

*The MESSENGER*  
of the  
*Sweetwater Baptist Association*



*"Churches on Mission Together"*  
Celebrating 189 years, 1830 – 2019

**TONY RUTHERFORD**

Director of Missions  
tonyrutherford@bellsouth.net  
423-337-1353 (cell)

**SHERI STEPHENS**

Administrative Assistant  
sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net  
423-442-6604 (office)

**BECKY JONES**

Ministry Assistant  
becky.jones@bellsouth.net  
423-442-6605 (fax)

**SVITLANA SELF**

Resident Interpreter Volunteer

**In This Issue:**

- \*Director of Missions
- \*Pastor Appreciation Month-October
- \*Church Growth & Development Conference
- \*Biblical Studies Class
- \*ACP's for Church Clerks
- \*Upper Room Counseling
- \*2019 VBS Reports Needed
- \*Cedar Fork
- \*Long Ridge
- \*Poplar Bluff
- \*Senior Adult Christmas Show
- \*See You at the Pole
- \*Bring Your Bible to School Day
- \*Ukraine
- \*2019 Annual Meeting Program
- \*Proposed Budget 2019-2020
- \*Dr. Randy Davis at SBA
- \*Iowa Mission Ministry
- \*Discipleship Conference
- \*I Stand for Life
- \*Annual Meeting
- \*WMU/Ladies Ministry
- \*2020 VBS
- \*Fairview Tabernacle
- \*Notchey Creek
- \*Walnut Grove
- \*Guatemala Mission Project
- \*Take a Stand Youth Rally
- \*Church Gifts thru July 29
- \*Israel 2020
- \*2019-2020 Proposed Budget Changes
- \*News from Around the Association
- \*Pastor and Family Picnic
- \*Associational Choir to Sing
- \*Valley of Blessing Home
- \*Cedar Valley
- \*Howard's Chapel
- \*Old Sweetwater
- \*Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet
- \*Youth Ministry
- \*Upcoming Events

Check Out Our Website: [sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)  
Find us on **Facebook**.

**Volume 9**

**September/October, 2019**

**Number 44**

Sweetwater Baptist Association presents...

**2019 Church Growth & Development Conference**

Hosted by **First Baptist Church, Madisonville**  
**Monday, August 26, 6:30 p.m.**

**BREAKOUT LEADERS and SESSIONS:**

**Dr. John Powers** • Independent Specialist..... **Church Protective Policies**  
Valuable information for church leadership to provide a safe, healthy environment for children, church workers or caregivers

**Rebecca Jones** • SBA..... **Church Clerk/ACP Training**  
Review of responsibilities of Church Clerk including: record keeping, taking Minutes of Meetings and Annual Church Profile

**Deborah Taylor** • CPA, Rockvale..... **Church Payroll/Financial Issues**  
Church payroll requirements for pastors and employee, salary/benefit packages; non-employee payroll, IRS changes/regulations

**Raymond Smith** • TBMB..... **Media/Technology in the Church**  
Ministry helps for the successful use of technology in churches of all sizes (whether expanding the use of technology or just beginning the use of technology in your worship services)

**Jerry Hyder** • FBC, Sevierville..... **Senior Adult Ministry**  
Opportunities, mission projects, activities, materials for an operational and active senior adult ministry

**Phillip Johnson** • FBTC, Sweetwater..... **Worship in Music**  
Free music books and resources for congregations, choirs and music groups to help the church experience the joy of worship

**Jeremy Shaw** • VBC, Vonore..... **Youth Round Table Discussion**  
Open discussion of useful examples and strategies for developing an effective student ministry

- ✓ **Free Conference**
- ✓ **No registration required**
- ✓ **Everyone invited! Please announce in your church!**
- ✓ **For more information, contact SBA Office**  
Phone: 423-442-6604 or 423-442-6605  
Email: [sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net) or [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net)

**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**2019 Annual Meeting**  
**Monday, October 21, 2019**

Hosted by **Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota, Tennessee**  
Theme: *The Pathway Home*---Proverbs 14:12

• **Business Session: 6:30 p.m.**

- Mission Committee/Recommendation
- Constitution Committee/Recommendation
- Presentation of Budget
- Election of Officers
- Video Message from Dr. Randy Davis, *Executive Director-Treasurer, TBMB*
- Director of Missions Report/Recommendation

**ONE DAY  
TWO SESSIONS!**

• **Worship Session: 7:15 p.m.**

- Special Music: Associational Choir, under the direction of Phillip Johnson
- Moderator's Message: Charles "Bud" Boring, Cedar Fork Baptist Church

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

**Members of your Choir are invited to be part of Associational Choir...**

- ✓ Will provide special music at Worship Session of Annual Meeting
- ✓ October 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:15 p.m., Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota, TN
- ✓ Phillip Johnson (Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church), Associational Music Director
- ✓ Listening cd's will be available at the SBA Office



Sweetwater Baptist Association  
Family of Churches Welcomes...

