

**THE MESSENGER**  
of the  
**Sweetwater Baptist Association**



*"Seventy-three Churches on Mission Together"*  
Celebrating 183 years, 1830 – 2013

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**Volume 2**

**July/August, 2013**

**Number 7**

**SWEETWATER  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
2013 Annual Meeting**

Theme: *I Stand Amazed*

**Session 1: Monday, October 21, 6:45 p.m.**

- **First Baptist Church, Sweetwater**
- Mission Message by Dr. H. Dean Haun, *Pastor, First Baptist Church, Morristown*
- Director of Missions Report

**Session 2: Tuesday, October 22, 6:45 p.m.**

- **First Baptist Church, Tellico Plains**
- Moderator's Message by Mike DeLand
- Election of Officers

Annual Church Profiles (ACP's) and Messenger Cards  
must be completed and returned to the SBA Office by October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Sweetwater Baptist Association presents*

**Winter Bible Study Conference**  
Monday, October 28, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

Conference Presenter  
**Dr. Chad Hartsock**  
Carson-Newman College

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
Office Building, Madisonville, Tennessee

*Everyone Invited!*



*Giving a Better Gift... Improving Your Church's Praise of God*

**Worship Seminar**

First Baptist Church, Sweetwater  
Monday, August 12, 7:00 p.m.  
Led by: **Dr. Paul Clark (TBC)**



Emphasis on the meaning of worship and the varied practices of worship

*Tennessee Baptist Convention presents*

*Sunday School Training at ...*

**Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota**  
Thursday, August 15, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

[www.equippingu.org](http://www.equippingu.org)

**Road Map to a Vibrant Sunday School**

*Conferences for all Pastors, Sunday School Directors, Leaders,  
Sunday School Adult, Children and Preschool Teachers*

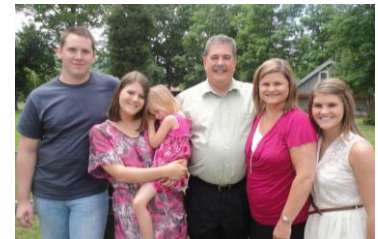


**SBA Family of Churches Welcomes...**



**Cane Creek Baptist Church**

*Pastor Jamie Johnson and wife, Malinda  
and children, Abigail and Austin*



**Rural Vale Baptist Church**

*Pastor Russell Jones and wife, Kim  
Jeff Bivens (son-in-law), Kayla Bivens (daughter),  
Keeley Grubb (granddaughter) Russell Jones, Kim Jones,  
Kelsie Jones (daughter)*



**Oakland Baptist Church**

*Pastor Jim Swabe and wife, Tracy  
Daughters, Kelly and Carly, and son, Caleb*



**Unicoi Baptist Church**

*Pastor Richard "Cotay" Baxter and wife, Hannah  
and daughter, Lexy*

**Our prayers are with these pastors and congregations,  
as they work to share the love of Jesus with their communities.**

## Director of Missions



Obedience is to hear God's Word and act accordingly. The word translated "obey" in the Old Testament means "to hear" and is often translated that way. In the New Testament, several words describe obedience. One word means "to hear or to listen in a state of submission." Another New Testament word often translated "obey" means "to trust." The person's obedient response to God's Word is a response to trust or faith. Thus, to really hear God's Word is to obey God's Word.

In the early days of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, visions of new church starts and to strengthen existing churches was the major point of focus. Church growth and church plants spread throughout the Monroe County area. The congregations have grown from small family gatherings to community worship centers. Circuit riding preachers have been replaced with a pastor leading a single congregation.

Obedience has long been a goal of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Answering the call of God's Word has led the people who live in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains to travel around the world sharing the love of God. The handprint of God can be seen in the churches of the Ukraine, Brazil and Panama. Thirst has been quenched in Haiti, where wells of water have brought forth life. Now, an orphanage is being built on the poorest island in the Northern Hemisphere, Haiti.

Obedience has an effect on our spiritual life; it calls us to worship God. The obedience of faith brings about salvation, and secures God's blessing on His children. Spiritual insight is gained through obedience; a life of obedience to God is the fruit of faith. True obedience means imitating God in holiness, humility and love. His disciples do the will of the Father. Obedience leaves the handprint of God on each person we share His love.

