

The MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 191 years, 1830 – 2021



In This Issue:

- *Director of Missions
- *Israel 2022 Tour
- *Mission Updates
- *Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet
- *Church Gifts thru August 2nd
- *2021 Annual Meeting Program
- *Proposed Budget Changes 2021-22
- *Golden Offering
- *Upper Room Christian Counseling
- *Church News
- *VBS Reports
- *News from Around the Association
- *Biblical Studies Class
- *2021 Church Growth Conference
- *Pastor & Family Picnic
- *Senior Adult Christmas Show
- *ACP/Messenger Cards
- *Proposed Budget 2021-2022
- *WMU/Ladies News
- *October Pastor Appreciation Month
- *Focus Discipleship Conference
- *Ordinations/Anniversaries/Retirements
- *TBMB: The Summit
- *Upcoming Events

Check Out Our Website:

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Find us on **Facebook**

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Volume 11

September/October, 2021

Number 53

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
2021 Church Growth & Development Conference
Monday, August 30; 6:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Madisonville

SCHEDULE: 6:30 p.m. Opening Session, FBC, Sanctuary
6:45 p.m. Dismiss to Breakout Sessions

- ✓ 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 or becky.jones@bellsouth.net

Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association
Welcome New Pastors and their families...



Pastor Danny Roberts
and wife Crystal
ANTIOCH



Pastor James Mason
and wife Nancy
CEDAR FORK



Pastor Zad Tomberlin
wife Tory, and children
Elly, Ty and Gibby
BETHLEHEM



Pastor Jarrod Johnson
wife Angie, and son Obi
TRINITY

We are praying for these dear pastors, their families and congregations as they share Christ with their communities.

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
2021 Annual Meeting
Monday, October 18

Hosted by: **First Baptist Church, Madisonville**

Theme: *Living Water* John 7:38

**ONE DAY
TWO SESSIONS!**
Program
subject to change

● **Business Session: 6:30 p.m.**

- 6:00 Associational Council Report Video Presentation
- Greetings and Prayer Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford
- Memorial Report Video Presentation
- Video Message from Executive Director-Treasurer, TBMB .Dr. Randy Davis
- TBMB Representative
- 6:30 Welcome, Devotion and Prayer Pastor, Chris Moore
- Presentation of Gavel Director of Missions
- Call to Order Moderator, Lewis Jones
- Business Session Moderator
- Constitution of Body Sheri Stephens
- Report of Program Committee Dennis Lingerfelt
- Appointment of Committee on Nominations Moderator
- Election of Officers Vice-Moderator, Michael McLemore
- Committee on Nominations Gerald Lynn
- Treasurer's Report Sheri Stephens
- Presentation of Budget Jonas Turpin
- Missions Committee Report/Recommendations Steve Moore
- Director of Missions Report/Presentations Tony Rutherford
- Presentation of 2022 Calendar/Recommendations . Director of Missions
- Adjourn for Worship Vice-Moderator

● **Brief Intermission •Worship Session following Business Session**

- Congregational Hymn The Lingerfelts
- Welcome and Prayer Vice-Moderator, Michael McLemore
- Offering The Lingerfelts
- Special Music The Lingerfelts
- Message Moderator, Lewis Jones
- Benediction Vice-Moderator

ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:

- Annual Church Profile packets are available for pickup
- Annual Church Profiles (ACP's) and Messenger Cards must be completed and returned to the SBA Office by October 1st

**Director
of
Missions**

I am writing this in what the *Old Timers* used to call the "dog days of August." The weather report calls for a



temperature of 97 degrees tomorrow. No matter where you are, that is hot! The air is stifling, and the breeze lacks cooling qualities. However, autumn activities are just around the corner. The SBA office is planning for the *Church Growth & Development Conference, Pastor & Family Picnic, 2021 Annual Meeting*, as well as the Christmas activities. Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will find dates and time for all these events.

