

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



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**Check Out Our Website:** [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)

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**Volume 2**

**March/April, 2013**

**Number 11**

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**Youth Reach**

**July 19-20, 2013**

- Message by Scott Smith
- Music by Life Wide Open
- Special Guests Comedy Duo Bean & Bailey
- Additional information forthcoming



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



Dennis Wiseman Pastor at  
**Union Hall Baptist Church**  
wife, Samantha  
daughter, Halie  
and sons, Tyler (not in photo) and Jacob

*We are praying for this new pastor, his family and congregation as they work to share Jesus in their community.*

Sweetwater Baptist Association

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CLINIC**

**Tuesday, March 19**

Open House 6:00 p.m., Conferences 6:35 p.m.

WATSON CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH, Madisonville



CONFERENCES FOR ALL AGE GROUPS.....	TEAM LEADERS
Preschool-Kindergarten (babies-completed K).....	Scarlet Mashburn
Younger Children (completed grades 1 & 2).....	Michelle Spradlin
Middle Children (completed grades 3 & 4).....	Carla Thomas
Preteen/Older Children (completed grades 5 & 6).....	Bryan and Kim Williamson
Youth.....	Buck Kirkpatrick
Pastor/Evangelism.....	Ray Umphrey
VBS Leaders/Directors.....	Hope Dotson
Music.....	Brandon Russell, Jessica Malone, Courtney Dotson
Missions.....	Included with Age Conferences
Special Education/Adults/Club VBS.....	Exhibit Table
Mini VBS Exhibit Table.....	Becky Jones, Sheri Stephens

*Children and Youth are invited to be part of the Associational VBS Childrens/Youth Choir. Group practices scheduled for Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2-4:00 p.m. at Watson Chapel Baptist Church in Madisonville. The Associational Childrens/Youth Choir will perform at the VBS Clinic at Watson Chapel Baptist Church on Tuesday evening, March 19<sup>th</sup>.*

LifeWay's 2013 Vacation Bible School Sampler Kits and materials are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 to reserve your kit or place your order for VBS materials for your church.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

**Executive Board Meeting**

**Monday, April 15, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**

SBA Office Building

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

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents

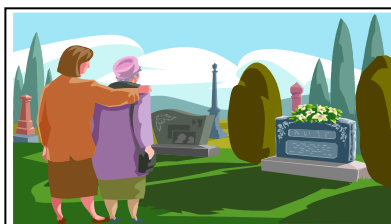
**Church Grief Seminar**

**Monday, April 22, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**

SBA Office Building, Madisonville

Led by Dr. Tony Rankin

TBC, Counseling & Family Ministry



## Director of Missions



Over the past few years, the Tennessee Baptist Convention has launched several new evangelistic programs. Our office has strived to keep each church informed and offer materials, resources and training for the various outreach programs. I wanted to spend a few minutes of this month's article, outlining some of these programs.

- **GOD'S PLAN FOR SHARING (GPS)** – The goal of GPS is to fulfill the Great Commission in Tennessee by the year 2020. "GPS" strives to see every believer sharing the Gospel, resulting in every person hearing the Gospel. "GPS" is outlined in detail on the TBC website ([www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)), but in laymen's terms, "GPS" is simply "sharing the Gospel". The programs outlined below (as well as many others) would all be considered "GPS" events or campaigns.
- **MORE LIFE** – "More Life" is an evangelism/discipleship training program, designed to equip believers to practice "Relational Discipleship" and "Lifestyle Evangelism". "More Life" consists of two 8-week classes. The overall goal of "More Life" is for believers to do more evangelism and discipleship, which results in more lives committed to Christ and more Baptisms. Additional information and all the training materials for the "More Life" program are available on the TBC website ([www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)).
- **HARVEST 1-5-1** – "Harvest" focuses on reaching people or groups who choose not to attend church. A small group of 3-7 people from within the local church would form relationships with others (perhaps based on language or ethnicity, sporting activity or other common interest). Then they would begin a weekly Bible study/ministry meeting with their group (not at the church, not during regular church services). More than one group could be active at a time. The goal would be that each group would harvest five baptisms and another group would be formed from the first group, thus 1-5-1. Pastors interested in starting "Harvest" groups or wanting more information can contact our office or by calling the TBC at 1-800-558-2090.
- **"MY HOPE WITH BILLY GRAHAM"** - In addition to these evangelistic programs, the Tennessee Baptist Convention is encouraging churches to participate in "MY HOPE WITH BILLY GRAHAM". "My Hope" is based on the apostle Matthew, who invited his friends to his home for a meal and to meet Jesus (Matthew 9:9-10). Dr. Graham has asked