Twenty years of service and obedience is worthy of acknowledgement. Ms. Audrey Stephens has been our Associational WMU Director for two decades. She has seen much change and improvement in the mission efforts of the Sweetwater Baptist Association during her tenure as director. However, she has decided for personal reasons, not to begin a third decade. Her commitment to the women's mission endeavors goes without question. Ms. Audrey, we wish for you the best and may God provide many open doors to share your knowledge with others. Please support her last meeting by attending the WMU Quarterly Meeting at Mt. Zion on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

The handprint of God is evident when we worship our Savior in spirit and in truth. On August 12, 2013, the SBA is presenting a worship seminar. The First Baptist Church, Sweetwater will host the event at 7:00 pm. I hope you will come and experience the gentle touch of our Lord.

For years, Sunday School has been a pathway into the local church, as well as the Kingdom of Heaven. Over the past few years, the participation in Sunday School has slipped. The Tennessee Baptist Convention is hosting a Sunday School Leadership training for all the churches in our area. The event will be held August 15, 2013 at Union McMinn Baptist Church in Niota. The training starts at 6:30 pm.

In the early church, the handprint of God was evident when the church gathered for fellowship. I have the privilege of serving some of the greatest churches and pastors in the kingdom. I want to spend some casual time with our pastors, Associational leadership and their families. Please join Darnell and me on September 9, 2013 for a picnic at Kefauver Park, at 6:00 pm.

Many of our church members are outdoor enthusiasts. May I recommend the Sportsman Day at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum on Saturday, September 14, 2013 beginning at noon. Hunters and fishermen will enjoy an afternoon of activity and meeting special guests. Most of all, you will have an opportunity to hear how God's amazing grace changes lives.

God's Blessings,

*--- Tony Rutherford*

**Christian Sympathy:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Joseph (Joe) B. Caldwell. Through the years, Brother Joe served as pastor of many of our churches, and was loved and respected by the people of our Association. He served as Moderator of the Association, as well as on many of the Associational Committees. He participated in several mission projects, and faithfully attended the Monday Morning Pastor's Conference. He was a great man of God, and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his dear family.



### MISSION TEAM FROM PINETOPS BAPTIST CHURCH:

A mission team from Pinetops Baptist Church in Pinetops, North Carolina worked in our area the week of July 23-30. They held a Backyard Bible Club at the local Boys and Girls Club in Tellico Plains, and assisted in the Vacation Bible School at North Sweetwater Baptist Church. They also visited several area nursing homes, and attended and preached in several of our churches. We appreciate the work of this great team from North Carolina and pray God's blessings for their efforts.





**Sweetwater Baptist Association** **Womens Missionary Union**

Some people dread for their birthday to come around each year. I always love



for mine to arrive. In fact, I just recently had one. I am always thankful that I made it another year to another birthday. Of course, all the happy wishes, cards, phone calls, and a special birthday cupcake helped make it a good day. But can you imagine celebrating 125 years! That's what WMU is doing this year...celebrating 125 years. 1888 was a historic year; the Southern Baptist Convention and Tennessee Baptist Convention both organized Woman's Missionary Union, and today, "The Story Lives On".



I always look forward to the WMU Quarterly Meetings, but the next Quarterly Meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Zion Baptist Church will be a

**WMU Quarterly Meeting**  
**Monday, August 5, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Vonore**

bittersweet one. It will be my last WMU meeting as the Associational WMU Director. Mt. Zion Baptist Church is also where this adventure of my life began 20 years ago as the Associational WMU Director. It has been great, but it is now time for a

change. On that evening we are going to look back over the past 20 years. I hope to see all of you there at the meeting.

**Week of Prayer for State Missions and Golden Offering**  
**September 8-15**

Remember when it's your time to provide a birthday cake: August is 411 Chapel, September is Mt Zion and October is Notchey Creek. (This year, these dates are listed each month on the Associational Calendar of Events.) Thank you to all of the WMU's that participate in this ministry.

Check [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) and [www.tnwmu.org](http://www.tnwmu.org) for helpful information. Check out our facebook page Sweetwater Baptist Association WMU. Remember.....missions will put a smile on your face...Audie Associational WMU Director, Audrey J. Stephens

**CHRISTIAN COUNSELING CENTER:**



**Macy Small** is a graduate of Cornerstone University with a Master's Degree in Christian Counseling. She also holds a Bachelor's Degree from Luther Rice Bible College and certification entitled "Caring for People God's Way". She specializes in **Marriage and Family Counseling** and seeks to give Godly counsel for individuals, couples, and families. Counseling services include divorce recovery, pre-marital counseling, marital counseling, and those struggling with personal stress and problems. She is a member of the Sarasota Academy of



For more information visit [www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org) or call 865-414-3269.