I have heard from several churches about revivals that are happening and the results of Vacation Bible Schools. It is encouraging to know God is pouring out His blessings on the efforts of our congregations. Many are reporting that numbers of professions of faith are up, and the spirit of the worshippers are glowing. One congregation shared their plans for a baptism, the first in several years. Let us give God a PRAISE! After a year and a half of isolation, God is ordaining a period of harvest. Let us glean from the fields in which He has planted us and enjoy the refreshing that only comes from Him.

Your generosity toward the mission opportunities over the past decade has been beyond expectations. Several years ago, you adopted children in Haiti following a devastating earthquake. While feeding and sheltering the children, you raised approximately \$140,000 to build an all-purpose facility housing a church and school. The five-year commitment has resulted in many lives rescued and saved.

We are now in our sixth year of partnership ministry in Guatemala where hundreds have professed Christ as Savior. Two churches have been built, and several more supported. An ongoing relationship has proven to be successful in "the land of volcanos." These beautiful people are eager to hear the glorious Gospel of Christ, which is refreshing to our teams from America. This would be an excellent opportunity to send a pastor who has little to no experience in dealing with international missions. We would be glad to help!

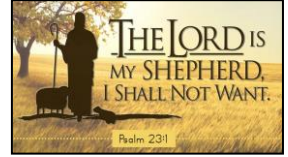
Simultaneously, the SBA has traveled to Iowa to work with several churches over the past 10 years. These trips have consisted of small construction teams, VBS teams, and revival efforts. This is an excellent opportunity to train future leaders in struggling communities, while introducing Jesus to areas where there is little to no outreach. Many of our mid-western and northern states have become rich grounds for sharing Christ. Let us help you plan now to minister next summer with a congregation deeply in need of help.

Besides these *on-the-field* projects, your love for Christ has reached to the homeless here in Monroe County by building two *tiny houses*. These homes are located in Sweetwater and are maintained by the *Homeless Coalition of Monroe County*. Furthermore, you are helping to build a home, thru the *Isaiah 117* project, for children in the McMinn/Monroe County area who are separated from their families. Innocent, defenseless, and vulnerable children will soon have a safe place to discover that they are loved. In addition, in the tiny southeast Asian country of Myanmar, you are helping to feed a

starving church congregation and drilling wells of fresh water, as the Gospel of Christ is offered with each cup of clean water.

To participate with the Sweetwater Baptist Association is "A Good Way for Churches to Work Together to Share Jesus!" - Tony

BIBLICAL STUDIES CLASS: The next *Biblical Studies Class* at the Sweetwater Baptist Association is scheduled to begin on **September 7th**. The course study will be *A Shepherd's Look at Psalm 23*, and will be taught by Tony Rutherford. This will be a non-credit course and 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.



SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION & Yael Adventure: ISRAEL 2022 TOUR

Hosted by Tony Rutherford: An *Israel 2022* tour is planned for January 20-29. Please be in prayer for this group as they travel to see the sites where Jesus walked.



SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

2021 Church Growth & Development Conference
Monday, August 30; 6:30 p.m.
 First Baptist Church, Madisonville

SCHEDULE: 6:30 p.m. Opening Session, First Baptist Church, Sanctuary
 6:45 p.m. Dismiss to Breakout Sessions

BREAKOUT SESSIONS AND BREAKOUT LEADERS

Steve H. Pearson.....TBMB, Harvest Field Team Leader/Evangelism Specialist
Empowering Your Church thru 40 Days of Prayer
 Praying that leads to revitalization of our lives and our churches thru a 40-day prayer experience to seek God's wisdom and direction

Rebecca Jones.....Sweetwater Baptist Association
Church Clerk/ACP Training
 Review of responsibilities of Church Clerk including: record keeping, taking Minutes of Meetings and Annual Church Profile

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

Ms. Bobby Turner.....FBC, Lenoir City, Former President of TN WMU
Ministry with Jesus as a Servant for Him
 Mission action ideas for ladies to impact your church and communities through ministry events, outreach and service

Dennis Cagle.....Delano BC, Author, Former Pastor
Deacon Ministry
 The role, requirements and rewards for an effective, ongoing deacon/pastor ministry to assist the deacon/pastor in sharing the Gospel, and proclaiming Christ to the church members and community

Please share this information with your church leadership. Everyone invited!



