

THE MESSENGER
of the
Sweetwater Baptist Association



"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 188 years, 1830 – 2018

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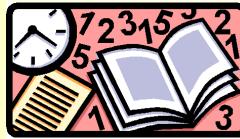
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Volume 7

March/April, 2018

Number 37

Sweetwater Baptist Association
Executive Board Meeting
Monday, April 16th, 7:00 p.m.
Island Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville
(Please make note. Island Creek Baptist Church to host meeting!)



According to the SBA Constitution and Bylaws, Article VIII: All Pastors, Associational Council (SBA Officers and Committee Chairman) and one elected Executive Board Member from each participating church are entitled to participate in the Executive Board Meetings.

TRAINING FOR 2018 GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECTS
June 19-26 and September 18-25

Guatemala Orientation Training
For All Mission Volunteers to Guatemala
Sweetwater Baptist Association Office
April 23, 2018, 6:30 p.m.



Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents
Security Training (valid for 2 years)
for Short Term Mission Teams
by **Fort Sherman Academy**
Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota

September 8, 2018, 9:00 a.m.



SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Family of Churches Welcomes

Pastor Kenny Taylor
wife Tina and daughter Kaitlin
Cane Creek Baptist Church
Our prayers are with this dear man of God, his family and congregation as they work together to share Jesus in their community.



VBS MATERIALS:
LifeWay's 2018 Vacation Bible School Sampler Kits and materials are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 to reserve your kit or place an order for VBS materials for your church. "Mini-Exhibit" of VBS materials will be on display at VBS

Sweetwater Baptist Association
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CLINIC
Monday, April 9, 2018
Open House 6:30 p.m. • Conferences 7:00 p.m.
ROCKY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH, Madisonville



- Associational VBS Directors..... Bryan and Kim Williamson
- CONFERENCES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS..... TEAM LEADERS**
- Babies • Preschool • Kindergarten (babies-kindergarten)..... Debbie and David McDaniel
- Younger Children (completed 1-2 grades)..... Kristen Franklin
- Middle Children (completed 3-4 grades)..... Sandra Anderson, Jenny Glaze and Tammy Kerley
- VBX • Preteen • Older Children (completed 5-6 grades)..... Holly and Nick Farrell
- Youth..... Sara Spiva
- VBS Leaders • Directors • Adults..... Hope Dotson
- Pastors • Evangelism • Missions..... Charles "Bud" Boring
- Music..... Halea Lingerfelt and Amber Lingerfelt
- Special Education • Club VBS..... Exhibit Table
- Mini VBS Exhibit Table..... Becky Jones and Sheri Stephens

KIDS...
JOIN US FOR CHOIR PRACTICE...
Associational VBS Children/Youth Choir
Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville

Practice: Sunday, April 8th, 2:00 p.m.
Performance: Monday, April 9th, 7:00 p.m.
(at VBS Clinic)

FREE T-SHIRT FOR PARTICIPANTS: Children and Youth who attend practice on April 8th AND participate in Associational Children/Youth VBS Choir performance on April 9th will receive FREE VBS t-shirt at VBS Clinic on April 9th.

GIVE-AWAY: A VBS gift item will be given away at the conclusion of each session in each breakout conference at the VBS Clinic.

Director of Missions



As I sat at my desk this morning, I learned of the passing of Dr. Billy Graham. It feels like the passing of our nation's religious heritage. From the early days of American history, God has always raised a great orator to remind us that our strength as a nation dwelt in the Cross of Christ, not in the minds of humanity. With all the mega-churches that have spread across our country, where is the voice of the one crying in the wilderness, "repent, for the kingdom is at hand?"



Dr. Graham's messages were simple, and time tested. They were a continuous reminder to us that all have sinned and come short of what God's desire for humanity was to be. The simplicity of the message and the sincerity of his voice melted the coldest heart, and encouraged the flowing of the Holy Spirit to bring the gift of salvation to millions around the world. Like John the Baptist and Jesus, Dr. Graham preached, "Repent!" This old, old message is the Word our world still needs today.