believers to work throughout 2013 developing relationships with 3-5 non-believers. Then in November 2013 (in honor of Dr. Graham's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday), you would invite them to your home for a meal and to watch a broadcast, where Dr. Graham will share the Gospel with them and you will be given to opportunity to lead them to Christ. More information and training materials are available at [www.myhopewithbillygraham.org](http://www.myhopewithbillygraham.org).

"More Life", "Harvest" and "My Hope" are all programs that work within GPS. They each promote sharing the gospel (which is what GPS is all about). As you can see, there are many avenues available for our churches to evangelize the lost and disciple new believers. Some churches may focus on only one of these programs; some churches may want to pursue each of the various programs available through our state convention. Some churches will use other programs or devise their own evangelism strategy. The goal of each of these tools is simple...believers sharing the gospel with non-believers. Our office is happy to assist each of our pastors, churches and congregations in reaching this goal.

Now let me share an update from our recent mission trip to Haiti. The Lord uses willing hearts, open hands, and pliable spirits to accomplish much. That is the testimony of a recent weeks work in Haiti. God brought together eleven people from eight different churches from the Sweetwater Baptist Association to work with a team of like-minded Haitians. The amount of work produced and the lives that were touched will have an eternal effect on the participants. Haitian and American men and women worked side-by-side carrying block, mud and laying fifteen rows of cement block. Their efforts moved us a long way in constructing the multi-purpose building for the orphans.

God blessed in helping to cross language and cultural barriers. Such a project does not come without facing difficulties. We learn that from the study of the book of Nehemiah. His task was to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem after a long period of exile. Nehemiah continually struggled with opposition. Yet, God provided Nehemiah with the solution to complete the project and give glory to God. Those of us who journeyed to Haiti can testify that God's wisdom helped overcome all our human struggles.

The greatest praise that rose from the island of Haiti was the work our ladies did with the children. During the morning they worked with the school and helped to share Christ with over 130 children. In the afternoon, they provided a Vacation Bible School for the children of the orphanage. From the time we arrived for worship on Sunday until today, our ladies would say they left some of their heart in Haiti. The true blessing of this mission opportunity is that 20 children professed Christ as their Savior while we were there. Twenty new converts gave their heart to the great God of heaven. No wonder those ladies are still beaming. To those who have supported this mission effort with their prayers, financial gifts, wisdom, and energy, you have made an investment in the kingdom of God that will last forever.

--- Tony Rutherford

**HOPE FOR HAITI NEWS:** In February, a team of short-term mission volunteers from our Association of Churches traveled to Haiti to continue the ministry at the Foundation Yaveh Shamma for the Children Orphan in Haiti. After our team returned to the United States, the Haitian workers continued to work at the construction site. Photos indicate that the first floor of the building has now been poured with concrete. Additional construction teams will travel to Haiti in late fall to continue the work on the building.

# HOPE FOR HAITI



Please pray for Pastor Gaetan Alcegaire and his ministry at the Foundation Yaveh Shamma for the Children Orphan in Haiti. Presently, our churches are helping to feed, clothe and house 32 orphans in Port-au-Prince, Haiti at the orphanage operated by Pastor Gaetan. We are encouraging families, churches, Sunday school classes, WMU groups or any group within a congregation to consider supporting a child at the orphanage for \$80.00 a month. Many of our churches are responding to these urgent needs. Please pray how God would lead you to be part of this ministry.