MISSION TEAMS: The mission team from Reed Springs just returned from a trip to Downey, Iowa. This partnership evangelistic team shared in revival services, Vacation Bible School and door-to-door witnessing in the community. Notchey Creek also shared in this mission work by providing funds for the ministry opportunities.

A mission team from Bethlehem, Watson Chapel, and Birchfield traveled to Guatemala in early July to continue the ongoing partnership work with Pastor Otto Echeverria. Visits were made to churches at El Canal, La Palmita and Las Mercedes. A small construction project, crusades and free medical clinics were offered in the area churches.



A mission team from Union McMinn traveled to Ukraine in late July to continue work in funding doctors and a medical clinic in that country.

Please continue to pray for these ministries, as well as many of our other churches that were able to participate in local, state, home and foreign missions during the summer.

PASTOR & FAMILY PICNIC: Pastors and their families are invited to join us for the Sweetwater Baptist Association, *Pastor & Family Picnic* on **Monday evening, September 13th at 6:30 p.m.** It will be held at the Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Pavilion Picnic Area. Reservations are required for the meal. Please contact the SBA Office at 442-6604 by September 1st to confirm a number in your family for the picnic or for additional information.



PASTOR AND WIFE CHRISTMAS BANQUET: The *Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* will be held on **Monday evening, December 6th 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.



Bean & Bailey will be our special 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 or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net.

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS SHOW:

Make plans now to see **Christian comedians, Bean and Bailey** while they are in our area. The Sweetwater Baptist

Bean and Bailey
Monday, December 6, 10:30 am.
Senior Adult Christmas Show
Vonore Baptist Church, Vonore
Everyone Invited

Association will feature Bean and Bailey as they share at our annual *Senior Adult Christmas Show*. This event will be held at **Vonore**

Baptist Church on Monday, December 6th at 10:30 a.m. This is a free event; and all ages are invited.



You will not want to miss Bradley Bean and Jackson Bailey, in person on **Monday morning, December 6th!** This hilarious comedy duo met in college, began using their leisure time to make funny videos and comedy sketches. After college they both went their separate ways, until 1999 when Bean and Bailey began the transition to comedy as a profession, appearing on the first season on "America's Got Talent", and eventually given the opportunity to take their humor across the country. Now with more than 15 years of comedy, music and speaking performances, they are entertaining audiences all across America and Canada. Bean and Bailey believe that humor is a gift from God that brings people together. Laughter tightens bonds, helps rebuild relationships, and it breaks down barriers so that we can listen.

We know you will not want to miss this special presentation by these exceptional musicians, writers and comedians. Plan to bring your church groups. Everyone is invited to this free, special Christmas Show!

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 August 2, 2021

Church.....	Total.....	Church.....	Total.....
411 Chapel.....	0.00	New Bethany.....	4595.65
Antioch.....	200.00	New Macedonia.....	1400.00
Beaty's Chapel.....	200.00	New Providence.....	5489.57
Bethlehem.....	11,198.25	North Sweetwater.....	1395.18
Big Creek.....	0.00	Notchey Creek.....	4772.00
Calvary.....	963.65	Oak Grove.....	3479.92
Cane Creek.....	2000.00	Oakland.....	300.00
Cedar Fork.....	5291.72	Old Pond Hill.....	200.00
Cedar Valley.....	7345.45	Old Sweetwater.....	1000.00
Christianburg.....	956.01	Paint Rock.....	1100.00
Citico.....	955.91	Piney Grove.....	0.00
Clifton.....	225.00	Poplar Bluff.....	2543.38
Community.....	716.41	Reed Springs.....	0.00
Compromise.....	550.00	Rocky Springs.....	4000.00
Conasauga.....	1100.00	Rural Vale.....	3851.79
Concord.....	868.89	Shady Grove.....	300.00
Delano.....	4006.02	Shelton Grove.....	1807.62
Druid Hills.....	800.00	Shoal Creek.....	1220.00
Ebenezer.....	508.00	South Madisonville.....	1000.00
Fairview.....	360.00	Sweetwater First.....	3500.00
Fairview Tabernacle.....	17,598.98	Tellico.....	1200.00
Fellowship.....	1321.60	Tellico First.....	4972.00
Glenlock.....	2007.33	Tevis Springs.....	100.00
Gregory's Chapel.....	1000.00	Towee Falls.....	1500.00
Hopewell Springs.....	75.00	Trinity.....	500.00
Howards Chapel.....	0.00	Union Grove.....	1200.00
Island Creek.....	3000.00	Union Hall.....	544.00
Lakeside.....	1800.00	Union McMinn.....	4000.00
Long Ridge.....	1000.00	Unity.....	600.00
Lower Chilhowee.....	0.00	Upper Shady Grove.....	500.00
Macedonia.....	200.00	Vonore.....	18,296.79
Madisonville, First.....	4166.70	Walnut Grove.....	2955.74
Maple Springs.....	500.00	Watson Chapel.....	0.00
Miller's Chapel.....	1000.00	Westside.....	0.00
Mt. Calvary.....	943.02	Williamsburg.....	501.61
Mt. Isabella.....	0.00	TBMB.....	7820.00
Mt. Zion.....	4877.97	Miscellaneous.....	319.92
Murray's.....	1633.00	Total.....	\$164,334.08