We have many excellent preachers and pastors across our Association. God has blessed our small part of the world with a long heritage of men who have given their lives to the care of the soul. God has entrusted mere men with the responsibility of carrying His message to the world. Countless hours a week are devoted to ministry, study, and the proclamation of God's Word. The faithfulness of the believers will one day be rewarded in God's chosen time. However, until that time, there are two truths we need to remember. First, not all the lost will be saved. This is a tragic thought. It is evident in our churches that less people attend worship today than did several years ago. Even out of those who do attend, the commitment level of support appears to be questionable. Also, the respect for the things of God is diminishing. Second, the church is to preach the word, in voice and deed. We are instructed to present the gospel "in season and out of season." We are encouraged to be faithful, trust God, and allow Him to provide the increase. We are reminded that this is His Church and He will build upon the Solid Rock.

The silence of the simple message of Dr. Graham may be deafening to many of our congregations. Many churches today are struggling to keep their doors open. The voice of the Holy Spirit is often overshadowed by the call of the world. The "enemy" is skilled at offering a counterfeit gospel that allures the mind and heart away, or presents a yoke that binds.

Sadness fills the heart and tears flow from the eyes when death is experienced. To walk in empty buildings that once housed laughter, singing, preaching and dinner-on-the-ground causes the mind to ponder. How many souls were added to the kingdom from this very room, or how many homes were rescued from destruction because of the bent knees and cries? What happened to cause the laughter to diminish, the music to stop, and the preaching to go silent?

Jesus promises to turn our sorrow into joy. That is what happened to Dr. Billy Graham as he left this world and entered God' Kingdom. That will also happen to those who are faithful. On another day, the laughter will return, the singing promises to be beautiful and the preaching will be only Praise to the Master.

Have a Glorious Eternity! ---Tony Rutherford

DEEPEST SYMPATHY: The Sweetwater Baptist Association wants to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Glynn Taylor Duncan, and the congregation of Upper Shady Grove Baptist Church. Taylor served as pastor of Upper Shady Grove Baptist Church. Taylor was only 25 years old and had only been pastoring for a few months. He became ill, and after complications, passed away on January 22nd. He was a great man of God, and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his dear family and the church.



WITH SINCERE SYMPATHY: The Sweetwater Baptist Association wants to express our sincere sympathy to the family of Dr. Alvin Douglas Sager, as well as to Vonore Baptist Church where he served as pastor. Brother Doug, as he was known to us, passed away on February 24th. Brother Doug was a dear man of God who impacted many lives through his passion-filled sermons. He faithfully served on the Evangelism Committee at the Sweetwater Baptist Association and was always a gracious host for the Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet that was held each year at Vonore Baptist Family Life Center. His legacy and lasting imprint on lives will always remain. He will be forever missed. We are praying for this dear family and church.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: The annual *National Day of Prayer* will be held on **Thursday, May 3rd**. The theme for 2018 is *Pray for America...Unity* and is based on Ephesians 4:3. The Scripture chosen challenges us to mobilize unified public prayer for America.



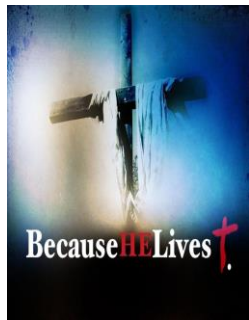
Prayer brings people together. Prayer builds bridges between opposing persons. Prayer reminds us that we are created in God's image and he desires for us to represent Him everywhere we go. Our hope is that we as individuals, churches, and community leaders will humble ourselves in prayer for a great move of God in America.

In past years, it has been estimated that over 2-million people have attended more than 30,000 National Day of Prayer observances. Over the years, these services have been held at state capitols, county court houses, city halls, schools, businesses, churches, homes, or people who stopped activities and gathered for a time of prayer.