## HOPE FOR HAITI FUNDS October 1, 2012-February 28, 2013

Cedar Fork .....	2758.46
Hopewell Springs .....	1000.00
Island Creek, WMU .....	120.00
Island Creek .....	320.00
Long Ridge .....	1000.00
Mt. Zion .....	1175.00
Macedonia .....	100.00
Murrays .....	200.00
Oak Grove .....	240.00
Reed Springs .....	320.00
Shady Grove .....	200.00
South Madisonville .....	400.00
Sweetwater First .....	450.00
Tellico (Ballplay) .....	1000.00
Vonore .....	1350.00
Walnut Grove .....	280.00
Williamsburg .....	270.11
Bettendorf (Iowa) First .....	620.00
Robert and Linda Goguen .....	400.00
Kathy Kolloch .....	200.00
David and Lisa McHan .....	200.00
Tony and Darnell Rutherford .....	500.00
Annual Meeting Offering, 2012 .....	1033.00

### SBA Church Gifts

October 1, 2012-February 28, 2013

Church .....	Total
411 Chapel .....	0.00

Altoona .....	1000.00
Antioch .....	125.00
Beaty's Chapel .....	0.00
Bethlehem .....	3189.00
Big Creek .....	500.00
Calvary .....	325.14
Cane Creek .....	550.00
Cedar Fork .....	1084.90
Cedar Valley .....	1234.25
Chestua .....	500.00
Christianburg .....	642.47
Citico .....	502.92
Clifton .....	150.00
Community .....	692.22
Compromise .....	250.00
Concord .....	0.00
Druid Hills .....	60.00
Ebenezer .....	512.00
Fairview .....	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle .....	4618.83
Glenlock .....	1200.00
Gregory's Chapel .....	0.00
Hilltop .....	75.00
Hopewell Springs .....	1763.00
Howards Chapel .....	423.87
Island Creek .....	800.00
Lakeside .....	300.00
Long Ridge .....	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee .....	400.00
Macedonia .....	200.00
Madisonville, First .....	1833.35
Maple Springs .....	500.00
Miller's Chapel .....	500.00
Mt. Calvary .....	588.75
Mt. Isabella .....	100.00
Mt. Pleasant .....	400.00
Mt. Zion .....	2044.15
Murray's .....	2917.50
New Bethany .....	1559.08
New Macedonia .....	700.00
New Providence .....	2096.00
North Sweetwater .....	944.71
Notchey Creek .....	1883.55
Oakland .....	100.00
Oak Grove .....	1224.52
Old Pond Hill .....	0.00
Old Sweetwater .....	100.00
Paint Rock .....	550.00
Piney Grove .....	0.00
Poplar Bluff .....	1069.03
Reed Springs .....	748.12
Rocky Springs .....	2000.00
Rural Vale .....	881.56
Shady Grove .....	100.00
Shelton Grove .....	0.00
Shoal Creek .....	854.00
South Madisonville .....	500.00
Sweetwater, First .....	1750.00
Tellico .....	1000.00
Tellico Plains, First .....	3063.00
Tevis Springs .....	321.34
Towee Falls .....	500.00
Trinity .....	0.00
Unicoi .....	380.05
Union Hall .....	365.90
Unity .....	0.00
Upper Shady Grove .....	250.00
Vonore .....	2606.09
Walnut Grove .....	628.29
Watson Chapel .....	1250.00
Westside .....	0.00
Williamsburg .....	270.17
TBC/Miscellaneous .....	4738.15
Total Income .....	\$63,415.91

This is the SBA Church Gifts received through February 28, 2013



**Sweetwater Womens  
Baptist Missionary  
Association Union**

Have you heard? We wear red to the Associational WMU Quarterly Meeting in February. The meeting was held at New Providence Baptist Church this year, and

you all looked great! Even Pastor Rick Atkins had on his red shirt! It was a great meeting. We were blessed with special singing by Trey and Amy Ferguson. The program presented was by short-term mission volunteers from New Providence that had participated in mission projects in West Virginia. You've heard, pictures speak louder than words. This was so true by the video that was presented of the mission work in West Virginia. And then, we want to thank the ladies for providing all the good soups and chili that we enjoyed at the close of the meeting. It was so yummy. Even if I did miss out on getting any of the chicken and dumplings! The food was delicious! Thank you, New Providence for hosting a wonderful meeting.

