

The MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 195 years, 1830 – 2025



Check Out Our Website

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

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Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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Volume 15

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Number 76

Sweetwater Baptist Association Family of Churches Welcome

Pastor Austin Gourley
wife Katelyn and family

**UNION HALL
Baptist Church**



Pastor Aaron Howard
and family

**OLD POND HILL
Baptist Church**

*No photo available
at time of printing*

Our prayers are with these pastors and congregations as they share Christ in their communities.

Awesome August!

Please make
plans to be
part of Church
Community
Outreach and
Evangelism
Projects during
the month of
August!

<div> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Tellico Plains, FBC Disciple Now @ God's Mountain	2 Union McMinn Summer Fest Tellico Plains, FBC Disciple Now @ God's Mt.
3 SBA CHURCHES SUNDAY SERVICES Tellico Plains, FBC Disciple Now @ God's Mountain	4 Notchey Creek Community Visitation SBA Old-Fashioned Prayer Meeting	5	6 SBA CHURCHES WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES	7	8	9 WALNUT GROVE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Notchey Creek Community Fish Fry
10 SBA CHURCHES SUNDAY SERVICES Union McMinn 200 th Anniversary Celebration	11 Notchey Creek Community Visitation	12	13 SBA CHURCHES WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES	14	15	16 Notchey Creek Free Community Car Wash
17 SBA CHURCHES SUNDAY SERVICES Notchey Creek Awesome August Revival w/Bob Pitman	18 Notchey Creek Awesome August Revival w/Bob Pitman	19 Notchey Creek Awesome August Revival w/Bob Pitman	20 SBA CHURCHES WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES Notchey Creek Awesome August Revival w/Bob Pitman	21	22	23
24 SBA CHURCHES SUNDAY SERVICES	25 Cedar Fork Community Visitation	26	27 ISLAND CREEK ICE CREAM SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY SBA CHURCHES WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES	28 Notchey Creek 2 nd Harvest Food Give-Away w/ Tracts & Prayer	29 Notchey Creek FCA 5 th Quarter SQHS vs. Tellico	30
31 SBA CHURCHES SUNDAY SERVICES Notchey Creek Night of Worship Concert	ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM CALENDAR					

Director of Missions

Some months ago, I got a new watch. The truth is, Justin got a new watch, but he did not like it. My watch was on its last "tick," and this one was on sale, so I took it. He wanted a watch with all the buttons and whistles. You know the kind. It tells the time and weather conditions in each time zone around the world. It has a perpetual calendar that will work into eternity. A stopwatch had to be one of the "gizmos." It is probably set to buzz at each mealtime. I would not be surprised if it does not check your pulse and heart rate. Oh yes, do not forget the built-in calculator that will compute in seven different mathematical systems.



I personally would be afraid to own such a watch. I know I would push the wrong button at the wrong time and start World War III. I am perfectly satisfied with my cheap non-descript time piece that shows only the time and date. I discovered if you push the winding stem in, the face lights up. Man, what technology!

While sitting here at my desk playing with my watch. I wondered what it would take to light up a Christian's face. A joke about the preacher will normally work. I happened to notice the light from my watch came from down inside. Maybe if people were wired to the right source, the light would come from inside of us. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." Could it be that He is the button that will cause the light to come on, and stay on? I think so.

During the summer we have longer daylight hours. Because of the rotation of the earth the sun brings more light and greater heat to the northern hemisphere of God's creation. However, the Scriptures teach that Jesus is the true light of the world. It is our responsibility to reflect and magnify that light so others may discover the source of inner peace and eternal joy. Hopefully, this summer your church has engaged in Vacation Bible School for the children, outings and fellowship opportunities for adults and vacations for renewal of physical and emotional welfare for the family. Even the new long-lasting bulbs in our homes have to be replaced occasionally. Before summer has passed, please take the opportunity to renew and refresh in the LORD.