Please plan now to participate in the *National Day of Prayer* on Thursday, May 3rd. Some suggestions for observing this day set aside for prayer are...prayer breakfasts, prayer walking, student organized prayer time before school, workers gather for prayer time before or at lunch, or join a group for organized prayer at the courthouse or city hall. For more information regarding the *National Day of Prayer*, visit online www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

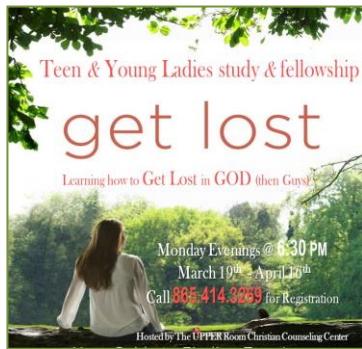


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For more information,
please call **THE UPPER
ROOM CHRISTIAN
COUNSELING CENTER.**

**INDIVIDUAL
MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY COUNSELING**
865.414.3269



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The Sweetwater Baptist Association, *Executive Board Meeting* will be held on **Monday, April 16th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be hosted by Island Creek Baptist Church in Madisonville.**



Included on the agenda will be a recommendation from the Missions Committee that the petition request for membership from Delano Baptist Church, Delano be accepted in accordance with the Procedures for Petitioning the Sweetwater Baptist Association, and that Delano be taken under watch-care for one-year, pending the vote of Messengers at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Associational Council members and Pastors are automatically included as Executive Board members. Each church is allowed (1) additional Executive Board member (in addition to the pastor). Executive Board member names MUST be reported to the Associational Office prior to the meeting date.

GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT: The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB) and Guatemala Baptist Convention have confirmed plans for Sweetwater Baptist Association mission projects in *Guatemala for 2018*. Project dates are set for June 19-26 and September 18-25.



Training is required for ALL mission volunteers interested in participating in Guatemala Mission Projects in 2018. A *Guatemala Orientation Training* will be held at the **SBA Office in Madisonville** on **Monday evening, April 23rd at 6:30 p.m.** (All volunteers participating in upcoming Guatemala mission projects **at any time** during the year must attend an Orientation Training.)



Guatemala Orientation Training
Monday, April 23, 6:30 p.m.
Sweetwater Baptist Association Office, Madisonville
Required for all mission volunteers participating in Guatemala Mission Projects in 2018.

In addition, security training for **ALL** short-term mission teams is being presented by the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board by **Fort Sherman Academy** on **Saturday, September 8th**. This training will be held at Union McMinn Baptist Church in Niota, and will begin at 9:00 a.m. **Security training is valid for 2 years.** All volunteers that plan to participate in upcoming mission projects are urged to attend this training.



Fort Sherman Academy Travel Security Training
Saturday, September 8th, 9:00 a.m.
Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota
Completion of course will certify security training through 2020.
All mission volunteers are urged to attend training!

Mission volunteers must have a valid passport and any required vaccinations from their doctor or health department. The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board requires all participants to attend an orientation training, as well as *More-Life*, cross-cultural, security, travel safety, and child protection training. Much of the training is available online or at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. **Further details will be available at the Orientation Training on April 23rd.**



WMU and LADIES MINISTRY:

Just a reminder that we have two *WMU Meetings* planned for this year. One meeting will be held in the month of May, and the other in the month of November. We are also encouraging our ladies to attend the Associational *Old Fashioned Prayer Rally* which is held in the month of August.

SBA, WMU and/or Ladies Ministry News

Our next *WMU Meeting* will be hosted by North Sweetwater Baptist Church in Sweetwater, and will be held on Monday evening, May 7th at 7:00 p.m. The program for the evening will be presented by Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford. He will share a presentation from his recent trip to the Holy Land. I know you will be blessed. I look forward to seeing you on May 7th at North Sweetwater.

