



February 20, 2025

THE LAMPLIGHTER

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE JUDSON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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DIRECTOR OF MSSIONS

Greetings, fellow brothers and sisters, servants of Christ Jesus, workers in His Kingdom, and co-laborers in the ministry He has given us to do through this local association! I pray this edition of the Lamplighter finds you well and longing for that great and glorious appearing of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you again for the privilege of being counted among you as a fellow servant in the work of the Judson Baptist Association.

Things are going well at the associational level. God is blessing our ministries and the hearts and lives of those we are privileged to minister to. Our impact is growing, reach expanding, voice strengthening, and influence increasing. Our work together as the 22 churches of the Judson Baptist Association is making a difference in our churches and in our community. Let's pray for God to continue to bless JBA in our work of edifying one another and evangelizing all whom He would give us the opportunity to reach. If you ever have questions about any of our ministries or JBA in general, please call or come by. It would be my privilege to share with you.

I don't know about you, but it feels like we are on the verge of a shift in America. I hear reports of young men seeking answers and turning to the church for those answers, which is encouraging. I have read several similar reports that spark hope for a change in momentum. It felt like momentum had been going in the other direction for several years. Yet, with these reports and conversations with people from all over our state, I believe we are entering a time ripe for evangelism and church growth. Alabama Baptists reported a 26 percent increase in baptisms last year, which would be 2023's numbers. I am excited about that news. Outlet Ministries has seen half a dozen salvations and three or four baptisms this year, and I believe that was from the first of this calendar year. I am encouraged that now, as much as ever, the fields are white unto harvest, and though the laborers may be few, we can pray to the Lord of the harvest for more laborers while staying encouraged by what God has done with the few in the past and what He will do with us now and into the future. Do you believe our Lord Jesus can use us to do great things for His kingdom? Do you believe He is going to? Then, as our brother James encouraged in chapter two and verse twelve of his letter, "So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty." (NKJV) We are given freedom in Christ. Freedom to live out our faith in a manner pleasing to God and act on our belief while moving forward with the assurance of our victory in Christ Jesus. Don't move forward today with a hope-so belief that God will bless us and give us victory through the gospel of Jesus Christ. Move forward today and every day, knowing He has already given us blessings and victory, and we will see the fruit of the gospel as we carry it out into the field. God bless you as you bless others and continue without partiality to "hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory." (James 2:1 NKJV)

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

WMU

The Judson Baptist Association Woman's Missionary Union held its annual meeting at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church on Saturday, February 8 where new officers were installed. We had the opportunity to hear Dan and Carol share their experiences of ministering through the International Mission Board to the Chinese in China and Taiwan. Opportunities for participation in ministry within our Association were shared.

JBA Community Youth Event
Wednesday, March 12
6:00pm @ Headland First

MSC Report—Michael & Aimee Starling

Food Drives - March/April – Spaghetti Noodles

IMB Prayer Request - Pray for Increased Spiritual Awareness and Openness to the Gospel for Muslims during the month of Ramadan (Friday, February 28 – Saturday, March 29, 2025) Pray that God would open their eyes to the hopelessness of false beliefs and sovereignly direct them toward opportunities to hear the message of Christ.

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." 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

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MINISTRY CENTERS

Greetings, Happy Valentines Day and, well, simply Happy February too! It comes as no surprise that God's love is abundant as He is continuing to bless both of our ministry centers. Last month I shared several blessings we had received, and mentioned the final blessing coming our way would be an influx of new volunteers to replace the volunteers who retired or had health and family issues during 2024. Our God is so good and has graciously continue to meet our needs by sending us new volunteers at both locations. We have also been able to welcome back some of our volunteers who have had their health issues resolved. We have so many areas of service available at our thrift stores and food banks! Our need for volunteers is as great as ever. Visit us, look around, I know you will like what you see, and you will see something you would like to do!

Speaking of looking around, remember our "Faith Works" Mondays. "Faith Works" is a promotional program intended to share all the wonderful work that is 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 started with invitations to the WMUs of our 22 churches and are more than happy to open it up to civic organizations and businesses interested in what we do and how they can help. 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.

As I think about God's blessings for our ministries, I am reminded of how very blessed I am to serve in such an important ministry and work with such wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ every day. Please pray for us as we continue "Serving Christ by Serving Our Community."

Warmest regards and richest blessings in Christ,

Judy Koerber