



January 23, 2025

THE LAMPLIGHTER

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE JUDSON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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LOVE IN ACTION MINISTRIES (ABBEVILLE)

532 Ozark Rd, Abbeville, AL 36310

Store Telephone (334) 585-3334

Food Bank Telephone (334) 575-5187

OVERFLOWING MINISTRIES (HEADLAND)

810 Mitchell St, Headland, AL 36345

Telephone (334) 693-0200

DIRECTOR OF MSSIONS

Greetings from the JBA office. I pray you had a wonderful time celebrating the birth of our Savior during Christmas. I also pray you have a blessed start to this new year. I am excited about what God is doing in and around our association. I believe we are going to start seeing God move in new and exciting ways, and I am thankful that we get to experience it together.

The past few months have been hard on many of our churches. Many of our people have been battling sickness, and far too many have gone home to be with the Lord lately. Although we know they are far better, it is still painful for the family, friends, and church families that miss them so much. Let's make praying for one another a top priority as we begin this new year.

It was so heartbreaking to see First Baptist Abbeville lose their sanctuary and Sunday School rooms to a fire. Not only did the church mourn the loss, but the community as a whole was heartbroken over it. As bad as it was and is, the people of First Baptist Abbeville were inspiring in their response to the disaster. They kept worshipping the Lord just as they had been. They did not let this tragedy hinder their work in the ministry. I have been encouraged by their heart and by the leadership of pastor Rickey Sowell during all of this. I received so many calls in the early days after it burned asking how they could help. They have all of the material things they need and can store at the moment. Therefore, the best way one could help would be to give financially. They have an account set up specially for donations at HNB First Bank. The bank has plenty of room to store those donations. Keep them in your prayers, as rebuilding will be a long process.

Outlet Ministries has hit the ground running after joining the association in October. They have been working hard as they make the transition to Southern Baptist life. Pastor Freddie Smith has been working on training with NAMB and the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions. He wants to learn as much as he can to move Outlet Ministries forward and to acclimate to life as a Southern Baptist and fellow Judsonite. He and I have had several meetings working toward this goal, along with meetings including his leadership team at Outlet Ministries. We are passionate about what this means for Outlet Ministries, JBA, and Henry County. Keep them in your prayers, and take every opportunity to reach out to them and encourage them.

There is so much more to share, but I am running out of room, so I will leave you with this plea. Please spread the word in your churches that we need volunteers at Love in Action and Overflowing Ministries. It takes a massive amount of man-hours to accomplish what takes place at our centers. We have lost several volunteers and some workers lately. There has been sickness, death, and some who simply cannot hold up to be out here as long as they used to. Of course, we always covet your prayers. Until next time, God Bless!

"Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 NAS

Your Fellow Servant,
Brandon Turner

VBS

2025 JBA VBS Clinic will be Sunday, March 30 at 2:00
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

Contact Allison Lindsay Rominger if you have any questions at
334-441-7195

MSC Report—Michael & Aimee Starling

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Week of Prayer – March 2-9, 2025 “Step Into the Story”

3 John 1:7-8 “For they have gone out for the sake of the name... Therefore, we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.” Make plans to promote this in your church. Prayer Guides and other resources are available for free at www.alawoman.org but you must update your information each year. The mission study this year features David & Sara Gaskins. They are planting Mosaic Church in Provo, Utah, which is in the heart of the Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day Saints (LDS/Mormon). Provo is 85% Mormon and has 400 Mormon churches but only 0.5% Christian with 5 evangelical churches. This study will teach us the differences between the teachings of the Latter-day Saints and the real gospel of Jesus. I have some copies of the study and it is available at www.anniearmstrong.com.

Hurricane Relief – Sandy Run Partnership

Thank you for your generosity. We are continuing to send items on a regular basis based on the greatest needs. Recently we have sent propane heaters. We have spent around \$8000 of the \$14,500 donated. We are still accepting donations. If you would like to partner with us, please send monetary donations to the JBA office and designate “Sandy Run Partnership” on the donation.

Food Drive – January/February – Soup



MINISTRY CENTERS

Greetings and warmest wishes for a very happy, prosperous, and blessed new year! And blessed is the only way we can describe the start of the new year for both of the Judson Association Ministry Centers. We started the new year off with a BANG both in the stores and the donation boxes! Shoppers were excited to see us reopen after the Christmas break and showed up in droves at both locations that first Monday. The donation boxes at both locations have been overflowing every day since December 26th! The final blessing coming our way will be an influx of new volunteers. In 2024, we had several volunteers retire with health and family issues and we miss their fellowship dearly. But we have faith that God will graciously continue to meet our needs as he always does. Faith is the fuel that keeps our stores and food banks operating so successfully each and every day. We want to share just how that *faith works* and keeps us meeting the needs of our community.

Beginning Monday, February 3, 2025, The Judson Baptist Association Ministry Centers will begin a new program to showcase and promote Love in Action and Overflowing Ministries thrift stores and food banks called “Faith Works” Monday. “Faith Works” is a promotional program intended to share all the wonderful work that’s happening every day at both of our ministry centers, believing that some of those in attendance may find a place of service volunteering with us. “Faith Works” Monday will include comprehensive tours of the Headland and Abbeville facilities and, depending on the schedule, will include breakfast or lunch. We have started with invitations to the WMUs of our 21 churches, some of which I have personally visited already. Although I have shared with some groups all the things that we do daily as well as what our needs are, this will be an opportunity to actually see our facilities and our volunteers in action. What we do daily is nothing short of amazing and could never be accomplished without God’s guidance and constant blessing. For more information about “Faith Works” Monday, to schedule a date for your group, or to discuss any aspect of these wonderful ministries, I can be reached by calling or texting 334-879-7885 or via email at 5839jbamcd@gmail.com.

Please pray for us as we continue “Serving Christ by Serving Our Community”.

Warmest regards and richest blessings in Christ,

Judy Koerber
Ministry Centers Director