

BAPTIST BLAST!

HENRY COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2024



THE BIG NEWS!!

We just recently hired a part-time Interim Associational Missionary (formerly known as Director of Missions). Below is his introduction letter sent to our Pastors and now to you:

I thought I would start my first official day as HCBA's Interim Associational Missionary by writing a letter of introduction. Let me begin by letting you know just how grateful I am for the trust placed in me to coordinate the effort to revitalize the HCBA, bringing people and resources together from the Baptist churches in Henry County to do the good works of Jesus Christ for the sake of our churches and our community.

From this day forward, it will be my goal to seek God's guidance as we set out to accomplish more as an Association of churches than we can independently.

My Interim Associational Missionary position will sunset in two years, or when a permanent AM is found, or at the Rapture of the Church by Jesus Christ - whichever comes first (I'm praying for the latter!). My goal will be to use the training, experience, and gifts that God has given me to seek and fulfill His desires for reviving the HCBA so that whomever fills this position on a more permanent basis will be able to step in and lead a vibrant and active Association to even greater effectiveness for God's Kingdom.

To that end, my first objective will be to meet with every pastor in the Association as quickly as I can, to get an idea of what is, individually and collectively, expected of me, and what to accomplish while I'm here.

Lastly, for those who are curious to know me better, many of you know me through my operational leadership of Philpott Lake, which brought me to this community for the last leg of a 38-year career in managing natural resources. Previous to my move here, I spent four years coordinating, at the national level, preparation for the multi-year bicentennial commemoration of Lewis and Clark. Two of those four years were as a liaison for the US Congress, coordinating between Congress and private, state and federal entities.

I have also volunteered in the churches my wife and I have belonged to as a choir member, teacher, worship leader and currently as the chairman of evangelism/mission development at First Baptist Collinsville. So, I have a lot of training and experience coordinating between and through diverse levels of organizations – all while holding my love and obedience to Jesus Christ and the Holy Word of God at the forefront of everything I do.

I actively sought out this position, and look forward to working with all of you to make the HCBA everything God wants it to be and everything we all hope it will be.

Craig "Rocky" Rockwell

(over)



PASTOR NEWS: This year of 2024, several of our churches have new Pastors. They are as follows:

1. FBC Ridgeway - Rev. Les Croft.....began in March
2. Greenwood - Rev. John Rigney.....began in July
3. Mayo - Rev. Steve Doby.....began in May
4. New Vision - Rev. Drew Meadows..began in January
5. Oak Level - Rev. Daniel Collins....began in January
6. One Accord - Rev. Larry Wray.....began in August

RACEWAY MINISTRIES:

Mission Opportunity: The Team is asking each congregation, as we do for each race, to please donate individually wrapped snacks to be shared with fans at the Ministry tent for the upcoming race at the Martinsville Speedway. Please have them to the HCBA office by noon on Wednesday, October 30th. THANK YOU!

HORNE HOME:

The 4 resident ladies, plus 3 staffers, attended our Annual Meeting last week. The offering taken was given to their bank account for them to have funds for extra activities. If you were there, THANK YOU for your contribution!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY has recently transitioned to the **FULLER CENTER FOR HOUSING MARTINSVILLE-HENRY COUNTY, INC.** This decision to affiliate reflects commitment to better align with community goals. We remain steadfast in our mission to provide affordable housing solutions while expanding our capacity to support critical home repairs.

[illegible]

FINANCES

Income and Expenses from January-September 2024:

Income..... \$20,033.55

Expenses..... \$30,059.61

Net income..... -\$10,026.06

[illegible]

Our Association is a fellowship of 25 self-governing churches who voluntarily cooperate together to reach people for Christ through missions and ministries, and to strengthen ourselves according to Biblical principles.