This year will be the first time in several years that I have had the opportunity to attend Missions Get Together in Gatlinburg. I hope to see several of our ladies at the meeting and pray everyone has an amazing, as well as safe trip.

As I am writing my article for "The Messenger" this month, I am watching the movie, "Facing the Giants". I am reminded that if we win, we will praise GOD. If we lose, we will still praise GOD. Nothing is impossible with GOD.

Remember the Associational Girls Day Out on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. (Our Associational Girls Director, Michelle Spradlin always puts together an awesome program for our young ladies.) Also, remember Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the Week of Prayer for North American Missions. One other thing...Remember when it's your time to provide a birthday cake. The month of March is New Providence and April is Altoona.

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

Sweetwater Baptist Association

**Girls Day Out**

(for all girls, ages 5-12)

**Saturday, April 27**

Missions, Crafts, Music, and MUCH MORE!

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Hosted by New Bethany Baptist Church

For more information, please contact the Associational Office at 442-6604 or Michelle Spradlin at 371-9071

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING AND WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS:** Annie Walker Armstrong is one of Southern Baptists' heroes. She championed missions involvement and gave personally and sacrificially of her time and talents to see the Gospel go forward throughout the world. As founder of the Woman's Missionary Union, Annie's commitment to share the Gospel of Jesus continues to live on today. Our Southern Baptist missionaries cannot do the work alone. They need our prayers, support and commitment in order to reach the more than 259 million lost people in North America with the Gospel. Are you willing to do "Whatever It Takes" to fulfill the Great Commission?



**Don't forget.... Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Week of Prayer for North American Missions**



"I've tried everything I know to do.....without God". This was said by a young man a few days ago and I thought this was such a sad

statement. We all have troubles and problems, but why do we think we have to go through them alone?

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1).*

So many people need to be reminded of this, and many need to CLAIM this. If you or a loved one is feeling alone, overwhelmed, or in despair, please allow God and counselors to help you. You don't have to go through it alone. God desires to be a present help to each of us. To speak to a counselor or to get more information, call **865-414-3269** or visit [www.upperroomchristiancounseling.net](http://www.upperroomchristiancounseling.net)

Services include....

- Premarital & Marriage Counseling
- Children, Teens, & Family Counseling
- Divorce & Grief Recovery
- Counseling for Addictions, Anger, Depression, & Self-worth

**APRIL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:**

The Executive Board of the Sweetwater Baptist Association will meet on Monday evening, April 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Baptist Office. According to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, all Pastors, Associational Council (SBA Officers and Committee Chairman) and one elected Executive Board Member from each participating church are entitled to participate in the Executive Board Meetings. **According to our records, the following churches have NOT reported an Executive Board Member to our office:** Altoona, Beaty's Chapel, Calvary, Mt. Calvary, Mt. Isabella, Notchey Creek, Oakland, Old Sweetwater, Paint Rock, Towee Falls, Trinity, Unicoi and Upper Shady Grove. **In order for your church's Executive Board Member to participate in the business session, we must have the name of the Executive Board Member turned in to the Associational Office prior to the meeting.** Pastors or clerks can contact our office at 423-442-6604 or [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) to report their church's Executive Board Member's name.





**2013 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** LifeWay's VBS 2013 Sampler Kits, *Colossal Coaster World* and *Club VBS Jungle Jaunt*, along with teaching materials, pupil guides, t-shirts, craft kits and promotional resources are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office.

We want to remind all VBS Directors, teachers and workers that the **Associational VBS Clinic** will be held on **Tuesday evening, March 19<sup>th</sup>** at **Watson Chapel Baptist Church**. The Associational Childrens/Youth Choir will perform at the Clinic. Early practice for these groups will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at Watson Chapel Baptist Church. We want to encourage all of our VBS leaders and workers to please mark these dates on your calendar and make plans to attend.