We are so thankful for the birthday cake ministry at East Tennessee Healthcare. Birthday cakes are to be provided by the following ladies groups:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| March.....New Providence | April.....Oak Grove |
| May.....Island Creek | June.....Madisonville First |
| July.....Lakeside | August.....411 Chapel |

If you have a question about the birthday cake ministry, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association office or call Janice Snyder, Activities Director at East Tennessee Healthcare at 442-3990. *Love in Christ, Charlotte Hollinghead, Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director*

**Sweetwater Baptist Association
WMU Quarterly Meeting**

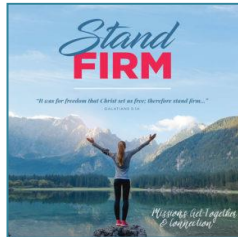
May 7, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
North Sweetwater Baptist Church

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS and ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING: March 4-11 was the suggested date for the Week of Prayer, *On Mission...Here & Now*, and the *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering*.



One hundred percent of gifts given to the *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering* are used to support Southern Baptist missionaries serving in the United States and Canada. Plan now for you and your church to be part of the *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering* to share the love of Jesus so others may come to know Him. *Promotional resources are available at AnnieArmstrong.com.*

MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER AND CONNECTION 2018: Friday, March 16 through Sunday, March 18, 2017 is *Missions Get Together and Connection* in Gatlinburg. Registration is now available online at www.tnbaptist.org. Here is some information that you may find helpful about *Missions Get-Together and Connection...*



What is Missions Get-Together? An event for women of all ages.

What is Connection? A missions event for girls in grades 7-12.

Experience personal growth by choosing from 30+ breakout conference topics from spiritual renewal, prayer, leader development, meet missionaries and learn how they answered God's call, and more.

Engage in meaningful worship through congregational singing, personal testimonies, prayer, and powerful messages.

Discover missions and ministry opportunities through missions fair with 50+ vendors

Be Radically Challenged to grow and be involved in the mission of God.

Enjoy the fellowship of other Christian women and girls across Tennessee and surrounding states.

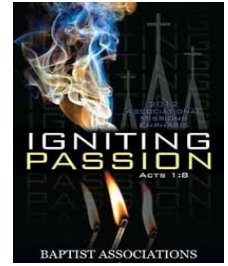
This year, the ministry project will benefit *City Reach Nashville*, a planned mission partnership with the five metro associations in Tennessee.



The *TBMB, WMU* is collecting backpacks and school supplies for Nashville, grades K-4. Please fill a backpack for a student in need in Nashville with the following basic school supplies (wide ruled loose-leaf paper, pad of drawing paper, (2) spiral notebooks, (2) composition notebooks, (3) 2-pocket poly folders, pencil case, box of #2 pencils, box of colored crayons, box of broad line washable markers, large eraser, (2) glue sticks, 5-inch safety scissors, package of post-it notes. Bring the filled backpack to the *Missions Get Together for City Reach Nashville*. (Information taken from Tennessee Baptist Mission Board website at www.tnbaptist.org).

**Associational Emphasis Week and
Week of Prayer for Associational Missions
May 20-27, 2018**

Please pray for the Churches, Pastors, Staff, Officers and Committees Members of the **Sweetwater Baptist Association.**



2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: LifeWay's 2018 VBS Sampler Kits, *Game On! Gearing Up for Life's Big Game*, along with teaching materials, pupil guides, t-shirts, craft kits and promotional resources are available at the

Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. Please come by or call the Associational Office today at 442-6604 to select the kit that is just right for your church. We will be happy to help you with your 2018 Vacation Bible School team, resources and supplies.

We want to remind all VBS Directors, teachers and workers that the **Associational VBS Clinic** will be held on **Monday evening, April 9th** at **Rocky Springs Baptist Church**. Open house will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conferences will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Call 442-6604 for your VBS Supplies

**GEAR UP!
GET READY!
GAME ON!**

The *Associational Childrens/Youth Choir* will perform at the Clinic. Only one early practice for the *Associational VBS Choir* will be held on **April 8th at 2:00 p.m. at Rocky Springs Baptist Church**. All VBS leaders

and workers are encouraged to please mark these dates on your calendar and make plans to attend. Children and Youth who attend practice and participate in the VBS Clinic performance will receive a free VBS *GAME ON!* t-shirt at the VBS Clinic. Also this year, at the conclusion of each breakout conference, a free VBS item will be given away at the **VBS Clinic on April 9th!**

The 2018 theme is based on 2 Peter 1:3 and the motto is "*Gear up! Get Ready! Game On!*" Now, let's gear up, get ready for a fun-filled, out of this world playbook, and join God's team. Get in the spirit today while we prepare for Vacation Bible School, *Game ON!*

Please call Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604 to...

