



  
**SWEET WATER**  
 BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**Check Out Our Website**  
[www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)  
*Visit us on Facebook*  
**SBA Office Hours:**  
 Monday-Thursday  
 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

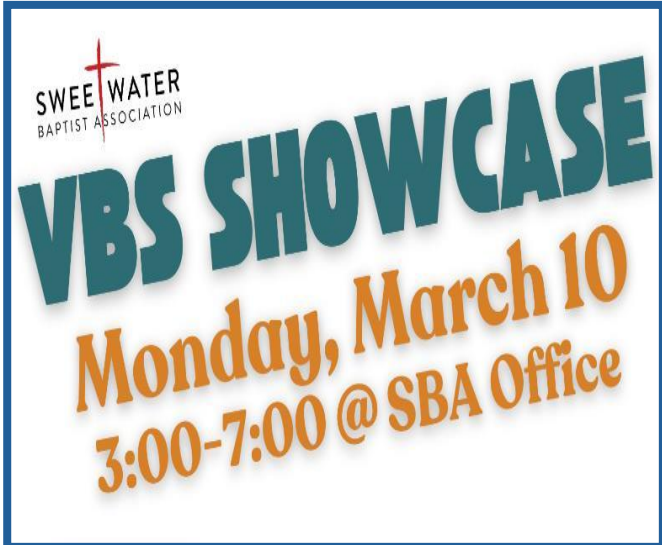
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 Resident Interpreter Volunteer

**Volume 15**                      **March/April, 2025**                      **Number 74**



  
**VBS SHOWCASE**  
**Monday, March 10**  
**3:00-7:00 @ SBA Office**

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
**Family of Churches Welcome...**



**Pastor Steve Gamble**  
 wife Lisa and family  
**CEDAR FORK**  
 Baptist Church, Philadelphia

**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 11, 2025 - 7:00 pm**  
**CEDAR FORK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 1780 SWEETWATER RD, PHILADELPHIA, TN

PLEASE NOTE... DATE CHANGE OF DATE

**CONNECT**  
*Youth Rally*

**SATURDAY MARCH 15**                      **@ FAIRVIEW TABERNACLE**  
**6:00 PM**                      **112 KEY KILE RD, SWEETWATER**



**MISSIONS SPEAKER**  
**OTTO ECHEVERRIA**  
 Pastor, FBC  
 Coatepeque, Guatemala



**RALLY SPEAKER**  
**JUSTIN WORDEN**  
 High School Pastor  
 Cleveland, FBC

# Director of Missions



**ANCHORED!** The gulf waters seemed quite calm for the first two days. The expression “as smooth as glass” definitely came to mind. Of all the things I noticed around the beach, two yellow buoys caught my attention. They appeared to float upon the waters. They were used to indicate the area for water sports such as jet skiing, parasailing, and banana boat rides.

During the third night a weather front moved through the area, and the coastline was being assaulted by wave after wave. The storm was churning up the gulf floor. The waves were white capping, and sand could be seen mixed with salt water. The waves were crashing ashore one after another. I noticed the two yellow buoys being jerked and turned by the active waves. They were driven toward the shore and then pulled by the riptide toward the open gulf only to be swallowed by the next wave. Yet the buoys never moved far from where they were anchored. This made me think of God’s love for me. Our lives are often as agitated as stormy waters. God does not promise us smooth sailing. Instead, we will encounter rejection, illness, death, separation, and a thousand other storms. Yet God promises, that if we cast all our anxieties/fears on Him, He cares for us and we never have to face these trials alone.

God creates in each of us a desire to participate by being anchored to the gospel. The *2025 Ministry Summit* (Evangelism Conference) will be an excellent opportunity for allowing God to strengthen and encourage the saint; it will be held Saturday, February 22 at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. There will be a morning session and an evening worship rally. The morning speakers will be Dr. Roc Collins, Dr. Phil Hoskins, and Dr. Randy Davis. The activities will begin with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. with the Morning Session to follow. The Evening Worship Rally will begin at 7:00 p.m. with preaching by Dr. Roc Collins. The Notchey Creek Baptist Church Praise and Music teams will provide the special music for both sessions.