**The UPPER Room.....**  
*people entered with pain, but left with a purpose and a passion. Acts 2*

Association. She is licensed and commissioned through the National Conservative Christian Church. Macy is a member of Fairview Baptist

Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater where she and her husband lead a Homebuilders class and they reside with their two children in Loudon.

**ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:** Annual Church Profile (ACP) packets and Messenger cards for the 2013 Annual Meeting are available at the Associational Office. We would appreciate you stopping by our office as soon as possible to pick up the packet for your church. The ACP and Messenger cards must be completed and returned to our office by October 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Please remember that in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, each church is entitled to ten (10) Messengers and two (2) alternates. A **Messenger card must be completed for all pastors** as well as **Officers and Committee Chairman of the Association** in order for them to participate in the business of the Association.

If you need help completing your Messenger cards or ACP, please contact the Associational Office at 442-442-6604 and we will be happy to assist you in this process.

**ANNUAL MEETING NOTE:** Please join us in the Associational Choir. Members of your church choir are invited to be part of the Associational Choir that will provide special music at the First Session of the 2013 Annual Meeting that will be held on Monday evening, October 21st at First Baptist Church, Sweetwater. The session will begin at 6:45 p.m. and the choir will need to meet at the church on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October by 6:30 p.m. in order to prepare for worship. Phillip Johnson from Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church will serve as the Music Director. Listening cd's will be available at the Associational Office. Please contact the SBA Office if you would like to pick up a copy of the cd, and feel free to make additional copies.



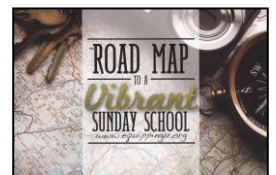
**PEWS NEEDED:** A local jail ministry is in need of 2 wooden church pews for services at the Monroe County Jail. Pews need to be between 12-15 feet and not have padding (they will be located outside). If any churches have old, extra pews that could be donated, please contact the associational office at 423-442-6604.



**WORSHIP SEMINAR:** Music Directors, choir leaders, pastors and church leaders are encouraged to attend the upcoming training seminar, *Giving a Better Gift...Improving Your Church's Praise of God*. It will be held on Monday evening, **August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Sweetwater**. Dr. Paul Clark, Jr., Director of Worship and Music Ministries, Tennessee Baptist Convention, will be leading the seminar. The emphasis will be on the meaning of worship, and the varied practices of worship. Included in the topics will be an introduction to the reason for worship. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

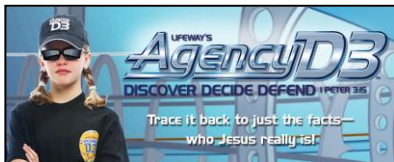


**ROAD MAP TO A VIBRANT SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Please let us encourage all Sunday School Leaders to attend the upcoming **2013 Sunday School** training conferences presented by the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The conference in our local area will be held on **Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**, and will be hosted by Union-McMinn Baptist Church in Niota. Conferences are available for Pastors, Sunday School Directors/Assistants, General Leadership, Preschool, Children, Youth and Adult Leaders. Complete information, including classes being offered, keynote speakers, additional locations and schedules can be found at [www.equippingu.org](http://www.equippingu.org) or please contact the SBA Office at 442-6604.



**VACATION BIBLE**

**SCHOOL:** Another VBS season has almost come to a close and this year has been another great success. Many children have experienced God's gift of salvation and many more seeds were planted. We are very thankful for the dedicated workers who make VBS possible in our churches. We also want to thank all of our churches that participated in the VBS Link-up Project here at our office. It was an exciting ride!



If your church has not yet turned in their VBS Report, please take a few minutes to fill out the report and send it in to the Associational Office (or you can call your information in to the SBA Office and we will complete the form for you).