- Share your Church Vacation Bible School dates
- Report your final numbers at the close of VBS

FREE FOOD FOR VBS: Once again, the Monroe County School System will be offering FREE meals and snacks through the USDA Summer Feeding Program. beginning in May. Churches can contact the Monroe County School System, Central Office to sign up to receive free meals and snacks for VBS. Please contact Lisa Arden at 423-442-2092 with the Monroe County School System to schedule an appointment or to get more information.





April 12, 2018 8:00 a.m.

New Providence Baptist Church, Loudon

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents

Church Revitalization Workshop

For Pastors and Church Leadership

Featuring **Dr. Richard Blackaby**

Breakout Topics:

- Leading Your Church Through the Revitalization Process
- Corporate Spiritual Renewal Through the Ministry of Prayer
- Church Revitalization Orientation
- Revitalizing the Church Through Flake's Formula for Sunday Growth
- Introduction to Church Renewal Journey
- Finishing Well Through Personal Spiritual Renewal
- Diagnosing "Heart Disease" in the Local Church

For more information visit online www.tnbaptist.org/revitalization



DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING: Be sure to check the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board website for Disaster Relief Training in our region. Please remember participants must complete the *Introduction to Disaster Relief* training class before a specialty class can be

taken. Below are some of the dates and classes currently listed to be offered in East Tennessee.

•Introduction to Disaster Relief

Central Baptist Church, 6300 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville

April 6 @ 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

April 7 @ 8:30 – approximately 3:00 p.m.

•Chaplaincy (requires a letter of recommendation)

Central Baptist Church, 6300 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville

April 6 @ 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

April 7 @ 8:30 – approximately 3:00 p.m.

•Introduction to Disaster Relief

Concord Baptist Church, 7025 E Brainerd Road, Chattanooga

April 14 @ 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

If you have had *Introduction to Disaster Relief* and/or any specialized classes, and your class certification has expired or will expire this year, online training (for recertification only) is available. **FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY TAKEN THE CLASS**, the following are available for Tennessee Baptist disaster relief existing volunteers:

- Recertification-Introduction to Disaster Relief
- Chainsaw Safety
- Shower/Laundry
- Mass Feeding

Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 423-442-6604 or Elizabeth Holmes at Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, Disaster Relief Ministry at 615-371-7926 for additional information.



YOUTH COMMITTEE: On Saturday, April 14th, the Associational Youth Committee will be offering a "**Youth Ministry Workshop**". We will meet at the associational office from 10:00 am-12 Noon. Topics will focus on using technology in youth ministry; incorporating lights, media and audio/visuals into youth drama, modern puppetry, etc. We encourage all youth leaders to attend and learn about

new ideas and technology that is available to help your youth ministry.

Now is the time to start getting sign-ups for **YOUTH REACH 2018**. Registration Packets will be mailed soon. In order to get the t-shirts ordered and distributed, the registration forms are due June 4th. We have planned a lot of fun things for this year's conference; as well as lined up some great speakers. We hope all the associational churches will make plans to bring their students.

Sweetwater Baptist Association and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents
Church Growth and Development Conference
Monday, August 27, 2018, 6:45 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Madisonville
Special Emphasis: Mission Training!
 Training for Local, State, Home, and International Missions
 Church Clerk Training
 Church Treasurer Training
Something for pastors and all church leadership!