CHURCH CLERKS: You should have already picked up your Annual Church Profile (ACP) packet and Messenger cards for the 2021 Annual Meeting. The ACP and Messenger cards must be completed and returned to the SBA Office by October 1st.



Offertory Hymn..... *The Lingerfelts*
 Special Music *The Lingerfelts*
 Moderator's Message *Lewis Jones*
 Moderator (Pastor, Island Creek Baptist Church)
 Benediction..... *Vice-Moderator*

Proposed Program for the 2021 Annual Meeting
 (subject to change)

Sweetwater Baptist Association
2021 Annual Meeting Program

Theme: *Living Water*

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said,
 out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. --John 7:38

Program Committee

Dennis Lingerfelt, Jason Blair

Director of Missions

Vice Moderator

Moderator

Tony Rutherford

Michael McLemore

Lewis Jones

Celebrating 191 Years...1830-2021

Monday Evening, October 18, 2021

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Madisonville, Tennessee

Business Session

- 6:00 *Associational Council Report*..... *Video Presentation*
- 6:30 *Greetings and Prayer*..... *Tony Rutherford*
 Director of Missions (Member, Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church)
- Memorial Report* *Video Presentation*
- Video Message*..... *Dr. Randy Davis*
 Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board
- TBMB Representative*
 Tennessee Baptist Mission Board
- Welcome, Devotion and Prayer*..... *Chris Moore*
 Pastor, First Baptist Church, Madisonville
- Presentation of Gavel*..... *Director of Missions*
- Call to Order* *Lewis Jones*
 Moderator (Pastor, Island Creek Baptist Church)
- Business Session* *Moderator*
- Constitution of Body*..... *Sheri Stephens*
 Clerk (Member, Notchey Creek Baptist Church)
- Report of Program Committee*..... *Dennis Lingerfelt*
 Program Committee Chairman (Member, Island Creek Baptist Church)
- Appointment of Committee on Nominations*..... *Moderator*
- Election of Officers* *Michael McLemore*
 Vice-Moderator (Pastor, 411 Chapel Baptist Church)
- Committee on Nominations*..... *Gerald Lynn*
 Chairman Committee on Nominations (Pastor, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church)
- Treasurer's Report* *Sheri Stephens*
- Presentation of Budget*..... *Jonas Turpin*
 Budget Committee Chairman (Pastor, Walnut Grove Baptist Church)
- Missions Committee Report/Recommendation*..... *Steve Moore*
 Missions Committee Chairman (Member, Bethlehem Baptist Church)
- Director of Missions Report/Presentation(s)*..... *Tony Rutherford*
- Presentation of 2022 Calendar*..... *Director of Missions*
- Recommendation(s)*..... *Director of Missions*
- Old Business* *Vice-Moderator*
- New Business* *Vice-Moderator*
- Adjourn* *Vice-Moderator*