It's hard to believe, but we are already looking ahead to VBS 2014. The theme is "Agency D3, Discover, Decide, Defend." VBS Special Agents will have a fun-filled week to uncover and defend the truth about who Jesus really is. The evidence is clear and the proof is right here. Our Scripture reference is 1 Peter 3:15. **You can PRE-ORDER your 2014 Sampler and Super Sampler Kits now.** Just contact the Associational Office at 442-6604 for further information.

**2013 Vacation Bible School's Across the Association**



(Additional VBS photos are available on our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com))

**2013 VBS Statistics**

If your church's information has not been reported, please send in your report or call the office with your numbers.

Church	Enrollment	Average	Professions
Big Creek	95	79	0
Cedar Valley	166	115	7
Cedar Valley (Mission-Iowa)	29	29	2
Chestua	128	116	25
Citico	96	79	3
Ebenezer	89	89	5
Fairview Tabernacle	367	284	44
Island Creek	155	135	18
Lakeside	127	91	0
Madisonville, 1 <sup>st</sup> (Mission)	24	14	0
Miller's Chapel	45	35	2
Mt. Calvary	167	156	27
Murray's	72	69	0
New Macedonia	247	201	0
Notchey Creek	293	239	20
Oak Grove	94	77	0
Rocky Springs	146	117	0
Rural Vale	91	82	1
Tevis Springs	33	33	0
Unicoi	62	58	0
Unity	49	49	3

**Summer Revivals**

- Mountaintop Community Revival @ Long Ridge July 28-August 3, (Evangelists: Various)
- Notchey Creek – July 28-31, Evangelist: Billy Sampson
- Cedar Valley – August 11-?, Evangelist: Gale Miller
- Island Creek – August 25-30

**SHOES FOR ORPHAN SOULS**

Needed: New Sneakers/Athletic Shoes and Socks.

Sizes: Youth 1 through Adult 7.

Drop-Off Location: Mac's Auto Care, 819 Englewood Rd, Madisonville.

Drop-Off Dates: August 1<sup>st</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>.

For More Information, Call 423-442-2700.



**MY HOPE** is based on the example of the Apostle Matthew. Matthew invited his friends to his house for a meal and to meet Jesus. (Matt. 9:9-10). The program is simple. Throughout the course of this year, Christians are asked to develop a relationship with 4-6 lost people. Then in November (in honor of Billy Graham's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday), these people will be invited into your homes for a meal and to watch a broadcast from Dr. Graham. Your guests will hear testimonies of people who have trusted Christ for salvation and how their lives have changed since accepting Him. Dr. Graham will also be sharing a brief message. At the end of the broadcast, the Gospel will be presented and your guests will be given the opportunity to pray to receive Christ. There are many resources and materials to help Pastors plan, promote and train for MY HOPE at [www.myhopewithbillygraham.org](http://www.myhopewithbillygraham.org).



**My Hope with Billy Graham Rally**  
**Vonore Baptist Church**  
**Monday, September 16**  
**6:30-8:00 p.m.**

Please contact the Associational Office at 442-6604 or visit our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) for additional information.



**SBA Church Gifts through 07.17.2013**

Church/Mission .....	Total
411 Chapel.....	1,500.00
Altoona .....	1,000.00
Antioch .....	225.00
Beaty's Chapel.....	0.00
Bethlehem .....	6,980.00
Big Creek.....	500.00
Calvary.....	782.44
Cane Creek.....	1,100.00
Cedar Fork .....	2,215.65
Cedar Valley.....	2,486.76
Chestua .....	1,000.00
Christianburg.....	919.68
Citico .....	947.35
Clifton .....	275.00
Community.....	1,281.03
Compromise.....	500.00
Concord.....	0.00
Druid Hills.....	60.00
Ebenezer.....	794.50
Fairview.....	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle.....	10,049.94
Glenlock .....	1,800.00
Gregory's Chapel.....	500.00
Hilltop .....	225.00
Hopewell Springs.....	3,710.00
Howards Chapel.....	997.30
Island Creek.....	1,600.00
Lakeside.....	600.00
Long Ridge.....	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee.....	700.00
Macedonia.....	200.00
Madisonville, First.....	3,666.70
Maple Springs .....	500.00
Miller's Chapel.....	1,000.00
Mt. Calvary.....	1,035.25
Mt. Isabella.....	100.00
Mt. Pleasant.....	900.00
Mt. Zion.....	4,093.79
Murray's.....	2,917.50
New Bethany.....	3,367.61
New Macedonia.....	1,400.00
New Providence.....	4,270.00
North Sweetwater.....	1,878.09
Notchey Creek .....	3,767.10
Oakland .....	300.00
Oak Grove.....	2,743.67
Old Pond Hill.....	0.00
Old Sweetwater.....	100.00
Paint Rock.....	1,100.00
Piney Grove .....	0.00
Poplar Bluff.....	1,882.71
Reed Springs .....	1,362.86
Rocky Springs.....	3,200.00
Rural Vale.....	1,861.81
Shady Grove.....	200.00
Shelton Grove.....	0.00
Shoal Creek .....	1,358.00
South Madisonville.....	1,000.00
Sweetwater, First.....	3,150.00
Tellico .....	1,000.00
Tellico Plains, First.....	6,243.00
Tevis Springs.....	590.58
Towee Falls.....	1,000.00
Trinity.....	0.00
Unicoi .....	677.79
Union Hall.....	1,053.72
Unity.....	300.00
Upper Shady Grove.....	450.00
Vonore.....	5,737.17
Walnut Grove.....	1,464.04
Watson Chapel.....	2,500.00
Westside.....	0.00
Williamsburg.....	459.04
TBC .....	7,499.97
Miscellaneous AM/Interest.....	859.55
Total Income .....	\$120,998.93