DOM ISRAEL, 2018:

In January, Tony Rutherford joined other Director of Missions from across the state to travel to Israel. This group was guests of Union University and the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. Many returned with the belief that this was truly a trip of a lifetime to have visited the historical and Biblical sites where Jesus walked, preached and performed miracles.



ISRAEL, 2019: Pastors, deacons, and/or church leaders, would you and your wife be interested in being part of a team traveling to Israel in January or February, 2019? We will need at least 10 churches to participate in order to plan and finalize the project.

Church leaders, you may want to give this some consideration for a *Pastor Appreciation* or *Pastor Christmas* gift for next year. Please contact the SBA Office at 442-6604 for additional information regarding dates, costs, etc.

CHURCH GIFTS: The Sweetwater Baptist Association is supported by gifts from our churches. In reviewing the list of *Church Gifts*, we want to offer words of gratitude for all gifts received. Church gifts fund the various budget ministry opportunities provided by the Association. Your church's faithful support of the Sweetwater Baptist Association is greatly encouraged and appreciated. Again, we thank all of the Churches for your continued support.



SBA Church Gifts: October, 2017 - February, 2018

Church/Mission	Oct. 2017	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018	Feb. 2018	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Altoona	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Antioch	50.00	25.00	0.00	50.00	25.00	150.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	866.00	980.00	997.00	945.00	935.00	4723.00
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary	74.19	105.31	86.40	120.00	92.22	478.12
Cane Creek	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1000.00
Cedar Fork	396.41	546.28	503.65	584.50	390.29	2421.13
Cedar Valley	736.24	0.00	827.07	1,771.57	871.63	4206.51
Christianburg	0.00	294.14	0.00	0.00	286.41	580.55
Citico	73.65	72.80	66.35	97.80	69.15	379.75
Clifton	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	125.00
Community	44.25	47.25	37.77	43.23	43.71	216.21
Compromise	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	250.00
Conasauga	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	100.00	500.00
Concord	401.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	401.58
Delano	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	362.99	362.99
Druid Hills	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
Ebenezer	84.00	77.00	65.00	63.00	65.00	354.00
Fairview (Tellico)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1,128.09	1,285.39	1,117.27	1,369.06	1,259.93	6159.74
Fellowship	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	315.00	315.00
Glenlock	0.00	200.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	1000.00
Gregory's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	500.00
Hilltop	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hopewell Springs	186.00	188.00	162.00	175.00	114.00	825.00
Howards Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Island Creek	300.00	300.00	600.00	300.00	300.00	1800.00

Lakeside	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	600.00
Long Ridge	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	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	416.67	2083.35
Maple Springs	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Miller's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	500.00
Mt. Calvary	119.00	0.00	172.00	139.00	97.00	527.00
Mt. Isabella	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Mt. Zion	657.44	512.31	487.17	436.48	740.77	2834.17
Murray's	2,596.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2596.00
New Bethany	338.46	313.38	323.29	306.84	762.39	2044.36
New Macedonia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Providence	404.00	300.00	544.00	348.00	0.00	1596.00
North Sweetwater	101.78	95.39	110.00	145.34	113.85	566.36
Notchey Creek	436.70	436.70	436.70	436.70	436.70	2183.50
Oak Grove	307.50	310.55	351.12	316.00	360.96	1646.13
Oakland	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
Paint Rock	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	550.00
Piney Grove	400.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Poplar Bluff	279.00	252.00	272.40	313.08	235.00	1351.48
Reed Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,579.10	0.00	1579.10
Rocky Springs	900.00	0.00	800.00	400.00	400.00	2500.00
Rural Yale	258.21	389.76	362.43	331.37	293.56	1635.33
Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shelton Grove	0.00	294.88	0.00	0.00	296.43	591.31
Shoal Creek	0.00	208.00	0.00	0.00	223.00	431.00
South Madisonville	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	500.00
Sweetwater, First	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	1750.00
Tellico	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	1200.00
Tellico, First	391.00	600.00	432.00	639.00	382.00	2444.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	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	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	600.00
Union Hall	40.00	38.00	37.00	0.00	41.00	156.00
Union McMinn	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	2000.00
Unity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Upper Shady Grove	50.00	0.00	100.00	50.00	50.00	250.00
Vonore	1,932.16	2,227.56	1,652.11	2,397.25	1,455.19	9664.27
Walnut Grove	0.00	159.84	118.83	0.00	167.02	445.69
Watson Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	388.89	388.89
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	116.77	0.00	51.00	49.70	0.00	217.47
Miscellaneous/TBC	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	3910.00
Misc AM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	25.00
Misc Interest	29.10	25.48	26.65	26.55	25.39	133.17
Total Income	17,701.20	14,348.69	14,542.88	18,737.24	14,828.15	80,158.16