Brief Intermission

Monday Evening, October 18, 2021

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Madisonville, Tennessee

Worship Session

- Congregational Hymn*..... *The Lingerfelts*
 Dennis, Tammie, Danny & Lisa Lingerfelt (Members, Island Creek Baptist Church)
- Welcome and Prayer*..... *Michael McLemore*
 Vice-Moderator (Pastor, 411 Chapel Baptist Church)

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Proposed Budget for 2021-2022

I. ASSOCIATIONAL ADMINISTRATION	Budget for 2020-2021	Proposed Budget for 2021-2022	Increase/Decrease
DOM Package (3% increase)			
DOM Salary/Housing	57,565.00	58,400.00	+ 835.00
DOM Benefits	8,205.00	8,805.00	+ 600.00
DOM Business Expenses	11,577.00	11,577.00	
Administrative Assistant (3% increase)	27,351.00	28,200.00	+ 849.00
Adm. Asst Retirement (Salary Reduction)	2,369.00	2,369.00	
Adm. Asst Travel	309.00	309.00	
Ministry Assistant/Receptionist (3% increase)	24,272.00	25,000.00	+ 728.00
Ministry Assistant/Receptionist Retirement (Salary Reduction)	1,298.00	1,298.00	
Ministry Asst/Receptionist Travel	309.00	309.00	
Staff Social Security	4,708.00	4,831.00	+ 123.00
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	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Associational Calendars	770.00	770.00	
Messengers	2,310.00	2,310.00	
II. ASSOCIATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS			
Church Growth & Development	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Vacation Bible School	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Mens Ministry/Brotherhood	750.00	750.00	
Disaster Relief	100.00	100.00	
Womens/Ladies/WMU	500.00	500.00	
Children	500.00	500.00	
Biblical Studies	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Evangelism	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Local Evangelism/Outreach	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Music	200.00	200.00	
Mission Development	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Student Scholarship (High School Seniors)	2,200.00	2,200.00	
Senior Adult	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Pastor Ministry	2,300.00	2,300.00	
Media Center	200.00	200.00	
Student/Youth	2,500.00	5,000.00	+ 2,500.00
III. ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING			
Annual Meeting	900.00	900.00	
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	5,000.00	+ 1,700.00
V. MISCELLANEOUS			
General Miscellaneous	650.00	650.00	
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. Total Monthly \$782.00/Annually \$9384.00			
TOTALS (3.94 % overall increase)	\$186,223.00	\$193,558.00	+\$7,335.00

+Increase -Decrease ***New Item

Proposed budget changes for 2021-2022:

BUDGET



1. Increase in salary line items by near 3%, rounding to dollar amounts. The following are recommended:
 - (a) Increase DOM Salary/Housing by \$835.00
 - (b) Increase DOM Benefits by \$600.00
 - (c) Increase Administrative Assistant Salary by \$849.00
 - (d) Increase Ministry Assistant Salary by \$728.00
 - (e) Increase Staff Social Security by \$123.00 (to reflect staff salary increases)

Working Agreements authorize yearly salary increases, if funds are available.

2. Section II. Associational Organizations
 - (a) Increase Student/Youth Ministry by \$2500.00 or a total of \$5000.00 (Connect Youth Rally)
3. Section II. Associational Office Maintenance
 - (a) Increase Insurance (Office) by \$1700.00 or a total of \$5000.00 (Office Insurance Policy Increase)

The proposed overall budget INCREASE is \$7,335.00 or a total budget of \$193,558.00.

This is a proposed budget increase of 3.94%.

WMU & Ladies Ministry News



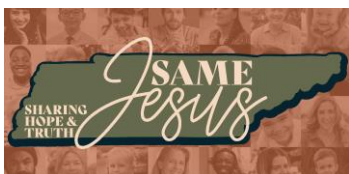
WMU & LADIES MINISTRY:

Ladies, I am looking forward to seeing you at Westside Baptist Church on **Monday evening, November 1st at 7:00 p.m.** As you know, we have had to postpone or cancel our meeting for the past few times due to COVID concerns, restrictions or conditions. Hopefully this time, we will be able to gather for our *WMU/Ladies Meeting!* Our special guest speaker for the evening will be Andrew Wood, Executive Director of HOPE.