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**Pastor and Family Picnic**  
**Monday, September 9th**



Kefauver Park, Madisonville  
 Hamburgers and hotdogs for the group will be served at the pavilion at 6:00 p.m.  
**Food, Fun and Fellowship! Reservations Required.**

This picnic is a treat for our pastors and their family. We have also invited our retired pastors, Associational Officers and Council as our guests. Please call our office at 442-6604 or email the number that will be attending for your family to [sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net) or [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) in order that we can adequately prepare for the correct number in attendance.

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**Men's Ministry Presents**

**2013 Sportsmen's Day**  
**Saturday, September 14**

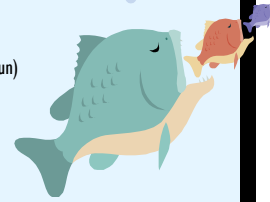
**Begins at 12:00 noon Meal at 4:00 p.m.**

Bring a "covered dish" for the fellowship meal  
**Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, Vonore, Tennessee**

**Guest Speakers: FLW PRO ANGLERS**

**Activities Include:**

- 3-D Archery Course
- Skeet Shooting  
(Shells and Skeet Provided-Bring your own Gun)
- Float and Fly-Fishing
- Bass Fishing Lessons
- Kid's Fishing Rodeo
- Casting Pool for Kids
- Face-painting, Bounce houses, Games
- Wild Beast Feast (Bring your favorite "wild game" recipe for the meal)
- Door Prizes (Must be present to win)



Bass tournament at Toqua Boat Ramp to begin at first light with weigh-in at 2:00 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum.

For more information, contact Sweetwater Baptist Association at 423-442-6604 or Clint Brackett at 423-404-3150.

**EVERYONE INVITED!**

**See You at the Pole**

*Wednesday, September 25*

Armbands, posters, t-shirts, supplies, resources, etc. for *See You at the Pole* can be ordered online at [www.syatp.com](http://www.syatp.com) or by calling 817-447-7526.

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents  
**Library Training Conference**

*Freedom to Read, Learn and Serve*

**Locations and Dates:**

- September 7, FBC, Cleveland with guest author Kaye Dacus
  - September 14, East Maryville BC with guest author Dianne Barker
- Guest authors will be leading a class on writing and publishing. Registration and further information will be available on TBC website.

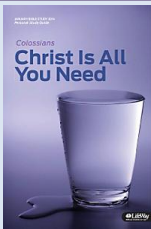
Sweetwater Baptist Association presents

## Winter Bible Study Conference Monday, October 28, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

**Dr. Chad Hartsock**, Conference Presenter  
Assistant Professor of Religion, Carson-Newman College

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
Office Building, Madisonville, Tennessee

*Everyone Invited!*



**2014 JANUARY BIBLE STUDY:** The 2014 January Bible Study is *Colossians: Christ Is All You Need*. Paul's Letter to the Colossians reminds us that everything God desires to do in and through our lives will be accomplished out of the overflow of our relationship with Christ. Christ is all we need.