ATTENTION:

Beginning in 2018, changes have been made for participants in the *GuideStone Church Retirement Plan*, who are eligible to receive credit for the disability income benefit and survivor protection benefit. The church and/or participant **MUST** now make a minimum contribution of \$50.00 per month to be eligible for these benefits. Please contact *GuideStone Customer Service* at 1-888-984-8433 if you should have any questions or would like to receive additional information.





Reaching KIDS in Your Zip is designed to equip church staff and volunteers with strategies for reaching unchurched kids and family members in their community. Attendees will receive helps in confidently sharing the Gospel with KIDS and unchurched family members. *This training will benefit all children's leaders regardless of the curriculum used.*

April 2, 6:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
North Etowah Baptist Church, Etowah

Training topics include:

- *Sharing the Gospel with Kids and Unchurched Family Members*
- *Starting a Backyard Kids Club*
- *Continuing the Connection: Follow-up strategies for connecting with unchurched families discovered through evangelistic outreach opportunities*

Register today at www.tnbaptist.org or contact Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, Childhood Specialist, Vicki Hulsey at 1-800-558-2090



LIFEWAY'S CONFERENCE FOR MEN
August 10-11, 2018

Hendersonville, Tennessee

Featuring: James MacDonald, Crawford Loritts

For more information visit www.LifeWay.com/MainEvent



CONASAUGA: Easter Sunrise Service will be held on the front porch of the church at 7:00 am on Sunday April 1st. Breakfast will be served after the service.

COMMUNITY: Easter Egg Hunt will be held at church located at 370 Community Drive, Madisonville on Saturday, March 24th at 4:00 p.m. Eggs will be provided; bring your Easter basket; free hotdogs! Pastor Dennis Atkins invites everyone.



FAIRVIEW TABERNACLE: Our 2018 Easter Passion Play will be presented on the following dates. Everyone is invited to attend.

- Sunday, March 25, 6:30 pm
- Saturday, March 31, 6:30 pm
- Sunday, April 1st, 10:30 am and 6:30 pm

ISLAND CREEK: *The Hymnsmen* will be singing during our evening service on Sunday, March 18th. Service begins at 6:00 pm and everyone is invited to attend.



MT. CALVARY: We were pleased to recently ordain Brother Cody Harris into the Gospel Ministry. Cody has been called to Pastor at Galilee Baptist Church in Cleveland, TN.



MT. ZION: Everyone is invited to join us for the following upcoming events at Mt. Zion.

- Special Singing: April 29 @ 6:00 pm, *The Russell Family*.
- Special Singing: May

25, *The Redeemed Quartet*.

- Vacation Bible School: June 3-8. Classes for all ages, including adults.
- July 8: Revival begins.
- TeamKids: Every Wednesday night @ 6:45. The kids are served dinner and learn about Jesus.



NOTCHEY CREEK: Notchey Creek Baptist Church has several special events scheduled during the upcoming months. Pastor Gale Miller invites everyone to attend.