Awesome August is an excellent time to refocus your congregation for the coming church year. School will soon be starting, and Friday night lights will demand our attention. Please take time to plan a special event for the community to hear about Jesus. God has so graciously placed each church in its location to be a spark that will light up the lives of the people. As the time of Christ's return nears, the community needs to know God has not forsaken them, and the drawing of the Holy Spirit is evident through the message and ministry of the local church. They need you and you need them! Plan your event NOW! And contact our office so we can help promote the LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

This year's *Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting* is scheduled for Monday, August 4 at 7:00 PM. Lakeside Baptist Church has graciously agreed to host the event while The Lingerfells from Island Creek Baptist Church will provide special music. The pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Rev. Jonas Turpin will deliver a message from God's Word. A special prayer time for our pastors and churches will be included. This is always a touching service when Christ is praised,

and pastors are encouraged. Please promote and challenge your people to participate.

As I close this article, I wish to express my gratitude for the prayers and support for the four mission teams that traveled to Guatemala this summer, for the Vacation Bible Schools that have reached hundreds of children for the cause of Christ, for the revivals that have enriched the congregations, and for the support of the staff and ministry of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. In Christ's Love,

--Tony

Thank you for being part of our special day and making our 50th *Wedding Anniversary Celebration* unforgettable. Your thoughtful wishes, texts, cards, gifts, and presence meant so much to us. Thank you to everyone for joining us for this happy occasion; we will cherish these memories forever. In addition, we want to thank Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church and staff for their assistance.

Tony & Darnell

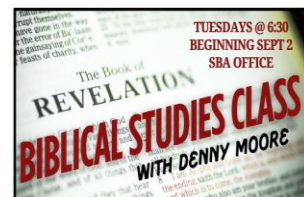
Thank You!



Associational News/Events/Information

BIBLICAL STUDIES CLASS:

The next *Biblical Studies Class* at the Sweetwater Baptist Association is scheduled to begin on Tuesday evening, **September 2nd at 6:30 p.m.** Please be sure and mark your calendar; we know you will not want to miss this class!



The non-credit course, *The Book of Revelation*, will be taught by Robert Denny Moore. (Denny is a retired Director of Missions from the Sweetwater Baptist Association, former pastor, and member of First Baptist Church, Madisonville.)

The cost of the class will be \$20.00 per person. This class is open to everyone: pastors, preachers, teachers and lay-members. Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604 for additional information or if you are interested in taking this class.



CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Jimmy Hollinghead. In earlier years, Brother Jimmy served as pastor of one of our churches, as well as the *Disaster Relief*

Director of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Brother Jimmy was highly respected, and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with this dear family.

OLD FASHIONED PRAYER MEETING:
Please join us on **Monday evening, August 4th** for the Sweetwater Baptist Association, **Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting.**

The meeting will be hosted by **Lakeside Baptist Church** and will begin at 7:00 p.m. The preacher for the evening will be Jonas Turpin, Pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, and special music will be provided by The Lingerfelts from Island Creek Baptist Church. We know you will be blessed by coming. Please announce this meeting in your church! Everyone is invited.



Sweetwater Baptist Association

Monday Morning Pastors' Conference

The meetings resume at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 14th at SBA Office in Madisonville. Please join us!

PASTOR & FAMILY PICNIC: Pastors, please bring your family and join us for the Sweetwater Baptist Association, **Pastor & Family Picnic** on **Monday evening, September 22nd at 6:30 p.m.** The picnic will be held at the Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Pavilion Picnic Area.



Reservations are required for the meal. Please mark this date on your calendar, and watch for additional information regarding reservations for the picnic!

GREECE TOUR, November 3-12

We have 5 spots left! Please contact the SBA Office immediately if you are interested!

CHURCH GIFTS: We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have shared with the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Your church gifts support the various budget opportunities provided by the SBA. Please review the following information, and contact our office if you should have any questions. We thank you again for your giving spirit and support of the budget ministries of the Association.



