



Bigbee Baptist Association

PO Drawer NN—220 South Washington Street

Livingston, AL 35470-0080

Office: 205-652-7705 — Fax: 205-652-7701

Rev. Brad Campbell, Director of Missions

Mrs. Muriel Powell, Ministry Assistant

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Brother Brad's Box...

Hello Friends!

As I started typing this, I was also on the telephone with a friend who reminded me in a joking manner to keep cool and keep my cool. I'm sincerely trying to do both!

In the heat of this summer, it has definitely been difficult to keep cool. But I pray you've braved the heat to share the love of Jesus with your neighbors!

For far too many people, it is not only difficult to "keep cool", it is equally difficult to "keep their cool", to refrain from anger, and to not carry a grudge. I pray you are not one of those people. However, we acknowledge the fact that difficulties and divisions are real problems in our world, our towns and neighborhoods, and our homes.

Why are divisions so prevalent in society? As best as I remember my school-age math classes, it was always so much easier to add, subtract, and even multiply than it was to divide! If division is that hard, then why does there seem to be so much of it?

We are divided in denominations, classes, races, politics, and personal opinions. So how on earth do we ever get any work done? It's simple. We choose to overlook the differences and focus on the common goal.

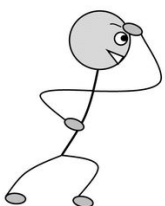
Bigbee Association is made up of 18 different churches. As similar as we may be, we are all different. We have our own members, schedules, worship styles, and habits. And yet, we serve the same God.

And our common service is what keeps the differences at bay. Plus, those differences are also a wonderful way to stand out in our service! On the last Sunday night of September, we will be having a program we have renamed "Praise Night". This is the program which was formerly composed of a simple music selection from someone of a few particular churches, and then followed by a sermon.

This year, instead of just that handful of churches participating, we are asking that every single church provide a person, group, choir, band, etc. to showcase some talent God has provided. Maybe you have a youth group that would like to provide a brief meaningful skit. Maybe a member can provide a musical selection on a particular instrument. Use your imagination, understanding that this is not at all intended to be a talent competition, just a sharing of those talents — those God-given differences!

Do we differ? Yes. Thank God. Wouldn't this be a mighty boring world if everyone was just alike? Let's celebrate our differences in our service here. May God continue to use us each in different ways.

Praying for you and yours,
Brad



LOOKING FORWARD....

Praise Night
September 29
5:30 p.m.
Christian Valley

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day
- 8-15 Week of Prayer for State Missions Offering
- 9 Pastors Conference, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 29 Praise Night, 5:30 p.m., Christian Valley

OCTOBER

- 9 No Pastors Conference this month.
- 15 168th Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Eutaw

NOVEMBER

- 4 Pastors Conference, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office

VBS Report from our churches



Christian Valley—58 with offering of \$1,396.00
Cuba—81 with offering of \$405.00
Livingston—85 with offering of \$1,062.23
Siloam—48 with offering of \$223.08



Eutaw—Sept 8-11

Speakers—Phil & Teresa Glisson
*Teresa has the talent of being Ventriloquist

*Livingston First—Nov 3-6
Roy Hill, Satsuma FBC

PASTORS/CHURCH CLERKS

Reminder:

Elect messengers to the annual meeting in September.