The month of March will be packed with great opportunities to be anchors for Vacation Bible School. The *VBS Showcase* will be on Monday, March 10 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at the Association Office. There will be five VBS kits to examine for your church consideration. They are *Rocket Racers*, *Wonder Junction*, *Road Trip*, *Magnified*, and *Australian Adventure*. This is an excellent time to “batten down the hatches” and prepare for an exciting summer.

March also provides an opportunity to gain experience in how God is using the members of the SBA to win the lost. You will have several occasions to hear how God is building His team for eternity by using folks from our local community. Listed in another part of this newsletter, you will find a schedule for Pastor Otto Echeverria as he visits in our Association. Brother Otto is the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Coatepeque, Guatemala. He is also the former Executive Director of the Guatemala Baptist Convention. We have collaborated with him as our ministry teams have worked in areas around Coatepeque for 10 years. Pastor Otto will share how God is using the Sweetwater Baptist Association to be effective in the lives of those communities.

It is common for each of us to slowly drift away from God’s loving grace. When we feel the urge to let go, remember to anchor down, and know who holds your hand.

Please remember the Sweetwater Baptist Association is here to help you accomplish Christ’s stated purpose, “To seek and to save that which is lost.” **HIS desire is YOUR purpose and OUR goal.** Feel free to call on us anytime. -- *Tony Rutherford*

## ASSOCIATIONAL NEWS/EVENTS/INFORMATION

*Don't Forget...*

### 2025 EAST TENNESSEE MINISTRY SUMMIT

Hosted by... **Notchey Creek Baptist Church, 5529 New Hwy 68, Madisonville**  
**Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**



*8:00 am Breakfast served in fellowship hall*  
*8:30 am Pastors, Preachers, & Leadership Conference*  
*7:00 pm Worship Rally*

***Everyone Invited!***



**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to the families of Marvin “Bud” Millsaps and Dr. M. Dennis Ellis. In earlier years, Brother Bud served as a former pastor at some of our churches, while Dr. Ellis served as a former missionary in Russia. Both of these men were regular attendees at our *Monday Morning Pastor’s Conference* until such time as they were not able to join us because of health reasons. They were highly respected men of God and will be sadly missed.



**PASTORS...YOU ARE INVITED** to join the Director of Missions on **Monday afternoon, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.** at the SBA Office in Madisonville. Steve Pearson, Harvest Field Team Leader with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, will be in our office to share updated information about the *Acts 2:17 Initiative, Seeking God’s Vision for Tennessee Baptists.*

For some time now Tennessee Baptists have been focused on strengthening church leaders and churches in reaching our Kingdom for Christ. We know you will want to be part of this strategy to ensure every person in your community has the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel. We look forward to seeing you on **Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.**

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

# VBS SHOWCASE

Monday, March 10  
3:00-7:00 @ SBA Office

Preview 2025 VBS Themes  
& Register for  
VBS Kits Give-Away

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS:** Pastors and VBS Directors, we want to encourage you to please plan now to attend the VBS Showcase! It will be held on **Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** at the SBA Office in Madisonville. Please drop-in at your convenience, **3:00-7:00 pm**. **We look forward to seeing you!**

Five (5) VBS Themes will be on display to give you an opportunity to look at different options that are available and decide which theme might work best for your church. VBS Kits for each theme, including samples of teaching curriculum, music, games, posters/decorations, prizes, etc. will be available for your review.

**Then, Pastors and VBS Directors ... be sure and register for the give-away. All 5 VBS kits will be given away at a drawing!** (You must register for the drawing, but you do not have to be present to win). After the drawings, we will notify the churches who were selected to receive each kit.

Also, please let us remind you that no matter what theme you choose for your church, please complete your VBS report at the end of your Vacation Bible School. It is important to complete the report regardless of the curriculum used. This info helps to better serve your church and to celebrate what God has done in our Association, in Tennessee and around the world!

Please join with us as we are praying for a great summer of Vacation Bible Schools in our churches, and children all across our Association coming to know Christ as Savior.