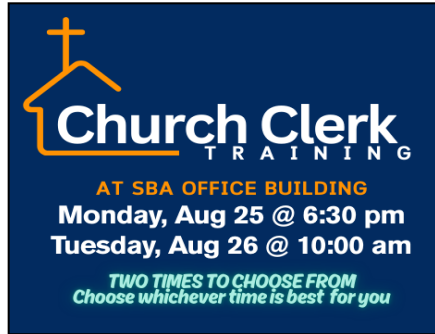
SBA Church Gifts: October, 2024 – June, 2025

Gifts from Church/Mission	Oct 2024-Mar 2025	April	May	June	July	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Antioch	150.00	0.00	50.00	25.00		225.00
Bea's Chapel	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		100.00
Bethlehem	3,498.00	583.00	583.00	583.00		5,247.00

Bible Baptist	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary	677.05	130.10	112.05	133.56	1,052.76
Cane Creek	1,000.00	0.00	100.00	200.00	1,300.00
Cedar Fork	2,820.91	537.57	587.08	535.25	4,480.81
Cedar Valley	6,277.87	1,188.28	721.57	905.03	9,092.75
Christianburg	1,191.92	1,227.08	0.00	0.00	2,419.00
Citico	1,692.70	262.40	243.90	0.00	2,199.00
Clifton	150.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	225.00
Community	1,053.55	479.53	52.58	295.14	1,880.80
Compromise	300.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	450.00
Conasauga	1,800.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	2,400.00
Concord	2,748.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,748.27
Delano	1,900.87	333.64	325.87	285.06	2,845.44
Druid Hills	600.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	900.00
Ebenezer	296.50	0.00	75.00	70.00	441.50
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	9,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	13,500.00
Fellowship	822.16	142.21	110.22	135.91	1,210.50
Glenlock	2,004.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	3,006.00
Gregory's Chapel	600.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	900.00
Hopewell Springs	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Howards Chapel	700.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	900.00
Island Creek	1,800.00	300.00	600.00	0.00	2,700.00
Lakeside	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	190.08	464.90	440.07	467.30	1,562.35
Macedonia	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Madisonville, First	2,500.02	416.67	416.67	416.67	3,750.03
Maple Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miller's Chapel	600.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	900.00
Mt. Calvary	576.24	127.35	141.00	99.18	943.77
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	4,357.85	916.10	754.90	489.53	6,518.38
Murray's	2,194.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,194.00
New Bethany	2,298.11	344.41	350.79	321.81	3,315.12
New Macedonia	1,200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1,800.00
New Providence	5,263.89	831.15	776.85	770.75	7,642.64
New Zion	300.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	400.00
North Sweetwater	656.48	98.95	141.13	69.93	966.49
Notchey Creek	5,493.73	825.43	805.61	809.10	7,933.87
Oak Grove	2,012.99	285.30	279.04	274.25	2,851.58
Oakland	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Old Pond Hill	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Old Sweetwater	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	1,000.00
Paint Rock	550.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	880.00
Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poplar Bluff	600.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	900.00
Reed Springs	1,884.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,884.00
Rocky Springs	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
Rural Vale	3,389.83	302.04	620.17	460.32	4,772.36
Shady Grove	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Shelton Grove	1,158.14	179.40	257.97	145.89	1,741.40
Shoal Creek	540.02	0.00	216.52	0.00	756.54
South Madisonville	600.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	900.00
Sweetwater, First	2,100.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	3,150.00
Tellico	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
Tellico, First	2,767.00	591.00	470.00	361.00	4,189.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	200.00	50.00	50.00	300.00
Towee Falls	900.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	1,350.00
Trinity	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Union Grove	720.00	120.00	120.00	240.00	1,200.00
Union Hall	426.00	95.00	76.00	59.00	656.00
Union McMinn	2,400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	3,600.00
Unity	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	300.00
Upper Shady Grove	250.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	350.00
Vonore	10,815.69	1,569.78	1,419.91	1,687.47	15,492.85
Walnut Grove	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Watson Chapel	1,000.02	166.67	0.00	0.00	1,166.69
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	225.52	71.43	30.43	30.83	358.21
TBMB	3,756.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	5,634.00
Misc AM	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60
Misc Interest	132.15	37.36	40.73	33.35	243.59
Total Income	113,542.16	17,721.75	16,014.06	14,899.33	162,177.30

CHURCH CLERKS:

A **Church Clerk Training** is planned for **Monday evening, August 25 at 6:30 p.m.** and again on **Tuesday morning, August 26 at 10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the office building of the Sweetwater Baptist Association in Madisonville.