**Pastor**  
**Andrew Osakue**  
wife Ashley and daughter Autumn  
**Vonore**  
**Baptist Church**

Our prayers are with this dear man of God, his family, and congregation as they share Christ in their community.

## Director of Missions

Summer is winding down, school has started back. There is something about having a



healthy routine that brings order to chaos. For most of us, a typical summer has us on the go from early daylight to well past sundown. That also describes the activity around the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

Vacation Bible Schools have dominated the time schedule for many of our congregations. "In the Wild" and other themes have brought the teaching of Jesus to many young hearts. Thousands of boys and girls were touched because of your involvement. The adult investment of time and wisdom in the lives of children accrues a benefit in eternity. Thank you for sharing Jesus' love with these little ones.

Summer is also a time for mission trips and special activities. The Sweetwater Baptist Association was represented in Guatemala in June. The team led by Bethlehem Baptist Church provided VBS and other activities for school children, conducted door-to-door visitation, sponsored a medical clinic and preached nightly in churches and mission sites. The weather may have been the hottest on record, however, the testimony of those being introduced to Jesus leaves a lasting impression.

The Sweetwater Baptist Association also joined with Reed Springs Baptist Church in July on a journey to Iowa. In the small community of Downey, the team conducted a Vacation Bible School, performed small construction projects and held a revival. It was an exciting experience to watch the young southern people relate to the older congregation in Iowa. The outreach to the children and youth was priceless. It is powerful to see the kingdom of God come together to birth a blessing to a community.

The Union McMinn Baptist Church will be returning to Guatemala in September. Last year they adopted a church in Colombia, Guatemala. The Church is called Las Mercedes. God is truly blessing Pastor Fred and the congregation. The church has doubled in size this past year. God has truly used the team from Union McMinn to bless this church. This year I will join twenty-two others on the mission team. We will work with school children, conduct a Vacation Bible School, sponsor a Medical Clinic, and preach nightly. I wish I could adequately describe to you where God has brought Las Mercedes from and where He is leading them. It confirms that God is still doing great and mighty things!

The SBA Youth Committee did a great job planning this summer's Youth Reach conference. Everyone seemed to enjoy having a new band lead the praise and worship, and the young ladies from Cane Creek did a great job sharing in song. Many decisions were made to draw closer to the Lord, and encouragement was exalted from Pastor Andrew Osakue. We live in a world that is filled with all manner of discouragement and temptation for our young people. It is encouraging to witness students in our association worshipping and growing in their relationship with Christ.

During the 2018 Annual Meeting, the Messengers voted to raise funds for a local tiny house to benefit the homeless in our community.

You did an excellent job of raising over \$24,000.00. Two tiny houses will be built this year and placed on sites to be used to house the homeless in our area. This year, God has placed it on my heart to ask our churches to help provide clean water to a village in Myanmar. Wells can be drilled, and pumps added for \$600.00 each. Jesus said, "and whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward." The children of one village in Myanmar have NEVER had a cup of clean cold water. The only clear water they get is rainwater caught in barrels. Never have they bathed or washed cloths in clean water. We can drill 10 wells for \$6,000.00. Our giving would bless an entire village. I will present this project to our churches at our Annual Meeting in October.

As summer turns to autumn and then winter, the cycle of reaching people and touching lives will continue to bring honor and glory to His Holy Name. Please continue in prayer for the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and His ministries.

---Tony Rutherford



### LISTENING SESSION & DISCUSSION with **Dr. Randy Davis**

President and Executive Director of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board  
**All Pastors and Church Leaders are invited to attend.**  
**Thursday, August 22, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville**

### October - Pastor Appreciation Month

**Pastor Appreciation Day** is an excellent opportunity for churches to affirm love and appreciation to those who are called by God and serving as Shepherds of the Church.

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.

Church leaders, we still have a few spots available and you might want to consider providing a trip to Israel for your pastor for Pastor Appreciation or a Christmas gift. If so, please contact the SBA Office at 442-6604 immediately for additional information regarding the 2020 trip to Israel.

### IOWA MINISTRY:

What a blessing for the mission team from Reed Springs Baptist Church! They recently learned that the church in Iowa where they went to join in partnership missions had not had a Vacation Bible School in 20 years nor a revival in 70+ years. Sharing the Gospel of Christ with the community in Downey, Iowa was an experience that the mission team from Reed Springs will recall for some time.



## CHURCH GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

**CONFERENCE:** The *Church Growth and Development Conference* will be held on Monday evening, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We invite you to attend this annual training for church leaders that will be hosted by First Baptist Church in Madisonville.



The purpose of this conference is to equip, train and strengthen church leadership and church workers. Valuable information and training will be offered for all church leaders.