We want to thank everyone that participated and/or attended the VBS Preview Clinic in February. Congratulations to Wayne Godsey, VBS Director at Clifton Baptist Church. He will receive a VBS leader shirt in the drawing for picking up an early Sampler Kit at the Associational Office.

Now, let's get ready, set, go, as we hold on tight and get ready to prepare for Vacation Bible School *Colossal Coaster World*, *Facing Fear*, *Trusting God*, and explore 2 Timothy 1:7. Our focus will be to encourage kids to face their fears and trust God with His spirit of power, love and sound judgment. Also, offered this year is *Jungle Jaunt*. The Club VBS will guide kids to learn more about God's love based on Psalm 145:1-2.

Please come by or call the Associational Office today at 442-6604 to select the kit that is just right for your church. We will be happy to help you with your 2013 Vacation Bible School team, resources and supplies.

**TENNESSEE TAX EXEMPTION:** The Tennessee Department of Revenue issued new Certificates of Exemptions in June, 2011. According to the state of Tennessee, you should have already begun using the forms for your church effective July 1, 2011. If you need to submit a copy of the new form for your church to LifeWay Christian Resources for VBS or Sunday School materials purchased, please bring a copy of your tax exemption form by our office, and we will be happy to fax it to LifeWay for you.



**DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING:** The Tennessee Baptist Convention will be offering Disaster Relief Training in our region. Please remember, participants must complete the *Introduction to Disaster Relief Training* class before a specialty class can be taken.



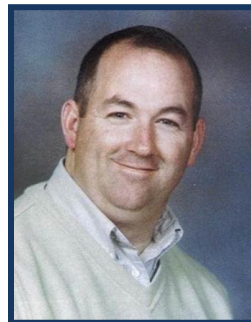
March 16, 2013: Camp Carson, 1120 Carson Springs Road, Newport

- Introduction to Disaster Relief and Recertification to Disaster Relief
- Bucket Truck Hands-on and Safety

May 18, 2013: Woodland Park Baptist Church, 6735 Standifer Gap Rd, Chattanooga

- Introduction to Disaster Relief and Recertification to Disaster Relief
- Administration
- Bucket Truck Classroom/Hands-on and Safety
- Chainsaw Operation and Safety
- Chaplaincy
- Crew Chief
- Damage Assessment
- First Aid
- Flood Recovery
- Forklift Classroom/Hands-on
- Mass Feeding
- Shower/Laundry
- Site Security

(For more information and/or to pre-register, please contact Elizabeth Holmes at eholmes @tnbaptist.org or 615-371-7926.)



**YOUTH COMMITTEE NEWS:** By now, all Youth Leaders and Pastors should have received a Youth Reach Registration Packet in the mail. I hope each of you take time to look over the information and plan to bring your students to Youth Reach 2013. The registration deadline is May 30<sup>th</sup>. If your group will be attending, we really need to have the completed registration form and payment turned in to the associational

office by that date.

If any Youth Leaders or Pastors have questions about Youth Reach, feel free to contact anyone on the Youth Committee or the associational office. *Jarrod Johnson, Associational Youth Committee Chairman*



## Youth Reach

### July 19-20, 2013

Message by Scott Smith  
Music by Life Wide Open  
Special Guests Bean & Bailey




**Watch for further details!**

**DENTAL CARE:** Hiwassee College Dental Hygiene Clinic offers low-cost dental cleaning (including x-rays), as well as other hygiene services. Cleanings are \$20.00 for adults and children 12 & under are \$10.00. This service is available to anyone and appointments can be scheduled by calling 423-420-1234.



# Revival

Revival Services will begin at Oak Grove Baptist Church on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and weeknight services at 7:00 p.m. Evangelists will be Rev. Steve Strickland and Rev. Michael McLemore. Pastor Chad Oody invites everyone to come share in these special services.

We have several upcoming events:

- Sunday Night, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Special Singing with Rocky Flatts.
- Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – Children's Easter Egg Hunt
- Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> – Easter Sunrise Service @ 7:00 am.  
Message will be delivered by Andy Franklin.  
Service will be held in the cemetery, weather permitting.