This training comes just in time for *Annual Church Profile (ACP)* information and *Annual Meeting Messenger* cards for 2024 to be completed.



Sweetwater Baptist Association

2025 Annual Meeting

Celebrating 195 Years...1830-2025

Monday Evening, October 20, 2025

NEW MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

Philadelphia, TN

6:00 p.m. Association Council, Video Presentation

6:30 p.m. Business Session, Worship Service to follow

- Memorial Report
- Dedication of Minutes of 195th Annual Meeting
- Committee on Nominations Report
- Treasurer's Report
- 2025-2026 Proposed Budget
- DOM Report
- Special Music
- Moderator's Message

Complete 2025 Annual Meeting Program &

2025-2026 Proposed Budget will appear in next issue of Newsletter.

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS

SHOW: Get your church group together and make plans now to see **The SHIRAH BROTHERS** in concert! The Sweetwater Baptist Association is excited this year to feature this southern gospel trio at our annual *Senior Adult Christmas Show* on **Monday morning, December 8th**. The event will be held at **Union McMinn Baptist Church** in Niota at **10:30 a.m.**



Southern Gospel music is no stranger to these three brothers, Aaron, Jake and Josh. They feel excited and blessed to have the opportunity to share God's Word through music. Their desire is to glorify God through their music and the testimony it holds.

Senior Adult Christmas Show
SHIRAH BROTHERS
in Concert
Hosted by: **Union McMinn Baptist Church**
Monday, December 8, 10:30 a.m.



This is a free Christmas show for all ages! Begin planning now to bring a group from your church to **UNION McMINN** on **December 8th**! Everyone is invited!

SBA
WMU/Ladies
Ministry News

Save the Date



The next **WMU/Ladies Meeting** will be held **Monday, November 3rd** at First Baptist Church, Madisonville.

Ladies, please mark your calendars! You don't want to miss this meeting! *Love in Christ,* Rachel Thompson, Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director

WMU/LADIES MEETING

Monday, November 3, 7:00 pm

First Baptist Church, Madisonville



GOLDEN OFFERING: The suggested date for the *Week of Prayer for Tennessee Missions and Golden Offering* is September 7-14. The *Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions* is the annual state missions offering that provides invaluable financial support for ministries that help reach

Tennesseans for Christ. The offering is collected all year, with a special emphasis on giving and praying in September.

The offering is named after W.C. & Mildred Golden, who suggested the week of prayer for state missions and a state mission offering in 1902. They challenged Tennessee Baptists to pray for and give to missions within the state and initiated the offering. Today, churches are still encouraged to learn about, pray for, give to and serve in missions and ministries in Tennessee. Please join other churches in being part of the season of prayer for Tennessee and the *Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions*. (Information taken from www.tnbaptist.org)



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CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: *Children's Bible Drill* helps children in Grades 4-6 increase in their knowledge of the Bible and in learning how to apply the Bible to their lives. *Children's Bible Drill* is made up of three cycles of verses and key passages that rotate over a three-year period. At the end of three years in *Children's Bible Drill*, children will have memorized the books of the Bible and 75 Bible verses. Children will be able to locate Bible books, verses, and 30 Key Passages.



The 2026 *Bible Drill* cycle is Green. KJV and CSB verse cards are prepared by the TBMB and are available for download on the *Children's Bible Drill* page on the TBMB website at the following link...<https://www.tnbaptist.org/childrens-bible-drill/>

GUATEMALA: We praise the Lord for the mission volunteers from Poplar Bluff, Bethlehem, New Bethany, Tellico First, Old Sweetwater, Birchfield (Chilhowee Association), and Brittville (CrossNet Association) that traveled to Guatemala to share the Gospel of Christ throughout the month of June and into July.



A new team from Brittville



traveled to the Sela Community to work in Pastor Hamid's church. Pastor Hamid has served as interpreter for many of our teams in Guatemala over the years. This team

reported four (4) professions of faith.



