

Cherokee Baptist Association Newsletter

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From The Director's Heart

February 2026

For the past twenty-one plus years, I have had the great honor and glorious privilege to serve as your Associational Missionary. Across these years, I have viewed this call from God to serve with you as a stewardship of sacred trust. Now as I am only a few weeks away from my time of service with you coming to an end, I look back at two verses of scripture that have been a great source of guidance to me.

The first one is found in *Psalms 78*, where the author of this Psalm gives a brief review of the history of Israel from their Exodus from Egypt to the time of David's kingship. The concluding verse in this chapter gives us the key to David's successful leadership. "So, he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands," *Psalms 78:72*. Two words in this verse have always stood out to me: integrity and skillfulness. Integrity is that irreplaceable character trait that reveals who we really are and is absolutely necessary if we are to ever become the leader that God can use. Skillfulness has a two-fold meaning; the first meaning speaks of the exceptional abilities that David possessed. God has given every believer a spiritual gift or gifts in order that we can provide exceptional ministry to the Kingdom of God. The second meaning of this word refers to doing whatever God has entrusted to us with superior excellence.

The second verse of scripture that has guided me is *II Corinthians 11:28*, which states, "Beside those things that are without, what which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches." In the entirety of Chapter 11, Paul is defending his ministry. In verses 24-33, he summarizes the dangers, hardships, and near-death experiences he has encountered in serving the Lord. Paul tells us in this verse, in spite of all the external hardships he faced, the thing that weighed the heaviest on his heart was *his care for all the churches*. Across these many years of serving as your Associational Missionary, I have always tried to base my ministry around the collection of local churches that make up the Cherokee Baptist Association. Why? Because the local church is the only thing that Jesus left in this world to carry on His work.

So, in closing, the principles of these two verses have always served as my guide to serving you: live a life of integrity, seek to do everything with excellence because God deserves nothing less, and to share in and carry the burdens of our churches

Thank you for the awesome opportunity you have given me to serve alongside of you for twenty-one plus years.

Bro. Wendell
Philippians 1:3-5



Centre First is hosting a Tim Tebow Foundation "A Night to Shine," a prom-like experience for special needs individuals ages 14 and older, February 13, 2026, 5:00-8:00 PM. Sign up online or by calling the church, 256-927-3316.

Gaylesville First Fundraiser for their Building Fund, Brunswick Stew, February 7, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM.

Pilgrim Rest Pastor Michael Roach has resigned.

Pleasant Arbor has called David Birchfield as their interim pastor.

Shiloh is seeking an individual or couple to lead their Family Ministries -- children & youth. Send resume to shilohbaptist120@gmail.com.

Slackland Food Distribution each first Friday, 10:30 AM-12:00 Noon.

Tates Chapel is seeking a bi-vocational Youth Dir. Send resumes to justinm4christ@gmail.com.

Pray for our churches seeking pastors:

Calcedonia, Pilgrim Rest,
Pleasant Arbor, Sandy Creek

Birthday Blessings to Our Pastors!

Feb 17 - Clay Moreland, Faith at Gaylesville
Feb 18 - Wendell Dutton, Assoc Missionary
March 2 - Jeff Barber, Shady Grove
March 2 - Randy Haynes, Pisgah

World Hunger Sunday & Offering

February 15, 2026

Order your free envelopes and resources from the
State Board of Missions, 1-800-264-1225.

Carpenters for Christ

March 12-14, 2026

Building a fellowship hall w/ shingled roof, vinyl siding
for Dailey Street BC, 106 S Church St, Piedmont, AL.



**Alabama Baptist Children's
Homes Collection**

A letter has been sent to your pastor & WMU Dir/Leader of the item your church is asked to collect. As you have been so faithful to this partnership ministry in the past, I am certain you will continue to do so. Thank you in advance for what I know you will do. The last date to bring items to the Office is Thursday, February 26.



**Early Bird Clinic
for Directors & Pastors**

Thursday, February 5, 2026

CBA Office

Meal will begin at 6:00 PM

Please RSVP for the meal by February 2.

Assoc Men's Ministry Breakfast

"Men to Stand in the Gap"

February 22, 2026

New Prospect #2 BC,

7:00-8:15 AM



Special Speaker - Greg Davis, ALCAP President

***Please RSVP the number that will be attending by
February 16.**

Week of Prayer for North American Missions

"Your generosity is more than a gift"

March 1-8, 2026

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Resources: Call 334-613-2226 or order online at
www.alabamawmu.org or AnnieArmstrong.com

February

- 5 VBS Early Bird Clinic (see info above)
- 6-7 Bivocational Minister/Spouse Retreat,
Shocco Springs
- 15 World Hunger Sunday & Offering
- 15 Focus on WMU Sunday
- 22 Assoc Men's Ministry Breakfast (see info above)

March

- 1-2 State Evangelism Conference, Heritage BC,
Montgomery, AL
- 1-8 Week of Prayer for North American Missions
& Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 14 "VBS Live," Mt. Zion BC, Huntsville, AL
- 23-27 Spring Break for Cherokee County Schools
- 29 Palm Sunday

The Cherokee Baptist Association is a fellowship of local churches working in partnership to expand the Kingdom of God through His message and mission.