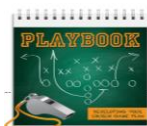
Conferences will be available for all church leadership:  
Pastors; Deacons; General Leadership; Church Clerks;  
Church Treasurers/Financial Secretaries; Music Directors;  
Sunday School Directors/Teachers; Youth Directors/Workers;  
Senior Adult Directors; Evangelism/Witnessing Directors;  
Vision/Outreach/Visitation Directors; Media/Technology/Sound  
Room Operators; Trustees/Building/Grounds Committee

Since we cannot personally reach everyone that might benefit from attending this conference, we would appreciate your sharing this information with teachers, officers, mission workers and leadership in your church. We look forward to seeing you and others from your church on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August at the First Baptist Church in Madisonville. Everyone is invited.

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents...

## DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE

Does your playbook incorporate proven principles, strategies and "plays" that will lead to seeing people saved, baptized, and set on the road to discipleship?



Discover how to develop a winning game plan for your group and Discipleship Ministries. Breakouts will include conferences for Pastors, Discipleship Leaders, Sunday School Directors, Small Group Leaders, Preschool, Children, Youth and Adult teachers and leaders, Hispanic Leaders, Ethnic leaders, and Special Needs Leaders. This is a wonderful training opportunity. and Make plans to attend and bring a group from your church.

**August 24, 8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Cost \$10 per person**  
**Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville**

For more information contact: Mark Miller, Sunday School Specialist, TMBM, 615.476.5564 (CELL) and online registration is available at <https://tn.sbcworkspace.com/Pub/Event/Register/55229889>



**BIBLICAL STUDIES CLASS:** The next *Biblical Studies Class* at the Sweetwater Baptist Association is scheduled to begin on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The course study will be *The End Times*. This will be a non-credit course taught by Dr. Dennis Ellis. The cost of the class

will be \$20.00 per person. Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604 for additional information or if you are interested in taking this class. Please be sure and mark your calendar for the next class.

**I STAND FOR LIFE:** Tennessee legislators are considering legislation that affects the lives of unborn children. At question is when, and if, an abortion can be performed in our state. The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board asked that Tennessee Baptists stand for life; and recently requested that church members sign a petition urging our elected and appointed officials to protect the lives of unborn children. For additional information or to download a copy of the petition, go to [istandforlife.org](http://istandforlife.org).



**PASTOR AND FAMILY PICNIC:** Pastors and their families are invited to join us for the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Pastor and Family Picnic on Monday evening, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Pavilion Picnic Area. Reservations are required for the meal. Please contact SBA Office at 442-6604 to confirm a number in your family for the picnic or for additional information.



**ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:** You should have already picked up your Annual Church Profile (ACP) packet and Messenger cards for the 2019 Annual Meeting. The ACP and Messenger cards must be completed and returned to the SBA 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** 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:** Please review the program for the 2019 Annual Meeting that is included in this issue of *The Messenger*. You will note that Annual Meeting, 2019 will be held as a one-day event at Union McMinn Baptist Church in Niota. The Business Session will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Monday evening, October 21<sup>st</sup> and the Worship Service will begin at 7:15 p.m. on October 21<sup>st</sup>. One day, two sessions! A **Messenger card must be completed for all pastors**, as well as **Officers and Committee Chairman of the Association** for them to participate in the business of the Association. Please join us for both sessions on the same day!



**ASSOCIATIONAL CHOIR TO SING AT ANNUAL MEETING:** Members of your church choir are invited to be part of the Associational Choir that will provide special music at the 2019 Annual Meeting. The Worship Session will be held on Monday evening, October 21<sup>st</sup> at Union McMinn Baptist Church. The choir will need to meet at the church on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October by 6:45 p.m. in order to prepare for the worship session which begins at 7:15 p.m. Our music will be led by Phillip Johnson from Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church, and Associational Music Director. Listening cd's will be available late-September at the Associational Office. Please stop by the SBA Office at your convenience to pick up a copy of the cd and feel free to make additional copies.



**Macy Small, M.A.**  
112 Key Kile Road  
Sweetwater, TN 37874  
865.414.3269  
[www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org)



The **UPPER Room Christian Counseling Center** provides pastoral counseling-combining counseling and pastoral guidance from a Bible-based, Christian perspective. It helps individuals address the struggles and issues of life in both a clinical and spiritual way. The counseling ministry helps individuals discover their identity in Christ, and find healing and purpose in their relationships with God, themselves and others.  
*Macy Small, M.A., The Upper Room Christian Counseling*





**WMU/LADIES  
MINISTRY**

**NEWS:** The Week of Prayer for State Missions and the Golden Offering

**SBA  
WMU/Ladies  
Ministry News  
Charlotte Hollinghead**

for Tennessee Missions supports missions and ministries in Tennessee. In 1902, W.C. and Mildred Golden challenged Tennessee Baptists to pray for and give to missions within the state. They initiated the offering that was later named after them. Today, churches are still encouraged to learn about Tennessee missions and ministry as they participate in the Week of Prayer for Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions. Please pray for, give to and serve in missions and ministries in Tennessee.