A group led by Poplar Bluff continued ministry activities and evangelism opportunities with Pastor Antonio at Iglesia Bautista Macedonia, Aldea La Union, Macedonia Baptist Church. This team had a fantastic week of ministry and reported seven (7) professions of faith in home visits and thirty-eight (38) professions to faith at VBS!

A team from



Bethlehem returned to work with Pastor Hugo Barrios at the Jesus is the Way Baptist Church at El

Cañal. In addition, the team worked at LaPalmita Baptist Mission, while the team from Birchfield continued on-going work with Pastor Fred Aguilar Osoria and the Lamb of God Baptist Church at Las Mercedes. We are still waiting to hear the good reports from these teams!

Short-term mission volunteers took part in ministry activities that included Vacation Bible School, medical clinics, Bible Study, door-to-door witnessing, and revivals. Our prayers were with these volunteers as they served in various parts of Guatemala.

Miscellaneous Funds for GUATEMALA MINISTRIES

Poplar Bluff: Macedonia Construction (Oct 2024)	500.00
Bethlehem: Pastor Hugo support (Oct 2024)	4,200.00
Union McMinn: Pastor Fred support (Oct 2024)	1,200.00
Greg Watson: Pastor Hugo's son (Nov 2024)	400.00
Brittville: Pastor Hugo Parsonage (Dec 2024)	5,000.00
Brittville: Guatemala Ministry (Jan 2025)	1,250.00
Poplar Bluff: Medicines for Clinic (Mar 2025)	1,500.00
Poplar Bluff: Pastor Antonio support (Mar 2025)	1,800.00
Anonymous: in honor of granddaughters (Mar 2025)	100.00
Notchey Creek: Guatemala missions (Mar 2025)	500.00
WMU/Ladies Meeting: Guatemala missions (Mar 2025)	436.00
Brittville: Guatemala Ministry (April 2025)	1,250.00
Birchfield: Pastor Hugo Parsonage (April 2025)	9,500.00
Birchfield: Medicines for Clinic (May 2025)	750.00
Bethlehem: Medicines for Clinic (May 2025)	750.00



Please join us as we pray for all mission volunteers and teams from the Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association that will be sharing the Gospel of Christ over the summer months here at home, throughout our state, across our country,

and around our world.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2025 VBS Dates - Chronological Order



Church	Date	Time	Theme
Glenlock	July 20-24	5:30-8:15	True North
Union Grove	July 20-25	6:00-9:00	
Mt. Calvary	July 20-25		Wonder Junction
Notchey Creek	July 21-25	6:15-8:45	Wonder Junction

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REPORTS

Once your Vacation Bible School has ended, please take a minute to complete the 2025 VBS Report (link below). Even though this is a Lifeway report, all VBS's need to report here, regardless of theme used.

<https://vbs.lifeway.com/church-report/>

Also, please contact the SBA Office (call 423.442.6604 or email becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net) the following information:

1. Total Enrollment
2. Average Attendance
3. Number of Decisions/Salvations

Youth News

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Youth Rally




Comedy and Concert

Saturday, March 14 - 5pm
First Baptist Church
Madisonville



Rally Message by Jackson Bailey

Church News/Events/Information

CONCORD:

- July 13, 11:00 am: **Homecoming Service and Baptism**, followed by food and fellowship.
- July 17, 6:00 pm: **Movie screening at Athens Movie Palace**. "The Path to the Way" written by brother Mark McHenry. This is the story of Mark's journey finding Christ and sobriety.
- July 19, 6:00 pm: **Downtown Summer Nights Gospel Night**. Courthouse Square, Decatur, TN.
- July 27, 4:00 pm: **Ice Cream Social** at the Church.



EBENEZER: We are having **Revival** services July 13-18. Sunday Night at 6:00 pm, Weeknights at 7:00 pm.

- Sunday: Evangelist: Chad Edwards. Music: Grace to Glory.
- Monday: Evangelist: Cody Harris.

Music: The McBride Family.

- Tuesday: Evangelist: Coy Adams. Music: 3 Nails.

- Wednesday: Evangelist: Cody Harris. Music: Ethan Parker.
- Thursday: Evangelist: Coy Adams. Music: Jeff Tolbert & Primitive Road.
- Friday: Evangelist: Chad Edwards. Music: Israel Clark.