Please send us your VBS dates and times and, if space is available, we will publish them in the next issue of *The Messenger*.

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## Executive Board Meeting

**Tuesday, March 11, 2025 - 7:00 pm**

CEDAR FORK BAPTIST CHURCH  
1780 SWEETWATER RD, PHILADELPHIA, TN

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
**Otto Echeverria**  
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Coatepeque, Guatemala

PLEASE NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The Executive Board Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, will be held on **Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at **Cedar Fork Baptist Church, 1780 Sweetwater Road, Philadelphia.** **Pastor Otto Echeverria**, Coatepeque, Guatemala will be our guest speaker for the evening. He will share an update to the churches of our work in Guatemala.

According to the SBA Constitution and Bylaws, Executive Members are: Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Council, Pastors/Interim Pastor and one elected Executive Board Member from each church. Names of Executive Board Members from each church must be submitted to the Sweetwater Baptist Association office for a list of Executive Board Members to be compiled before the meeting.

In addition to Pastor Otto speaking and preaching, various informational department reports, as well as a report from the Director of Missions are scheduled on the agenda for the Meeting.

**THE UPPER ROOM**  
CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

**865.414. 3269**  
[www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org)

**Individual, Couples & Family Services**

- Anxiety & Fear
- Anger
- Divorce & Grief Recovery
- Premarital & Marriage
- Coping Skills

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**YEC 2025 East Tennessee**  
**March 28-29**

Black Oak Heights Baptist Church  
Knoxville, TN

For additional information, contact  
Jay Barbier [jbarbier@tnbaptist.org](mailto:jbarbier@tnbaptist.org) or Lorenzo Baylor [lbaylor@tnbaptist.org](mailto:lbaylor@tnbaptist.org)





Pastors, youth leaders, students,  
please make plans to join us for  
**CONNECT... Youth Rally, 2025**  
Saturday, March 15, 6:00 p.m.

Rally Speaker: **Justin Worden**, High School Pastor Cleveland FBC  
Missions Speaker: **Otto Echeverria**,  
Pastor FBC, Coatepeque, Guatemala



The next associational **WMU/Ladies Meeting** will be held on **THURSDAY, March 13<sup>th</sup>** at **Shelton Grove Baptist Church** at **7:00 pm**. A meal will be served at 6:00 p.m.



**SBA  
WMU/Ladies  
Ministry**

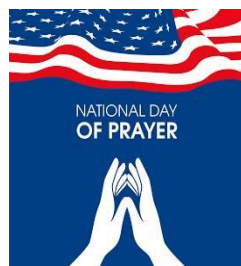
The special guest speaker for the evening will be Pastor Otto Echeverria. He serves as Pastor of First Baptist Church, Coatepeque, Guatemala, and has worked closely with every mission team from our Association for the past 10 years. Pastor Otto is a great man of God, and we are excited he will be sharing at the meeting.



As always, please reach out to me or the Associational staff if we can be of any service to your ladies groups. *Rachel Thompson, Associational WMU/Ladies Director*

**2025 SBA HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:**  
Just a reminder! Completed applications must be returned to the SBA Office by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. (Scholarship winners will be chosen by random drawing.)

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER:** Plan now to be part of a 17<sup>th</sup> Annual National Day of Prayer event. The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. The theme for this year is *Pour Out to the God of Hope and Be Filled*, based on Romans 15:13.



Additional information can be found online at [www.nationaldayofprayer.org/2025](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/2025)

**WMU/LADIES MEETING**  
**Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**  
Shelton Grove Baptist Church  
6500 Blue Springs Road, Sweetwater, Tennessee

**MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER**  
**April 4-5**

Visit [www.tnwmu.org](http://www.tnwmu.org) for more information.



**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS and ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING:**

The theme for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering this year is *Step Into the Story*. The suggested date for the *Week of Prayer for North American Missionaries and the Annie Armstrong Offering* is March 2-9. When you contribute to the *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering*, you become part of something greater...100% of your gifts to the *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering* support North American missions.



Your gifts to the AAEO...