The suggested date for the 2019 Week of Prayer for Golden Offering and Tennessee Missions is September 8-15. However, your church leaders may choose to observe the season of prayer and offering at any time. The theme for 2019 is *See Tennessee Go Harvest*, and is based on John 4:35b.



Tennessee is a mission field; our mission field. We are to be united and intent on one purpose, sharing the Gospel. Pursue one person, one family, one town, one people group, to reach Tennessee for Christ. Make a difference, one life at a time by being the one to tell, to love. (Info taken from [tnbaptist.org](http://tnbaptist.org) and [goldenoffering.org](http://goldenoffering.org).)

We also want to thank all the churches who participate in the *Birthday Cake Ministry* at Madisonville Health and Rehab. For additional information or if you have any questions about the birthday cake ministry, please contact the Activities Director at Madisonville Health and Rehab at 442-3990. Remember when it's your time to provide the birthday cakes... **August:** 411 Chapel; **September:** Mt. Zion; **October:** Notchey Creek; **November:** Bethlehem; and **December:** New Bethany.

I look forward to seeing you at Rocky Springs Baptist Church on November 4<sup>th</sup> at the WMU Meeting. May God bless you as you go out into the mission field. Love in Christ, *Charlotte Hollinghead*, Associational WMU Director

**VALLEY OF BLESSING RESTORATION HOME:**

A family in Cane Creek Baptist Church is starting a faith-based rehab home for ladies. Trishe Williams has shared information with our office of the new restoration home ministry that is being planned for recovering ladies with addictions. Financial donations are needed to complete the construction of the home, but there are many other needs, as well. You may want to contact Trishe at 423-295-4697 for further information regarding this ministry and how your church might be involved.



**2019 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STATISTICS:**

We have received some fantastic numbers for 2019 Vacation Bible Schools, but need to receive VBS reports for 2019 from all our churches. This information should include total enrollment, average attendance and

number of decisions for Christ.

If your church has not sent in your VBS report, please email [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) or [sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net) or call the SBA office at 442-6604 with your VBS numbers immediately. This information will appear in the 2019 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. *Kim and Bryan Williamson, Associational VBS Directors*

**2020 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** By now, you may have heard that LifeWay Christian Bookstores across the country are closing. With that in mind, we are not sure if Vacation Bible School materials will be available for purchase at the associational office in 2020. LifeWay VBS materials will be available online; and we will keep you updated as additional information becomes available to us. Please know that the Associational staff and VBS team will be available and happy to help you with 2020 Vacation Bible School workers and resources.



The Lifeway Vacation Bible School theme for 2020 is *Concrete & Cranes: Building on the Love of Jesus!* Next summer, kids will learn of the foundation that lasts! Grab your hard hat and a tool belt. Kids will explore a world of concrete and cranes, rivets and rebar, bulldozers and backhoes; and will learn to build their faith on Jesus, a sure foundation. They uncover the truth that He who began a good work will be faithful to carry it on to completion.

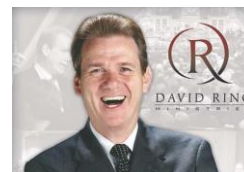
The 2020 VBS Motto is *Jesus! Our Strong Foundation!* with Scripture focus from Philippians 1:6. The daily content for each session is:

- Day 1 Foundation of Love
- Day 2 Foundation of Forgiveness
- Day 3 Foundation of Worth
- Day 4 Foundation of Promise
- Day 5 Foundation of Life

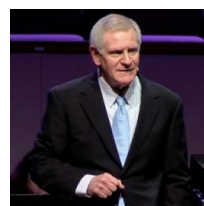
If you have not used LifeWay materials in the past, we encourage you to look at and consider the 2020 Vacation Bible School materials and resources.

**CEDAR VALLEY:** We are having a *one-day Fall Revival* with David Ring on Sunday, October 13.

David is a Christian evangelist and motivational speaker who has cerebral palsy. Since 1973, Ring has challenged thousands of people with his signature message - "I have cerebral palsy... What's your problem?" David has been a guest on The Old-Time Gospel Hour, The 700 Club, and at Bill Gaither's Praise Gathering. He has written one book *Just As I Am: The Life of David Ring* in 1994. Ring has been featured on broadcasts such as John Hagee's ministry Cornerstone and James Dobson's Focus on the Family. We look forward to his coming to Cedar Valley Baptist Church. All our invited.



**CEDAR FORK:** We recently celebrated our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Our Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, presented the church with a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board in recognition of this milestone.



**FAIRVIEW**

**TABERNACLE:** We are having our annual *Harvest Celebration* on Sunday, **September 29, at 10:00 am.** Dr. Hollie Miller will be our guest speaker and we will have a potluck meal following the service. Everyone is welcome!

**HOWARD'S CHAPEL:** On June 2, Bill Baker was ordained as a Deacon. Join us in thanking God for Bill and his family and lifting them up in prayer as he begins this new chapter of ministry within the church.