FAIRVIEW TABERNACLE: **LISA HARPER** is coming to Sweetwater and leading a **Ladies Bible Study** at Fairview Tabernacle on Saturday, August 2. All ladies are invited to attend. The event will be from 9:00 am-Noon. Registration cost is \$30 per person. Register with this link: <https://fairviewbaptisttabernacle.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2832744>



Lisa Harper
 At Fairview Baptist Tabernacle

August 2, 2025
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
 \$30 per lady

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

- **Spanish Speaking Bible Study:** Thursday nights at 6:30 pm.
- **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.



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, contact Andy Foreman at 423-337-1186 or Andrew.foreman67@outlook.com. Visit the website at www.christcompassministries.org/. **Courses include: The Ministry Leadership; The Intercultural Evangelism; Ordained in the Workplace.**

MT. ZION: We are having **Revival** services, July 13-18. Sunday Night at 6:00 pm, Weeknights at 7:00 pm. Prayer Room is 30 minutes prior to service. Evangelists will be Chad Schaffer and Dustin Self.





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.

Phillips, Craig & Dean In Concert



Wednesday, September 10
7:00 pm @ Notchey Creek
FREE CONCERT
(Tickets are Encouraged)
Free Tickets Online at
www.notcheycreekbaptist.org

NOTCHEY CREEK:

- July 19, 5:00-8:30 pm: **Youth VBS Night** (for Middle & High Schoolers). Guest speaker, food, a great lesson, waterslide.
- July 20, 4:00 pm: **VBS Kickoff/Registration**. (Ages 4 years - 5th grade). Meet your teacher, waterslide.
- July 21-25, 6:15-8:45 pm. **VBS**, Wonder Junction (Ages 4 years - 5th grade).
- July 24, 10:00 am: **Second Harvest Food Distribution**.
- Aug 9, **Community Fish Fry**
- Aug 16, **Free Community Car Wash**
- Aug 17-20: **Fall Revival** with Bob Pitman
- Aug 28, 10:00 am: **Second Harvest Food Distribution**.
- Aug 29, **5th Quarter, After Sequoyah/Tellico Football Game** (Watch for details on Special Guest Speaker).
- Aug 31, **Night of Worship Concert**
- Sept 10, 7:00 pm: **Phillips, Craig & Dean Concert**. (Free Tickets online at www.notcheycreekbaptist.org).
- Sept 25, 10:00 am: **Second Harvest Food Distribution**.



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.



join our team

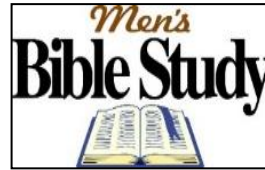
We Are Now Accepting Resumes

applicants should submit a resume, cover letter, and references to: YouthPastorApply@yahoo.com. For more information, contact the church at 423-337-3533.

SWEETWATER, FIRST: We are accepting resumes for the position of **Full-Time Youth and Recreation Pastor**. Interested

should submit a resume, cover

UNION MCMINN: We will have a **Summerfest** on August 2. **Souls for Shoes Collection** will begin on August 3. Our **200th Year Celebration/Homecoming** will be on August 10.



VONORE BAPTIST: All men are invited to join our **Men's Ministry Bible Study**. It is held at the church on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm (Room 8).

EVANGELISM: As months go... **August is pretty Awesome!** Kids are back in school; Friday Night Lights are back; Summer is winding down and leading us into Fall! What a great month to focus on **LOCAL**

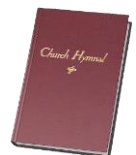


EVANGELISM. We know our churches do outreach and evangelism all throughout the year, but we would love to ask each of our 75 churches to pick at least one day in the month of August to do a community outreach or evangelism project. There are many options and ideas for various kinds of events or projects. **A few examples...Revival Services, Worship Rallies, Concerts, Block Parties, Potlucks, Fish Fry, Free Community Car Wash, Back to School Bash, Water Give-Away at Sporting Events, Door to Door Visitation, Community Service Projects, and so much more!!** These events could be held at your church, at a park or somewhere else in your community! The possibilities are endless!! We have made an **AWESOME AUGUST CALENDAR** and would love to fill all 31 days with an event. The Association will take August 4th for the *Old-Fashioned Prayer Meeting*. That leaves 30 days for churches to fill-up. Pastors and Church Leaders, please look at the month of August, pick a day (or more) and decide on an event or project, and then let us know. We will add it to the calendar and then help promote all the wonderful ideas our churches have planned to reach others for Christ in August!