- Support over 3000 missionaries and their families
- Have planted more than 11,000 Southern Baptist churches since 2010

The gospel need in North America has never been more urgent. North American missionaries need you to step into their stories through prayer and giving. They cannot do their work without you.

Almost every nation in the world is represented in North America, making it one of the most complex mission fields. It is reported that there are some 371 million people in North America, of which 281 million express they are without the love of Christ. Please pray! (info taken from anniearmstrong.com)

**CHURCH GIFTS:** The ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association are supported by gifts from our churches. Here are the *Church Gifts from October 1<sup>st</sup> thru February 12<sup>th</sup>*. As you review the list of *Church Gifts*, we want to thank you for all gifts received. Your faithful support of the Sweetwater Baptist Association is greatly encouraged and appreciated. Again, we thank all the Churches for your continued support.



**SBA Church Gifts: October 1, 2024 – February 12, 2025**

Church/Mission	Oct. 2024	Nov. 2024	Dec. 2024	Jan. 2025	Feb. 2025	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Antioch	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	125.00
Beaty's Chapel	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		100.00
Bethlehem	583.00	583.00	583.00	583.00		2,332.00
Bible	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Calvary	102.00	102.00	83.40	169.80		457.20
Cane Creek	200.00	200.00	0.00	400.00		800.00
Cedar Fork	434.42	406.56	556.92	443.38	435.54	2,276.82
Cedar Valley	1,120.86	0.00	545.88	1,846.95		3,513.69
Christianburg	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,191.92		1,191.92
Citico	275.00	220.40	309.20	286.90	259.80	1,351.30
Clifton	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	125.00
Community	112.17	210.03	80.91	257.85	75.63	736.59
Compromise	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	250.00
Conasauga	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		1,200.00
Concord	1,641.15	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,641.15
Delano	397.88	279.69	327.70	338.86	246.86	1,590.99
Druid Hills	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00		400.00
Ebenezer	56.00	43.00	67.00	0.00	68.00	234.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	7,500.00
Fellowship	139.46	0.00	120.70	282.47		542.63
Glenlock	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00		1,336.00
Gregory's Chapel	200.00	100.00	0.00	200.00		500.00
Hopewell Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Howards Chapel	0.00	400.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	600.00

Island Creek	600.00	0.00	300.00	300.00		1,200.00
Lakeside	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00		1,200.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Macedonia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Madisonville, First	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67		1,666.68
Maple Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Miller's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	500.00
Mt. Calvary	83.82	113.43	106.68	115.56	70.95	490.44
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Mt. Zion	747.55	828.31	745.22	897.87	565.35	3,784.30
Murray's	2,194.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		2,194.00
New Bethany	404.35	384.27	394.21	401.24	391.88	1,975.95
New Macedonia	200.00	0.00	400.00	200.00	200.00	1,000.00
New Providence	903.64	970.35	916.40	861.75	676.05	4,328.19
New Zion	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00		200.00
North Sweetwater	0.00	234.40	119.40	83.90		437.70
Notchey Creek	938.45	674.26	916.85	1,179.51	977.81	4,686.88
Oak Grove	202.73	0.00	886.70	323.14	309.87	1,722.44
Oakland	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00		400.00
Old Pond Hill	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		100.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00		500.00
Paint Rock	110.00	110.00	0.00	110.00	110.00	440.00
Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Poplar Bluff	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	500.00
Reed Springs	1,884.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,884.00
Rocky Springs	1,400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	2,200.00
Rural Vale	831.63	618.46	0.00	981.00		2,431.09
Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00		500.00
Shelton Grove	194.76	224.04	146.36	164.56	220.83	950.55
Shoal Creek	327.12	0.00	0.00	212.90		540.02
South Madisonville	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	500.00
Sweetwater, First	350.00	350.00	350.00	0.00	700.00	1,750.00
Tellico	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Tellico, First	607.00	418.00	468.00	501.00	361.00	2,355.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Towee Falls	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	750.00
Trinity	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		500.00
Union Grove	240.00	0.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	600.00
Union Hall	91.00	0.00	140.00	0.00		231.00
Union McMinn	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	2,000.00
Unity	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00		150.00
Upper Shady Grove	0.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	200.00
Vonore	1,715.97	1,933.05	1,630.46	1,254.12	2,149.74	8,683.34
Walnut Grove	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00		750.00
Watson Chapel	166.67	166.67	166.67	166.67	166.67	833.35
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Williamsburg	42.86	37.10	46.10	0.00		126.06
Miscellaneous/TBC	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00		2,504.00
Misc AM	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.00		0.60
Misc Interest	16.76	22.29	0.00	44.83		83.88
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,740.92</b>	<b>15,656.58</b>	<b>15,154.43</b>	<b>19,995.85</b>	<b>13,305.98</b>	<b>89,853.76</b>
Church/Mission	Oct. 2024	Nov. 2024	Dec. 2024	Jan. 2025	Feb. 2025	Total