**LONG RIDGE:** We recently celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Our Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, presented the church with a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board in recognition of this milestone.



**NOTCHEY CREEK:** Pastor Gale Miller invites everyone to attend *Homecoming Services* at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. *Fishers of Men* will provide the special singing for the Morning Worship Service.

During the fall months, we are inviting the community to join us at the *Pavilion* for Outside Worship Service. This is being held the first Sunday evening of each month at 6:00 p.m. We have a time of worship, fellowship, food and fun. The upcoming dates are September 1<sup>st</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Hallelujah Night* will be held on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 until 7:00 pm in the church outdoor pavilion area. Free food, fun, cake walk, inflatables, and of course - CANDY! This is our annual fall celebration for the church and community. Everyone is invited.

**OLD SWEETWATER:** Old Sweetwater recently broke ground on a new building. Plans include a multi-purpose building for a new fellowship hall and sanctuary. This is an exciting time for the church; they will be celebrating their 200<sup>th</sup> year anniversary in 2020.



**POPLAR BLUFF:** We have an electric organ we are no longer using. We would like to donate it to a church. If interested, please contact Lance Hamilton at 423-295-4473.

**WALNUT GROVE:** We are having a *Special Singing* on September 15, at 6:00 pm, featuring **Chris Golden** formerly with the *Oak Ridge Boys, Alabama, and Restless Heart*. We invite all to please come and worship with us through a song service!



**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.

Tim Lovelace will be our guest for the *Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet*. Due to limited space and to help plan the meal, 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).



**SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS SHOW:** All of our churches will have opportunities to see Christian comedian, Tim Lovelace, while he is in our area. The Sweetwater Baptist Association will be

featuring Tim as he shares at our annual *Senior Adult Christmas Show*. This event will be held at **Vonore Baptist Church on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.** This is a free event; and all ages are invited.

Tim Lovelace is a nationally sought-after storyteller and musician; and has been described as the most versatile comedian on stage today. He is a Grammy and Dove nominated artist; and his award-winning musical talents, coupled with his clean humor has developed his concerts into more than just a great show. He uses humor to motivate and inspire by telling of life lessons and songs into his performance, as he displays musical abilities on piano, guitar and harmonica. He is a seasoned communicator, musician, writer, publisher and comedian.

**GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT:** We are praying for short-term mission volunteers to serve on ministry teams in 2020 in Guatemala. It is hopeful that established ministry work will continue where focus has already begun by current teams, and additional work will begin in different areas of Guatemala by new teams. If you are interested in serving on a 2020 mission team in Guatemala, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association.



**YOUTH COMMITTEE:** We are still rejoicing over the great *Youth Reach* conference that was held this summer. I don't know of a better conference or more spirit-filled event I've been to. I am also excited to let you know what is being planned for next year...but, you will have to wait just a little while for that. Just know, it will be great!

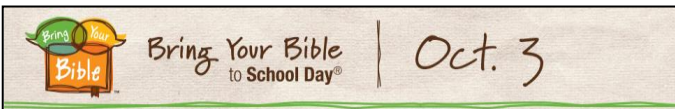


During our Saturday session at Youth Reach, we heard a great message from Mark 2 about the four men who brought their friend to Jesus. Our students were presented with the challenge to "carry" their friends to Jesus. Youth Leaders were also challenged to bring the excitement of that week-end back to our local communities.

As a Youth Committee, we felt a strong desire to help our churches meet these challenges. Therefore, we have planned a local **YOUTH RALLY** for **Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at Vonore Baptist**. This Rally will be a great worship and prayer service for our students. We hope to encourage them, disciple them, pray over them, and help them grow in their walk with the Lord. We also want this to be an opportunity for them to "carry" their friends to Jesus. Encourage your students to invite their lost or unchurched friends to come to the Rally with them. It is our responsibility to teach them and to give them opportunities to evangelize. Our prayer is that this Rally can be that opportunity for our students. Food will also be provided, so if you are bringing a group, give the office a call to let them know. It will help them out a lot to know how much food to plan for. But even if you forget to call, everyone is still invited to attend! --Bud Boring, Chairman

**SEE YOU AT THE POLE:** *See You at the Pole* will be observed on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. SYATP Arm-bands will be available at the Associational Office for our churches and area schools.





**Bring Your Bible to School Day** is an annual event for students sponsored by *Focus on the Family* and will be held on October 3, 2019. Participation is voluntary, student-directed and completely up to students. Students across the nation will celebrate religious freedom and share God's love with their friends. *Bring Your Bible to School Day* is designed to empower students to express their belief in the truth of God's Word, and to do so in a respectful way that demonstrates the love of Christ. Additional information can be found online at [www.bringyourbible.org](http://www.bringyourbible.org)

**CHURCH GIFTS:** We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have shared with the Sweetwater Baptist Association. The 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 support of the budget ministries of the Association.