The Winter Bible Study materials will be available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) or [sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net) to reserve a copy of the materials for your church.

## October -- Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor Appreciation Day provides an excellent opportunity for your church to affirm love and appreciation to those who are called by God and your church to lead them in fulfilling the Great Commission. 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.

## PASTOR AND WIFE CHRISTMAS BANQUET:

The Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet will be held on Monday evening, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The catered meal/banquet will be held at Vonore Baptist Church, Family Life Center in Vonore. In addition to pastors and their wives, our invitation includes seminary extension students, retired pastors, associational officers and leadership, as well as their spouses.



Pastors, we know you will not want to miss our banquet this year! Special guest entertainment for the evening will be comedian/singer/song writer, Tim Lovelace. He is a masterful storyteller, who uses humor to motivate and inspire by sharing life lessons. Tim's awards include Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame Inductee, and Grammy and Dove Award

Nominee. He is featured on Gaither videos.

In order to prepare for the correct number in attendance, reservations are required. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email the number attending to [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) or [sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net)

## YOUTH COMMITTEE: YOUTH REACH 2013

**WAS AWESOME!!** We are so happy to share that this year's conference was a great success. We want to thank everyone that worked to put this event together and those that served as conference leaders and breakout leaders. We also want to thank all the youth workers who brought their students to Youth Reach. Without your support, we wouldn't be able to offer this conference to our students. But most of all, we thank God for the amazing work He did in the lives

of students and adults.



We are already working on Youth Reach 2014 and hope to see even more students next year. We are very excited that the 2014 conference speaker has already been confirmed. Pastor Shawn McBride with

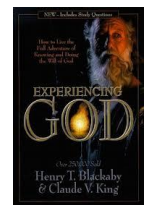
Truth for Youth America is one of America's top youth speakers. For more information on Pastor Shawn, visit [www.truthforyouthamerica.org](http://www.truthforyouthamerica.org). You can also follow Pastor Shawn on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. If our youth committee or the associational office can



assist your church with your youth ministry, please don't hesitate to ask. -- Jarrod Johnson, Chairman

**JUST A NOTE:** Please contact the SBA Office at 442-6604 if you lost items at the convention center at 2013 Youth Reach. We found a Bible and a "hand written" devotional journal at the close of Youth Reach in Pigeon Forge.

**FOR PASTORS AND STAFF:** You are invited to a FREE Ministry Appreciation Dinner on October 3rd with Dr. Henry Blackaby, author/speaker of the enduring study, "Experiencing God - Knowing and Doing the Will of God". This special dinner for you and your spouse will be held at Rothchild Catering and Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike in Knoxville beginning at 6:00 pm.



Henry T. Blackaby is the founder and president emeritus of Blackaby Ministries International, an organization built to help people experience God. His life's purpose is to encourage revival and spiritual awakening across the world through speaking, praying, writing and mentoring. This event is provided by LifeWay Christian Resources, Knoxville. You must register to attend. To register, please call...1-800-254-2022.

## Haiti Mission Project

November 2-9, 2013 (tentative dates)

**Construction Team only will be needed!**

Please contact the SBA Office at 442-6604 for further information.

## Workshop for Pastors and Clergy

*Regarding Veterans Issues*

Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Trinity Unity Methodist Church, 5613 Western Avenue, Knoxville

Lunch will be provided. – No Charge for Workshop.

You must register at [www.tnvhc.org](http://www.tnvhc.org) or call 1-865-933-6954.

Topics to be addressed will include...

- Suicide prevention
- Eligibility for services
- Re-entry issues facing the veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan
- Spiritual and religious care and support for veterans and their families

Conference provided by James H. Quillen VA Medical Center and Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council







**CEDAR VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH:** A mission team of 9 people traveled to Iowa in June. The team did community outreach and nightly bonfires for the community. On Wednesday, the team hosted an all-day VBS, concluding with a community meal. Two people accepted Christ on Thursday night. Our team had a great time and are excited about going back next year.



**GLENLOCK BAPTIST CHURCH: BACK-TO-SCHOOL DAY:** July 27, 2013 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon (while supplies last). Breakfast will be served. Free School Supplies and Clothes! Everyone is welcome. The church is located at 3050 Sweetwater-Vonore Rd, Sweetwater.