**CORPORATE ANNUAL CHURCH REPORT FOR STATE OF TENNESSEE:**

If your church is incorporated, it is time for the *Tennessee Corporation Annual Report* to be made to the State of Tennessee. The deadline to file your report is April 1, 2025.



Please be advised that the State of Tennessee is migrating to a new filing system in early February of 2025. *Annual Reports* will now be completed online at:

<https://tnbear.tn.gov/Ecommerce/AnnualReportID.aspx>

For additional information or if you should have any questions, you can contact the Division of Business and Charitable Organizations at 615-741-2286.

**Speaking Schedule for  
Pastor Otto Echeverría  
Guatemala Mission Updates  
Madisonville, Tennessee  
March 10-16, 2025**



**Monday, March 10, 7:00 pm**

**Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Mission Monday**

\*Pastor Otto will share a brief word about mission work in Guatemala

**Tuesday, March 11, 7:00 pm**

**Sweetwater Baptist Association,**

**Executive Board Meeting (Cedar Fork Baptist Church)**

\*Pastor Otto will share Guatemala mission update/preach

**Wednesday, March 12, 7:00 pm**

**Poplar Bluff Baptist Church, Wednesday Night Service**

\*Pastor Otto will share Guatemala mission update/preach

**Thursday, March 13, 7:00 pm**

**Sweetwater Baptist Association,**

**WMU/Ladies Meeting (Shelton Grove Baptist Church)**

\*Pastor Otto will share about mission work in Guatemala

**Saturday, March 15, 6:00 pm**

**Sweetwater Baptist Association, Connect Youth Rally  
(Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church)**

\*Pastor Otto will share a brief word about mission work in Guatemala

**Sunday, March 16, 11:00 am**

**Bethlehem Baptist Church, Sunday Morning Service**

\*Pastor Otto will share Guatemala mission update/preach

**Sunday, March 16, 6:00 pm**

**Birchfield Baptist Church, Maryville, TN**

**Sunday Night Service**

\*Pastor Otto will share Guatemala mission update/preach



**HOWARD'S CHAPEL: Revival**

will be held April 27-30.

Sunday Night begins at 6:00 pm,

Weeknights are at 7:00 pm. Evangelist

Mickey Stewart will be preaching. Pastor Ronnie Best

invites everyone to attend.



**LAKESIDE: Revival begins Sunday,**

March 16 at 6:00 pm, Weeknights at

7:00 pm. Prayer Room will be 30

minutes prior to each service. Special

Singing nightly. Evangelist: Rev. Andy Franklin

(Pastor Mt. Zion, Vonore). On Sunday, March 30, at

6:00 pm, we will host singers, **Eastern Sky** from

Etowah.

**MADISONVILLE, FIRST:** Everyone is invited to attend these special meetings at First Baptist:



- **Spanish Speaking Bible Study:**

Thursday nights at 6:30 pm.

- **The Gathering, Ladies' Meeting:**

First Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Tribe Building

(Doors open at 6:00 with snacks & coffee).

- **Equipping Spiritual Warriors, Men's Meeting:**

Second Monday of each month at the Tribe Building.

Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

- **Grief Share Ministry:**

A 13-week program beginning March 10 @ 3:00 p.m. and March 14 @

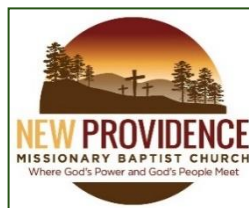
6:00 p.m. You may pick the date each week that

best fits your schedule.

## CHURCH NEWS

**BIG CREEK:** Our **Homecoming** service will be May 25 at 10:30 am, with **Foothills Quartet**

from Maryville. Lunch will be held after service. No evening service. Our VBS will be June 8-13. All ages welcome.



**NEW PROVIDENCE: The New Providence Mission Center**

located at 451 New Providence Rd in Tellico Plains is in our old

church building. It provides

clothing, food, hygiene items,

health and beauty items, household goods,

children's items and supplies along with children's

clothing and toys. We are accepting donations of

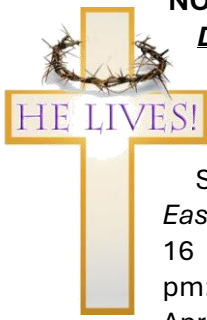
these items and monetary donations. We invite our

sister churches to join us in this ministry. If you

would like to volunteer or take a tour of the center,

please contact 423-519-6899, 423-337-1697 or 423-

295-4873.



**NOTCHEY CREEK:** Second Harvest **Food Distribution** is the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month, beginning at 10:00 am.

**Easter Revival** begins on Palm Sunday, April 13 (8:30am, 10:45am, 6pm: *Easter Drama Presentation*); April 14-April 16 (7:00 pm); *Good Friday*, April 18 (6:30 pm: *Easter Drama Presentation*); Sunday, April 20 *Sunrise Service* (7:00 am); Easter Sunday Morning Services (8:30 am, 10:45 am). Evangelists: Shane Johnston, John Thomas McCallie, Steve Freeman, Dennis Cagle, Stacy Chambers).



**POPLAR BLUFF:** Please join Hosts, Roman Hamilton and Paul Chapman on a weekly podcast called **“Truth Revival.”** New episodes are released every Tuesday at 10:00 am.



**UNION MCMINN:**

Upcoming Events:

- **Women's Conference**, March 8, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Lunch will be served.
- **Annie Armstrong Offering**, April 6
- **Children's Easter Egg Hunt**, April 19
- **Easter Sunrise Service**, April 20



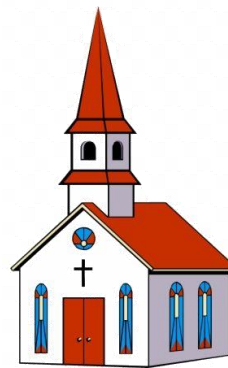
**VONORE BAPTIST:** All men are invited to join our **Men's Ministry Bible Study**. It is held at the church on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm (Room 8).



**Heaven Bound Christian Bookstore**

is celebrating their 1-Year Anniversary with new owners, Sam & Rhonda Baines. (Sam is the Pastor at Tevis Springs). Sam & Rhonda would like to invite everyone to visit the bookstore (at 817 Englewood Rd in Madisonville). They offer Bibles, Gifts, Church Supplies and more. They can also place special orders. Store hours are Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm; Sat, 10am-2pm. For questions or more information, contact the store at [rcbainesheavenbound@gmail.com](mailto:rcbainesheavenbound@gmail.com) or 423-420-0750.



**FREE COURSES FOR**

**CHURCHES:** Andy Foreman, the Men's Ministry Director at First Baptist Church, Madisonville and the CEO of **Jesus Christ Compass Ministries** has launched **Christ Compass Academy**. The Courses are designed to provide leadership, ministry, and member training. These

courses are free for church and religious organizations. For more information regarding any of these courses, contact Andy Foreman at 423-337-1186 or visit [www.christcompassministries.org](http://www.christcompassministries.org) <https://www.facebook.com/christcompassministries>.