**SBA Church Gifts through July 29, 2019**

Church/Mission	Total
411 Chapel	750.00
Altoona	0.00
Antioch	225.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00
Bethlehem	9579.00
Big Creek	0.00
Calvary	901.03
Cane Creek	2200.00
Cedar Fork	4662.29
Cedar Valley	8313.03
Christianburg	848.46
Citico	754.64
Clifton	275.00
Community	493.57
Compromise	500.00
Conasauga	1100.00
Concord	1348.62
Delano	3625.35
Druid Hills	60.00
Ebenezer	735.50
Fairview	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	13,064.82
Fellowship	1568.00
Glenlock	750.00
Gregory's Chapel	1000.00
Hopewell Springs	930.00
Howards Chapel	1146.31
Island Creek	3000.00
Lakeside	900.00
Long Ridge	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00
Macedonia	200.00

Madisonville, First	4166.70
Maple Springs	500.00
Miller's Chapel	1000.00
Mt. Calvary	1096.18
Mt. Isabella	0.00
Mt. Zion	4667.94
Murray's	2246.00
New Bethany	3474.41
New Macedonia	1400.00
New Providence	5443.00
North Sweetwater	1149.34
Notchey Creek	4498.10
Oak Grove	3295.58
Oakland	300.00
Old Pond Hill	500.00
Old Sweetwater	1000.00
Paint Rock	1100.00
Piney Grove	900.00
Poplar Bluff	1928.75
Reed Springs	1666.20
Rocky Springs	3600.00
Rural Vale	4008.18
Shady Grove	400.00
Shelton Grove	1566.33
Shoal Creek	624.71
South Madisonville	1000.00
Sweetwater, First	3500.00
Tellico	1200.00
Tellico Plains, First	4652.00
Tevis Springs	0.00
Towee Falls	1500.00
Trinity	0.00
Union Grove - Niota	1200.00
Union Hall	577.00
Union McMinn-Niota	4000.00
Unity	400.00
Upper Shady Grove	450.00
Vonore	17,737.74
Walnut Grove	703.95
Watson Chapel	0.00
Westside	0.00
Williamsburg	864.10
TBC	7820.00
Miscellaneous/AM	0.00
Miscellaneous/Interest	463.59
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$156,530.42</b>

**UKRAINE:** Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. We have groups from Bethlehem and Union-McMinn that have been or will be traveling to Ukraine to do ministry, visit family and friends over the next few months. For many years, churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association participated in partnership Kingdom work in Ukraine. Our prayers continue for the many pastors, churches and friends that were formed during our time of work in Ukraine.



**Israel, 2020 Tour  
Sweetwater Baptist Association  
& Yael Adventure**

Hosted by Tony Rutherford:

In January, over 60 participants will be traveling to Israel as part of the tour group with the Sweetwater Baptist Association. A group meeting (with our representative from Yael Adventures) is being planned for late fall for all participants of the 2020 *Israel Tour*. Please watch for additional details! We still have a few spots left on the 2020 tour! If you are interested in participating in the 2020 trip to Israel, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association office immediately for more information.



Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**2019 Annual Meeting Program**  
 Theme: *The Pathway Home* – Proverbs 14:12

**Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota**  
 Monday Evening, October 21, 2019  
 Business Session I: 6:30 p.m. Worship Session 2: 7:15 p.m.

Program Committee  
 Ronnie Dalton, Vernon Webb, Dennis Lingerfelt, Jason Blair

Director of Missions: **Tony Rutherford**  
 Vice-Moderator: **Mitch Ingram**  
 Celebrating 189 Years...1830-2019  
 Moderator: **Charles "Bud" Boring**

**October 21, 2019**  
**Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota**  
**Monday Evening Program**  
**Business Session I, 6:30 p.m.**

- 6:00 Associational Council Report ..... Video Presentation
- 6:30 Welcome and Prayer ..... Pastor, Doug Alexander
- Presentation of Gavel ..... Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford
- Call to Order ..... Moderator, Charles "Bud" Boring
- Video Message from Executive Director-Treasurer, TBMB .... Dr. Randy Davis
- TBMB Representative .....
- Business Session..... Moderator
- Constitution of Body ..... Sheri Stephens
- Report of Program Committee..... Ronnie Dalton
- Director of Missions Report..... Tony Rutherford
- Appointment of Committee on Nominations..... Moderator
- Election of Officers..... Vice-Moderator, Mitch Ingram
- Committee on Nominations..... Ronnie Best
- Treasurer's Report..... Sheri Stephens
- Presentation of Budget ..... Jonas Turpin
- Missions Committee Report/ Recommendations..... Carroll Hamilton
- Presentation of 2020 Calendar/Recommendations ..... Director of Missions
- Constitution Committee Recommendation..... Director of Missions
- Memorial Report..... Video Presentation
- 7:10 Adjourn for Worship..... Vice-Moderator

**Monday Evening Program**  
**Worship Session 2, 7:15 p.m.**

- 7:15 Welcome and Prayer ..... Vice-Moderator, Mitch Ingram
- Congregational Hymn ..... Phillip Johnson
- Offering ..... Associational Choir
- Special Music..... Associational Choir
- 7:30 Message ..... Moderator, Charles "Bud" Boring
- Benediction..... Incoming Moderator

All offerings to be used for the SBA Mission Ministries.