**HILLTOP BAPTIST CHURCH:** Our Homecoming Service will be held on August 18<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11:00 am. Our "Mission Focus" during VBS was the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home. We collected pennies each night and collected a special offering on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. In all we collected \$300 for the Children's Home. The offering was presented to Bro. Tony Cummings and his wife and the children in their home.



**ISLAND CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH:** During Homecoming Service on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the church celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. On behalf of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brother Tony Rutherford presented a 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Certificate to the church. The certificate was presented to Bro. Glen Rodgers, the longest standing church member in attendance that day.



**MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH:** Thank you to Brother Tony Rutherford for preaching our Revival (July 14-19). We thank God for the wonderful services. Our youth will be traveling to Corbin, KY to do Back Yard Bible Camp the week of July 28 – August 2. They will be assisting in the Bible School as well as other projects while there. Please pray for their safety and for this trip to be filled with many blessings for them and those they work with.

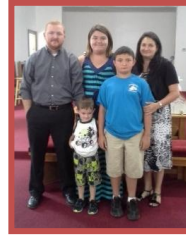


**NORTH SWEETWATER BAPTIST CHURCH:** Homecoming Service will be held on August 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10:00 am. Rev. Don Rockholt will be preaching and *The Perfect Peace Trio* will be singing. Lunch will be served around noon. There will be no Sunday School and no evening service. All members, former members and visitors are welcome. Come and worship the Lord with us.

**RURAL VALE BAPTIST CHURCH:** We are pleased to announce that Rev. Russell Jones has been called to serve as our Pastor. We welcome Pastor Jones along with his wife Kim and daughter Kelsie to our church. On July 21<sup>st</sup> we had a baptism service at Poplar Bluff Baptist Church. We also want to congratulate Rev. Jonathan Walker along with his wife Audrey and family on his ordination and calling to be the Youth Pastor at Shoal Creek Baptist Church. Jonathan and his family have been a blessing to



Rural Vale Church. We are confident God will continue to bless him and his ministry.



**SHOAL CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH:** Praise God for all His blessings. We have had one soul saved, 4 join the church and 5 baptized. Also, we are happy to welcome Brother Jonathan Walker as our new Youth Pastor. Please join us in prayer for Jonathan and his family and their new ministry with the youth at Shoal Creek. Please keep praying for our building project and our Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is open the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

**VONORE BAPTIST CHURCH AND TELlico, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH:**

Thirty-seven youth and adults from Vonore Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, Tellico joined together on the mission field during the week of July 7-13.



The teams traveled to Summersville, West Virginia to partner with Pastor Phil Shouse and the congregation of Southern Baptist Fellowship Church. This group canvassed the streets of Summersville door to door surveying and outreach where well over a thousand families were contacted. Teams participated in nursing home ministry and also a community block party at the church, which was aimed at reaching the many unchurched families in the area. The Youth were also challenged to carry out "Random Acts of Service" as they went about in the city. Moving landscape borders, assisting city workers with brush removal, re-filling parking meters, introducing Laundry Love and prayer walking were just a few of the things the different groups did. In addition to all of the ministry projects, the week was filled with wonderful times of fellowship between the groups which included lots of fun activities, challenging group and individual devotions and spirit filled times of worship and reflection. It was an awesome and productive time for everyone. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!! Please join us in praying for our Southern Baptist Fellowship Church family as they continue to minister to and evangelize the residents of Summersville.

**VONORE BAPTIST CHURCH:** We will welcome Dr. Doug Sager as Interim Pastor, beginning Sunday, July 28, 2013. Dr. Sager recently retired as the long-standing pastor at FBC Concord.



**CORA VEAL SENIOR CENTER:** Volunteers are needed to drive senior adults to doctor appointments and on errands (such as the pharmacy or the grocery store) and to the Cora Veal Center. The Center offers lots of activities for senior adults. Some of these activities include Bingo, Pool Tables, Entertainment, Special Events, etc. Meals are offered daily at \$3.00 per person (call 442-5834 to reserve). Volunteers will be trained/certified and covered with liability insurance (at no cost to the volunteer). Call Joyce Fridley for more information at 423-351-0028.



**GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL:** The Monroe County Camp of Gideon's International wishes to thank you for your participation in the placement of Holy Scriptures throughout the world. Locally 800 Testaments were given to 5<sup>th</sup> graders and high school seniors of the Monroe County School System. In doctor's offices and nursing homes, 62 Bibles were given, and 468 Testaments were given to medical personnel.