♦ Sunday morning, April 1, 7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service

♦ June 3-7, 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School (Classes for all ages)

PASTOR'S CONFERENCE is held each Monday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the Sweetwater Baptist Association. All Pastors, Retired Pastors, Ministers, Lay Leaders, etc. are invited to attend. Each week, a different preacher speaks. Recently, Brother Kenny Keller brought the Monday morning message. *(Pictured with Pastor Michael McLemore of 411 Chapel.)*



Sweetwater Baptist Association
 696 Anderson Street
 Madisonville, TN 37354

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2017-2018

MODERATOR Greg McCosh	VICE MODERATOR Charles "Bud" Boring	Associational Council Officers & Committee Chairmen
Pastor Advisor Frank Hicks	Church Growth/Leadership Director Frank Crawford	Mission Committee Carl Croft, Chairman
Disaster Relief Director Tony Curtis	Historian Kay James	Media Ministry Director Betty Wolfe
Men's Ministry Director Bryan Coffey	Music Director Phillip Johnson	Prayer Ministry Director Svitlana Self
RA Director Phil Roy	WMU Director Charlotte Hollinghead	Vacation Bible School Directors Bryan and Kim Williamson
Preschool/Mission Friends Director Savonna Chambers	Girls/GA Director Kendra McDonald	Acteens Director Connie Gardner
Annuity Committee Director of Missions	Bivocational Pastors Council SBA Office Staff	Christian Life Committee Darrell Cardin, Chairman
Committee on Nominations Tim Swabe, Chairman	Constitution Committee Kay James, Chairperson	Evangelism Committee Lon Shoopman, Chairman
Finance Committee Jim Swabe, Chairman	Program Committee Dennis Robinson, Chairman	Scholarship Committee Chris Hollinghead, Chairman
Trustees Carl "Buddy" Richesin, Chairman	Youth Council Anthony Smith, Chairman	

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION
Welcome New Pastors
 Cane Creek..... Kenny Taylor



Director of Mission Visits:
 Delano, Old Pond Hill, Lower Chilhowee, Old Sweetwater, Lakeside,
 Israel, Union McMinn, Christianburg, Big Creek, Upper Shady Grove,
 Community, Calvary, Mt. Calvary, Cane Creek

Please pray for our churches without pastors:
 Long Ridge, Murrays, New Macedonia, Reed Springs, Upper Shady Grove, Vonore



Sweetwater Baptist Association
 Check Out Our Website
www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com
 Visit us on Facebook

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

- March 25-30...Spring Break, Monroe Co Schools
 - March 29...Office Closed, Holiday
 - March 30....Good Friday
 - April 1Easter
 - April 2Office Closed, Holiday
 - April 8VBS Children/Youth Choir Practice, *Rocky Springs*, 2:00 p.m.
 - April 9VBS Clinic, *Rocky Springs*, Open House, 6:30 pm, Conference, 7:00 pm
 - April 14Youth Leaders Workshop, *SBA Office*, 10:00 a.m.
 - April 16SBA Executive Board Meeting, *Island Creek*, 7:00 pm
 - April 23Orientation for Guatemala Mission Volunteers, *SBA Office*, 6:30 p.m.
 - April 25National Administrative Professional's Day
 - May 7WMU Quarterly Meeting, *North Sweetwater*, 7:00 pm
 - May 3National Day of Prayer
 - May 13Mother's Day
- 
- 

- East TN Healthcare Birthday Cake Schedule**
- ♦March - New Providence
 - ♦April - Oak Grove
 - ♦May - Island Creek
 - ♦June - Madisonville First
 - ♦July - Lakeside
 - ♦August - 411 Chapel
 - ♦September - Mt. Zion

2018 SBA Pastor's Conference
 Monday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.
No Pastors Conference on
 Monday, April 2 or Monday, May 28
 (Holiday-Office Closed)

No Pastor's Conference in Month of June
 No Pastors Conference on Monday, July 2
Meetings Resume on July 9th

Please Note: Photographs are taken at all associational meetings and events, and will be used by the association in newsletters, websites and social media sites.

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

The Upper Room Christian Counseling, **Macy Small, M.A.**
 112 Key Kile Road, Sweetwater, TN 37874, 865.414.3269 www.fairviewfamily.org

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

Information for the next newsletter must be received by **May 10th**.