The 2019 Associational Council Report includes Recognition of New Pastors.  
 All written reports for the Ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and  
 the Reports for the Ministries of the TBMB are included in the  
 2019 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
**Proposed Budget for 2019 -2020**

The Budget Committee recommends the Proposed Budget for 2019-2020 be adopted with the proposed changes, as follows.

1. If funds are available, the *Working Agreements for Ministry Assistants* authorize yearly salary increases. The following are recommended:
  - (a) Increase Administrative Assistant Salary by \$772.00 (3 % increase)
  - (b) Increase Receptionist Salary by \$686.00 (3 % increase)
  - (c) Increase Staff Social Security by \$112.00 (to reflect staff salary increases)
2. General Cleanup of Line Item Amounts:
  - (a) Increase New Equipment by \$10.00 (general cleanup)
  - (b) Increase Church Growth & Development by \$10.00 (general cleanup)
  - (c) Increase Annual Meeting by \$20.00 (general cleanup)
  - (d) Increase Student/Youth by \$10.00 (general cleanup)
  - (e) Increase General Miscellaneous by \$20.00 (general cleanup)
3. Add New Line Item
  - (a) Add \$1000.00 for Senior Adult Ministry (Christmas Conference held for Senior Adults)

Total Proposed Budget \$181,616.00

**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**Proposed Budget for 2019-2020**

I. ASSOCIATIONAL ADMINISTRATION	Budget for 2019-2020	Proposed Budget for 2019-2020	Increase/Decrease
DOM Package:			
DOM Salary/Housing	55,888.00	55,888.00	
DOM Benefits	7,966.00	7,966.00	
DOM Business Expenses	11,240.00	11,240.00	
Administrative Assistant	25,782.00	26,554.00	+ 772.00
Adm. Asst Retirement (Salary Reduction)	2,300.00	2,300.00	
Adm. Asst Travel	300.00	300.00	
Receptionist	22,879.00	23,565.00	+ 686.00
Receipt Retirement (Salary Reduction)	1,260.00	1,260.00	
Receptionist Travel	300.00	300.00	
Staff Social Security	4,471.00	4,583.00	+ 112.00
Postal Expenses	2,100.00	2,100.00	
Office Supplies	1,980.00	1,980.00	
Office Equipment/Copier Maintenance	1,800.00	1,800.00	
New Equipment	990.00	1,000.00	+ 10.00
Associational Calendars	770.00	770.00	
Messengers	2,310.00	2,310.00	
II. ASSOCIATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS			
Church Growth & Development	990.00	1,000.00	+ 10.00
Vacation Bible School	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Mens Ministry/Brotherhood	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Disaster Relief	900.00	900.00	
Womens Ministry/WMU	500.00	500.00	
Childrens	500.00	500.00	
Biblical Studies	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Evangelism	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Local Evangelism/Outreach Trailer	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Music	200.00	200.00	
Missions Development	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Marriage & Family Counseling Ministry	200.00	200.00	
Student Scholarship Fund (High School Seniors)	2,200.00	2,200.00	
Senior Adult Ministry	0.00	1,000.00	+ 1,000.00***
Pastor Ministry	2,300.00	2,300.00	
Media Center	200.00	200.00	
III. ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS			
Annual Meeting	880.00	900.00	+ 20.00
Student Ministry/Youth	990.00	1,000.00	+ 10.00
IV. ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE MAINTENANCE			
Building Maintenance	3,000.00	3,000.00	
General Maintenance	3,400.00	3,400.00	
Telephone/Internet/Website	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Utilities	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Insurance (Office)	3,300.00	3,300.00	
V. MISCELLANEOUS			
General Miscellaneous	630.00	650.00	+ 20.00
Christmas Gift (DOM)	500.00	500.00	
Christmas Gift (AA)	500.00	500.00	
Christmas Gift (RC)	500.00	500.00	
The Tennessee Baptist Convention provides TBC Supplement for the Sweetwater Baptist Association per terms of Covenant Agreement. <b>Total Monthly \$782.00/Annually \$9384.00</b>			
<b>TOTALS (1 1/2 % overall increase)</b>	<b>\$178,976.00</b>	<b>\$181,616.00</b>	<b>\$2640.00</b>

+Increase -Decrease \*\*\*New Item

The proposed overall budget INCREASE is \$2640.00 or a total budget of \$181,616.00. This is a proposed budget increase of 1 1/2%.

# Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street  
Madisonville, TN 37354

PRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit 11 NP  
Madisonville, TN  
37354

## ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2018-2019

<b>MODERATOR</b> CHARLES "BUD" BORING	<b>VICE MODERATOR</b> MITCH INGRAM	<b>Associational Council</b> Officers & Committee Chairmen
<b>Pastor Advisor</b> Frank Hicks	<b>Music Director</b> Phillip Johnson	<b>Mission Committee</b> Carroll Hamilton, Chairman
<b>Children's Director</b> Kendra McDonald	<b>Disaster Relief Director</b> Jim Jolley	<b>Historian Director</b> Kay James
<b>Media Ministry Director</b> Betty Wolfe	<b>Men's Ministry Director</b> Bryan Coffey	<b>Prayer Ministry Director</b> Svitlana Self
<b>Trustees</b> Carl "Buddy" Richesin, Chairman	<b>Vacation Bible School Directors</b> Bryan and Kim Williamson	<b>WMU/Ladies Director</b> Charlotte Hollinghead
<b>Christian Life Committee</b> Cindy Lemmonds, Chairperson	<b>Committee on Nominations</b> Ronnie Best, Chairman	<b>Constitution Committee</b> Charles Ridenour, Chairman
<b>Evangelism Committee</b> Jeremy McNally, Chairman	<b>Finance Committee</b> Karen McDaniel, Chairperson	<b>Personnel Committee</b> Susan Newman, Chairperson
<b>Program Committee</b> Ronnie Dalton, Chairman	<b>Scholarship Committee</b> Marilyn Parker, Chairperson	<b>Youth Council</b> Charles "Bud" Boring, Chairman

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

### Welcome New Pastors

Andrew Osakue.....Vonore

### Director of Mission Visits

Shoal Creek, Rural Vale, Towee Falls, New Providence (WMU Meeting), Hilltop, Fairview (Tellico), New Macedonia, Long Ridge, Millers Chapel, Oak Grove, DOM Retreat (Pigeon Forge), Shelton Grove (VBS), Howards Chapel (Deacon Ordination), Madisonville First (VBS), Rocky Springs (VBS), Notchey Creek (VBS), Bethlehem (VBS), Delano (VBS), Rural Vale, (VBS), Towee Falls (VBS), Shoal Creek (VBS), 411 Chapel (VBS), Sweetwater First (VBS), Union McMinn (VBS), Old Sweetwater (VBS), Fairview (VBS), Cedar Fork (VBS), Conasauga, Watson Chapel (VBS), Big Creek (VBS), Island Creek (VBS), Conasauga (VBS), Tellico First (VBS), New Bethany (VBS), Walnut Grove, Paint Rock, South Madisonville (VBS), Long Ridge (VBS), Guatemala, Newport

### Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Glenlock, Gregor's Chapel, Murrays, Sweetwater First, Tellico (Ballplay), Towee Falls



Check Out Our Website

[www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)

Visit us on Facebook

## Upcoming Events

"Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." -Acts 4:12

- August 26 .....Church Growth & Development Conference, Madisonville First, 6:30 p.m.
- September 3 .....Biblical Studies Classes begins @ SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.
- September 5 .....Take a Stand Youth Rally, Vonore Baptist Gym, 7:00 p.m.
- September 8-15 ....Week of Prayer for State Missions and Golden Offering
- September 9 .....Pastor/Family Picnic, Notchey Creek Pavilion, 6:30 p.m.
- September 25 .....See You at the Pole
- October 3 .....Bring Your Bible to School Day
- October 21 .....Annual Meeting, Union McMinn, Business Session 6:30 p.m.
- October 21 .....Annual Meeting, Union McMinn, Worship Service 7:15 p.m.
- November 4 .....WMU Meeting, Rocky Springs, 7:00 p.m.
- November 17-20...The Summit, Tennessee Baptist Convention, West Jackson
- December 1-8.....Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- December 9 .....Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, Vonore, 6:30 p.m.



### Madisonville Health & Rehab - Birthday Cake Schedule

August 411 Chapel      September Mt. Zion      October Notchey Creek  
November Bethlehem      December New Bethany

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

SBA Office Building, Madisonville, Everyone Welcome!

Information for the next newsletter must be received by the first of November.

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

Plan now to attend...

Sweetwater Baptist Association

## 2020 Association Evangelism Conference

Monday & Tuesday, January 13 & 14

### Dr. David Evans, Conference Speaker

Senior Pastor, Springfield Baptist Church, Nashville  
Former Evangelism Specialist, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board



### SPECIAL MUSIC

Monday: Associational Choir, (under direction of Phillip Johnson)  
Tuesday: The Evans Family, (from Bethlehem Baptist Church)

Hosted by: **Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville, TN**

Theme: *The Pathway Home*

**EVERYONE INVITED!**

**Two Nights!**  
6:45 p.m.

## The Summit

Tennessee Baptist Convention

November 17-20, 2019

First Baptist Concord, Knoxville

Annual Gathering of Tennessee Baptists



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