The Hope Resource Center is Knoxville's only healthcare center for women with cost-free services provided by licensed medical professionals. Services include pregnancy testing, ultrasound imaging, baby shop, women's wellness care, parenting education and mentoring.

Everyone will be asked to please bring items for a *baby shower* to the *WMU/Ladies Meeting*. These items will be given to the Hope Center for use in their ongoing ministries. You may want to begin collecting items now that can be brought to the meeting in November.

My prayer is that we may have a greater desire for missions in 2021. Love in Christ, *Charlotte Hollinghead, Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director*



GOLDEN OFFERING: In 1902 Dr. W.C. and Mildred Golden challenged Tennessee Baptist to pray and give to missions within the state. In 1943, the initial state missions offering was named after the Goldens, and first offering received was \$800.

The Golden Offering theme for 2021-2022 is *Same Jesus, Sharing Hope & Truth*. The suggested date for the week of prayer is September 12-19. The Scripture focus is from Hebrews 13:8 and John 14:6.

The season of prayer will focus attention on what we as Southern Baptist can accomplish cooperatively. It increases awareness of mission needs, joins hearts to support the needs of missionaries and inspires cheerful giving and personal involvement.



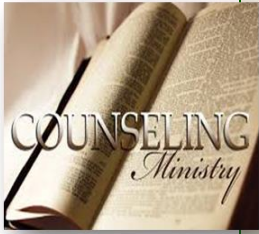
The Golden Offering provides invaluable support for ministries that help reach Tennesseans for Christ. The offering is collected all year, with a special emphasis on giving and praying in September. Please join other churches in being part of the season of prayer for Tennessee and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions. (Information taken from www.goldenoffering.org)

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 and 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.



Macy Small, M.A.
 112 Key Kile Road
 Sweetwater, TN 37874
 865.414.3269



Services include....

- Anxiety & Depression Coping Skills
- Identity & Self Worth Helps
- Individual & Family Sessions
- Children & Teen Counseling
- Premarital & Marriage Counseling
- Divorce, Addiction & Grief Recovery
- Classes, Retreats & Seminars

The UPPER Room Christian Counseling Center seeks to give counsel, helps, guidance, support, and encouragement, for individuals, marriages and families. To speak to a counselor or to get more information, call 865-414-3269 or visit the link at www.fairviewfamily.org.



YOUTH COMMITTEE

Our first CONNECT Rally is in the books! What a great time at Notchey Creek! Thank you to all the churches and youth groups who came out for night of worship and praise. Most of all, thank you to our Savoir for the decisions made!



Focus is a discipleship conference to help you as Pastors, Sunday School Directors, Group Coordinators and Teachers in all age groups expand your knowledge as you focus on the Great Commission.

COST: \$ 10.00 PER PERSON

For more information please contact:

Dr. Mark Miller, Baptism Discipleship Team Leader
 615-476-5564 (cell) or mmiller@tnbaptist.org
 Register at TNBAPTIST.org

- **Saturday, August 21, 2021**
 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. First Baptist Church, Sevierville
 317 Parkway, Sevierville, TN
- **Saturday, August 28, 2021**
 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Westwood Baptist Church
 4001 Georgetown Road NW, Cleveland, TN

BETHLEHEM:

Bethlehem joyfully welcomes our new pastor John Zadra 'Zad' Tomberlin, wife Tory & children Elly, Ty and Gibby into our fellowship as God 's appointed Shepherd. May we all remain committed to follow as God uses His 'called' ones to expand His Kingdom here on earth. We are truly a blessed people! We also express our gratitude to Pastor Carl Croft for his loving, dedicated service in filling the pulpit as Interim Pastor. May the Lord richly bless Carl & Kathy.