**Courses include:**

- **The Ministry Leadership** Course is to empower church leaders and volunteers to Biblically: lead and serve; Know how to measure success; Prioritize their life in ministry; Work more effectively with volunteers.
- **The Intercultural Evangelism** Course is designed to prepare those planning or considering serving a mission, whether short or long term.
- **Ordained in the Workplace** This one-session seminar provides Biblical insights that will open the doors to Gospel conversations in the workplace.

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
 696 Anderson Street  
 Madisonville, TN 37354

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 37354

**ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS**


<b>MODERATOR</b> Jamie Johnson	<b>VICE MODERATOR</b> Gabe Brannon	<b>Associational Council</b> Officers & Committee Chairmen
<b>Committee on Nominations</b> Bill Wilson, Chairman	<b>Budget/Finance Committee</b> Gid Redmond, Chairman	<b>Evangelism Director</b> Shane Johnston
<b>Mission Committee</b> Gerald Lynn, Chairman	<b>Personnel Committee</b> Donna McKee, Chairperson	<b>Trustees</b> Dan Sliger, Chairman
<b>Music Director</b> Phillip Johnson	<b>Youth Council</b> Nick Farrell, Chairman	<b>WMU/Ladies Director</b> Rachel Thompson

**NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION**

**Welcome New Pastors**  
 Steve Gamble.....Cedar Fork

**Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:**  
 Macedonia; Upper Shady Grove; Bethlehem; 411 Chapel; Antioch; Christianburg; Beauty's Chapel; Bible; Big Creek; Conasauga; Calvary; Community; Hopewell Springs (Revival); Compromise; Fairview Tabernacle; Cane Creek

**Please pray for our churches without pastors:**  
 Concord; Delano; Hopewell Springs; Macedonia; Old Pond Hill; Union Grove



**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
**Monday Pastors' Conference**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
 SBA Office in Madisonville

**Upcoming Events/News** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." -- John 3:16

Feb 22 East TN Ministry Summit, *Notchey Creek*  
 Feb. 25 Missions Committee Meeting, *SBA Office*, 6:30 p.m.  
 Mar 1 High School Scholarship Applications due, *SBA Office*  
 Mar 2-9 Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
 Mar 10 VBS Showcase, *SBA Office*, 3-7:00 p.m.  
 Mar 11 Executive Board Meeting, *Cedar Fork*, 7:00 p.m.  
 Mar 13 WMU/Ladies Meeting, *Shelton Grove*, 7:00 p.m.  
 Mar 15 CONNECT Youth Rally, *Fairview Tabernacle*, 6:00 p.m.  
 Mar 24-29 *Spring Break, Monroe County Schools*  
 Mar 24 *Acts 2:17 Initiative, SBA Office*, 1:00 p.m.  
 Mar 28-29 YEC, East TN, *Black Oak Heights BC, Knoxville*  
 Apr 4-5 TBMB WMU Missions Get-Together, *Dixon*  
 Apr 17-21 Office Closed/Easter Holiday  
 Apr 21 No Pastors' Conference  
 May 1 National Day of Prayer



**Mother's Day Offering for...**



**Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes**

**Father's Day Offering for...**



**Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes**

Honor Your Father with a Timely Gift  
 "It is more blessed to give than to receive." -- Acts 20:35

Next issue of newsletter will be May/June

**SBA Office Hours**  
 Monday-Thursday  
 8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

The Upper Room Christian Counseling  
**Macy Small, M.A.**  
 112 Key Kile Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874  
**865.414.3269**

**WMU/Ladies Group**  
 Please check the Activities Director at 442-3990 regarding entrance at facility.  
 Madisonville Health & Rehab - Nursing Home Birthday Cake Schedule

<b>March</b> New Providence	<b>April</b> Oak Grove
<b>May</b> Concord	<b>June</b> Madisonville FBC
<b>July</b> Lakeside	<b>August</b> 411 Chapel
<b>September</b> Mt. Zion	<b>October</b> Notchey Creek
<b>November</b> Bethlehem	<b>December</b> New Bethany
<b>January</b> Vanore	<b>February</b> Rocky Springs



**Please Note:** Photographs are taken at all associational meetings and events, and will be used by the Association in newsletters, on website or social media sites.