Conference
- October 13th– Fall Missions Emphasis Meeting at Oak Hill Baptist Church
- October 16th– CPBA 57th Annual Meeting
(See schedule inside for times)
- October 17th– Pastors Conference
- October 20th– Associational Mass Choir Practice
- October 24th– Pastors Conference
- October 25th– Disaster Relief
- October 27th– Associational Mass Choir Practice
- October 31st– Pastors Conference
- November 5th– 9th– On Mission Celebration
- November 7th– Baptist Women’s Day of Prayer