CONASAUGA:

Beginning Sept. 1, we will be offering two Wednesday Night Youth Classes for ages 4-9 and ages 10-18. A meal will be provided each Wednesday at 6:30. Beginning Sunday, Sept. 5, all Sunday School classes will start back.

GREGORY'S CHAPEL:

Our Homecoming will be Sept. 19, with Guest Singer, Thomas Brown. Lunch will be served after service. We have begun a new Youth Group ministry, led by Michael & Lori Gunn. Also, continue praying for our Pastor, Gerald Atkins, who broke his leg on July 6.

POPLAR BLUFF:

Gospel Plow is the 3RD Friday Each Month at 6:00 pm. If you play an instrument or want to learn, we would love for you to join us as we gather to worship!

RURAL VALE:

We will be ordaining Justin Lethcoe as a new Deacon on Sunday, Sept 12th at 2:00 pm. All ordained men are invited to join the presbytery.

NOTCHEY CREEK:

Notchey Creek Baptist Church is seeking a full-time senior pastor. (Job Description available on SBA website). Interested parties should submit an email or resume to nbcresumes@gmail.com or Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 5529 New Highway 68, Madisonville, TN 37354. Resumes will be accepted until August 31, 2021.

Notchey Creek will be holding Revival services on August 22-25. Sunday Night Preaching at 6:00 with Dr. Randy Davis (TBMB President); Weeknight Preaching at 7:00 pm. Monday, Rev. Johnny Carr (former Pastor Fairview Tabernacle); Tuesday, Willie McLaurin (VP SBC Executive Committee); and Wednesday, Dr. Roc Collins (TBMB Evangelism Director).

Community-Wide *Hallelujah Night* will be held at the church on Sunday, October 31st, from 4:00-7:00 pm.

UNION MCMINN:

August 8: Homecoming
September 19: Ole Timer's Day Lunch
October 10: Fall Festival, 5:00 pm

VONORE:

Vonore Baptist Church is seeking a Children Ministries Director. (Qualifications/Job Description available on SBA website). Interested applicants should submit their resumes to Don Williams, VBC Personnel Committee, donwilliams37922@yahoo.com; and Amy Long, VBC Administrative Coordinator/Financial Secretary, along@vonorebaptistchurch.org.

WATSON CHAPEL:

Community-Wide College and Career Bible Study: Monday Nights at 7:30 pm. Everyone welcome.



On June 27th, Kris Treadway was ordained as a Deacon of Walnut Grove Baptist Church. (Pictured Leonard Blevins, Kris Treadway, Jonas Turpin)

On May 23rd, Notchey Creek Baptist Church hosted a retirement party for Pastor Gale Miller, who had served the church for 34 years. (Pictured Gale, Melanie & daughter Talley)



On July 25th, Christianburg Baptist Church celebrated the 30-year anniversary of Pastor Darrell Cardin. (Pictured, Darrell, daughter Christa, wife Gail, and son Shannon)

ORDINATIONS, ANNIVERSARIES & RETIREMENTS



On July 11th, Gabe Brannon was ordained into the gospel ministry at Union McMinn Baptist Church. Gabe has been called to serve as Pastor of Salem Baptist Church in Maryville. (Pictured: Doug Alexander, Gabe Brannon)

On July 18th, Danny Roberts was ordained into the gospel ministry at Clifton Baptist Church. Danny has been called to serve as Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church. (Pictured: Danny & Crystal Roberts)



Vacation Bible School Statistics – 2021

**As reported to the Association*

Church	Enrollment	Average Attendance	Decisions for Christ
Big Creek	78	63	5
Gregory's Chapel	41	37	4
Madisonville, FBC	201	178	17
New Bethany	155	110	12
New Macedonia	124	114	7
New Providence	134	132	7
Notchey Creek	155	155	2
Old Sweetwater	143	125	24
Rocky Springs	110	80	1
Rural Vale	60	60	1
Union Grove	126	100	0
Union McMinn	268	224	15
Walnut Grove	57	50	0
Watson Chapel	370	333	1