If your church has used or unused **Sunday School Literature** that you'd like to donate, please contact **Ginger Lloyd** to make arrangements for donating. **Call or Text: 423-572-2700**

Free Church Hymnals

We have been given 3 boxes of Church Hymnals. If your church is interested in them, please contact our office at 423-442-6604.



Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

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VICE MODERATOR

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Committee on Nominations

Bill Wilson, Chairman

Budget/Finance Committee

Gid Redmond, Chairman

Evangelism Director

Shane Johnston

Mission Committee

Gerald Lynn, Chairman

Personnel Committee

Donna McKee, Chairperson

Trustees

Dan Sliger, Chairman

Music Director

Phillip Johnson

Youth Council

Nick Farrell, Chairman

WMU/Ladies Director

Rachel Thompson

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION**Welcome New Pastors**

Aaron Howard..... Old Pond Hill

Austin Gourley..... Union Hall

Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:

Brittsville (Guatemala Team Training); Dominion (Athens); Christianburg; New Macedonia; New Providence; Oakland; Towee Falls (Revival); Lower Chilhowee; Oak Grove; Shelton Grove; Reed Springs; Guatemala (Brittsville mission project); Paint Rock; Old Pond Hill; Rural Vale; Shoal Creek; Union Grove; Cedar Valley; Trinity

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Concord; Hopewell Springs; Long Ridge; Macedonia; Union Grove

**OCTOBER is Pastor Appreciation Month**

Pastor Appreciation Month/Day is an excellent opportunity for churches to affirm love and appreciation to the men of God who are called to serve the Churches. Suggestions for celebrating *Pastor Appreciation Day* include presentation of appreciation certificate or plaque, gift certificate or monetary gift, reception following service, special prayer time for family, spiritual guidance and encouragement. We are so thankful for our pastors and their families, and their ministry to the churches and communities.

Upcoming Events

"If my people, which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land." --2 Chronicles 7:14

July 21Nominating Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. *SBA Office*July 22Budget Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. *SBA Office***AWESOME AUGUST!**August 4.....Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m. *Lakeside*August 25..Church Clerk Training, 6:30 p.m. *SBA Office*August 26..Church Clerk Training, 10:00 a.m. *SBA Office*September 2..... *Biblical Studies Classes*, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.September 7-14.. *Week of Prayer for State Missions and Golden Offering*September 22 *Pastor/Family Picnic*, Natchey Creek Pavilion, 6:30 p.m.

September 24 See You at the Pole

September 29 Mission Committee Meeting, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.

(Meetings and events subject to change)**WMU/Ladies Group**

Please check the Activities Director at 442-3990 regarding entrance at facility.

Madisonville Health & Rehab — Nursing Home Birthday Cake Schedule

July	Lakeside	August	411 Chapel
September	Mt. Zion	October	Natchey Creek
November	Bethlehem	December	New Bethany
January	Vonore	February	Rocky Springs
March	New Providence	April	Oak Grove
May	Concord	June	Madisonville FBC

**February 28, 2026****East Tennessee Ministry Summit****Pastor, Preacher, Leadership Conference and Evangelism Rally**

Guest Preachers: **Dr. Jim Henry**
Rev. Allan Taylor, Dr. Roc Collins

Hosted by: **Natchey Creek Baptist Church****(Watch for further details!)**

Sweetwater Baptist Association

Monday Pastor's Conference, 10:00 a.m.

Meetings will resume on July 14th
at SBA Office in Madisonville

The Upper Room Christian Counseling

Macy Small, M.A.

112 Key Kile Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874 865.414.3269

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

Next issue of The Messenger will be September/October.

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.