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

Return Service Requested

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**ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS**

<b>MODERATOR</b> Mike DeLand	<b>VICE MODERATOR</b> Carroll Hamilton	
Pastor Advisor Frank Hicks	Church Growth & Leadership Director Frank Crawford	Mission Committee David Chambers, Chairman
Disaster Relief Co-Directors Tony Curtis & Bill Westphal	Historian Co-Directors Kay James & Angie Johnson	Media Ministry Director Betty Wolfe
Men's Ministry Director Clint Brackett	Music Director Phillip Johnson	Prayer Ministry Director Svitlana Self
RA Director Phil Roy	WMU Director Audrey Stephens	Vacation Bible School Director Katrina Umphrey
Preschool/Mission Friends Director Savonna Chambers	Girls/GA Director Michelle Spradlin	Acteens Director Connie Gardner
Annuity Committee Director of Missions	Bivocational Pastors Council David Lane, Chairman	Christian Life Committee Jody Schroder, Chairman
Committee on Nominations Michael McLemore, Chairman	Constitution Committee Carl Croft, Chairman	Evangelism Committee Larry Gibby, Chairman
Finance Committee Bill Wilson, Chairman	Personnel Committee Ron Cook, Chairman	Program Committee Gib Harris, Chairman
Scholarship Committee Chris Hollinghead, Chairman	Trustees Don Rockholt, Chairman	Youth Council Jarrod Johnson, Chairman

**NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION**

**Welcome New Pastors**

Cane Creek.....Jamie Johnson      Oakland.....Jim Swabe  
 Rural Vale.....Russell Jones      Unicoi.....Cotay Baxter

**Director of Mission Visits:**

Raleigh Road, (NC), Mt. Isabella, Hilltop, Howard's Chapel, Sweetwater First, Lakeside, Lower Chilhowee, Pisgah (Decatur), Long Ridge, Cane Creek, Poplar Bluff, Mt. Calvary, Rural Vale, Fairview Tabernacle, Madisonville First, Notchey Creek, Bethlehem, Big Creek, Glenlock, Cedar Valley, Cedar Fork, 411 Chapel, Hopewell, Clifton, Critico, Mt. Zion, Oak Grove, Rocky Springs, Chestua, Watson Chapel, New Bethany, Murray's, Island Creek, Vonore, Walnut Grove, Concord, Iowa, North Sweetwater, Christianburg, Miller's Chapel, Fairview (Tellico)

**Please pray for our churches without pastors:**

Clifton, Community, Gregory's Chapel, Lower Chilhowee, North Sweetwater, Shady Grove, Vonore (Interim), Walnut Grove (Interim), Watson Chapel



**August, 2013**

“God is light; in Him there is not darkness at all.”  
 --1 John 1:5

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake- <b>July- Lakeside</b>		East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake- <b>August 411 Chapel</b>		1	2	3
4	Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.  WMU Quarterly Meeting, Mt. Zion 7:00 p.m.	6	7	8 First Day of School -- Monroe County	9	10
11	Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.  Worship Seminar, Sweetwater First, Led by Dr. Paul Clark 7:00 p.m.	13	14	15 TBC Sunday School Training, "Road Map to a Vibrant Sunday School", Union McMinn Baptist Church, 6:30- 9:00 p.m.	16	17
18	Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	20	21	22	23	24
25	Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	27	28	29	30	31

We must print the complete program for the 2013 Annual Meeting and 2013-2014 Proposed Budget in the next issue of the newsletter. Therefore, information for the next newsletter must be received by September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**September, 2013**

“The glory of the Lord will be revealed.”  
 --Isaiah 40:5

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 No Pastor Conf.  No School MCBOE  Labor Day Office Closed	3	4	5	6	7
8 Grandparent's Day Sept 8-15 Week of Prayer for State Missions and Golden Offering	9 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.  Pastor & Family Picnic Kelauger Park, 6:00 p.m.	10 Missions Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	11	12	13	14 Sportsmen's Day, Sequoyah Birthplace Museum
15	16 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	17	18	19	20	21
22 Autumn Begins	23 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	24	25 SEE YOU AT THE POLE.	26	27	28
29	30 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.					East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake- <b>September 1<sup>st</sup> Zion</b>

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