Sweetwater Baptist Association
 696 Anderson Street
 Madisonville, TN 37354

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2020-2021

MODERATOR LEWIS JONES	VICE MODERATOR MICHAEL McLEMORE	Associational Council Officers & Committee Chairmen
Committee on Nominations Gerald Lynn, Chairman	Children's Director Kendra McDonald	Constitution Committee Wallace Graham, Chairman
Finance Committee Jonas Turpin, Chairman	Disaster Relief Director Jim Jollay	Evangelism Committee Mike Blair, Chairman
Mission Committee Steve Moore, Chairman	Men's Ministry Director Bryan Coffey	Program Committee Dennis Lingerfelt, Chairman
Personnel Committee Macy Small, Chairperson	Music Director Phillip Johnson	Scholarship Committee Amy Lynn Ferguson, Chairperson
Trustees	Pastor Advisor Frank Hicks	Youth Council Cody Dalton, Chairman
WMU/Ladies Director Charlotte Hollinghead	Vacation Bible School Directors Bryan & Kim Williamson	

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Welcome New Pastors
 Antioch.....Danny Roberts Bethlehem.....Zad Tomberlin
 Cedar Fork.....James Mason Trinity.....Jarrod Johnson

Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:
 Madisonville First, Lee's Chapel (Ordination), Paint Rock, Bethlehem, Glenlock,
 Tellico First, Miller's Chapel, Beech Park (Oliver Springs), Notchey Creek, Poplar Bluff,
 DOM Retreat, Piney Grove, Williamsburg, Shelton's Grove, Sweetwater First, Walnut Grove (Ordination)

VBS: Fairview Tabernacle, Poplar Bluff, Madisonville First, Rocky Springs, Big Creek, South Madisonville,
 Watson Chapel, Sweetwater First, New Macedonia, Mt. Zion, Union McMinn, Gregory's Chapel, New Bethany,
 Conasauga, Reed Springs, Cane Creek

Please pray for our churches without pastors:
 Clifton, Howards Chapel, Lower Chilhowee, Miller's Chapel, Notchey Creek (Interim), Vonore (Interim), Williamsburg



The Summit:
Tennessee Baptist Convention
 The Gathering of Tennessee Baptists
 November 14-17, 2021
 Visit www.tbsummit.org for update on speakers, registration, breakout session, exhibit hall, special events & more!
 Online registration is open September 7th.



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

- September 7Biblical Studies Classes begins @ SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.
- September 13Pastor/Family Picnic, Notchey Creek Pavilion, 6:30 p.m.
- September 12-19..Week of Prayer for State Missions and Golden Offering
- September 22See You at the Pole
- September 27Missions Committee Meeting, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.
- October 18Annual Meeting, Madisonville First, Business Session 6:30 p.m.
- October 18Annual Meeting, Madisonville First, Worship Service following Business Session
- November 1WMU/Ladies Meeting, Westside, 7:00 p.m.
- November 14-17...The Summit, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood Baptist Church
- Nov 28-Dec 5Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- December 6Christmas Show, Vonore, 10:30 a.m.
- December 6Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, Vonore, 6:30 p.m.
 (All meetings and events subject to change)



Madisonville Health & Rehab (Activities Director 442-3990)
Birthday Cake Schedule
 August...411 Chapel September...Mt. Zion October...Notchey Creek
 November...Bethlehem December...New Bethany

Next issue of The Messenger will be November/December.

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

Plan now to attend...
 Sweetwater Baptist Association
2022 Association Evangelism Rally

Monday & Tuesday, January 10-11



Dr. Bartholomew Orr, Conference Speaker
 Senior Pastor, Brown Missionary Baptist Church, Southaven, MS

SPECIAL MUSIC
 Monday: Associational Choir, (under direction of Phillip Johnson)
 Tuesday: The Hymnsmen Quartet

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

Theme: *Living Water*

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

SBA Pastors' Conference
 (Mondays @ 10:00 am)

- ❖ August 16 Tommy Self
- ❖ August 23 James Mason
- ❖ August 30 Zad Tomberlin
- ❖ September 6 Labor Day
- ❖ September 13 Jamie Johnson
- ❖ September 20 Dwayne Leming
- ❖ September 27 Ronnie Davis