## VONORE BAPTIST CHURCH:

Several events are planned over the next few weeks and everyone is invited to attend...

### • EASTER MUSICAL – "I WILL RISE"

March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM  
A Fellowship Meal will be served after the Service.

### • COMMUNITY SUNRISE SERVICE

Easter Sunday,  
March 31<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 AM  
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Mike DeLand (Walnut Grove)  
Special Music: Community Choir

### • 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL SPORTSMAN EXPO

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Fishing Tournament begins @ 6:00 am, Weigh-In @ 1:00 pm  
Speaker: Jimmy Houston, America's Favorite Fisherman  
Vendors and Demo's, Door Prizes, Hot Dogs, Activities  
For more information, contact Stephen Giles at 865-680-0117 or Chris Hall at 423-253-4590.



## Women's Luncheon FAIRVIEW BAPTIST TABERNACLE CHURCH

*The Heart of Anna*  
Women's Ministry presents

### • "Strings & Things, A Colorful Tapestry of Life"

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am  
Guest speaker will be Tricia Robbins  
Author of "A Cord of Three Strands"  
Luncheon will also be provided.  
Cost is \$10.00 per person.

Register by sending your Name, Address, Phone Number, and Email Address (with your \$10.00 fee) to Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church, Heart of Anna Women's Ministry, 112 Key Kyle Road, Sweetwater, TN 37874. For more information, contact the church at 423-337-6208.

**VONORE BAPTIST CHURCH:** is now enrolling for their After School Program (begins May 28) and Summer Camp for ages pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Please call the church office at 884-6230 for tuition cost and further information.





**The Holy Land Tour**  
Presented by Wilcox World Travel  
**Led by Pastor Dennis Cagle**  
May 13-22, 2014

**Cost: \$3,789 per person**  
Travel Brochure and Registration Form  
available at SBA and Vonore Baptist.  
For more information, contact  
Dennis Cagle at 423-884-6230  
or [pastordennis@vonorebaptistchurch.org](mailto:pastordennis@vonorebaptistchurch.org)

## SHOAL CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH:

We praise God for the four professions of faith we have seen since the first of the year. Please keep our building project in your prayers. We still have a long way to go, but are trusting God to help us complete the project. Also, continue praying for our Food Pantry ministry. Our Food Pantry is

open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. We pray that each of you has a great Easter. *I am he that liveth and was dead; and behold I am alive forever more, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. Rev. 1:18 -- Jessica Hill*



## MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH:

The New Year began with a food drive competition between the men and women. The competition was a huge success with over 1,500 food items collected for our Food Pantry. Who knew the men (*Preacher Dennis*) were so competitive!

We are in the process of starting a G.R.O.W. ministry at Mt. Zion. Meetings have been held and soon groups will be going out to place door hangers and visit, inviting people to come worship with us. Our prayer is that this ministry will be very successful in our community and let our neighbors know that God (and Mt. Zion) loves them.



One of our own, Davette Tilley traveled with the associational mission team to Haiti during the week of February 2-9. While there, Davette and other ladies in the group worked with the children in the orphanage and taught Bible School. Davette is pictured here with one of the girls from the orphanage. We are so thankful for Davette, and for her safe return to us!

# MY HOPE with BILLY GRAHAM

This November will mark Billy Graham's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday and he has asked God for a great evangelistic thrust to coincide with this milestone. Even at age 95, Billy Graham continues to be a catalyst for the kingdom by his persistent pursuit of God and his enormous burden for the lost.

Last fall, I had the opportunity to spend a few days at the Billy Graham Training Center in Asheville, N.C. where I was introduced to MY HOPE WITH BILLY GRAHAM. This evangelistic effort was born in the heart of Dr. Graham and it caught fire in my own soul during that time of orientation.

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).

Billy Graham has already been using this program in other countries and seen millions of people come to faith in Christ

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).

If Christians will mobilize now and prayerfully seek those individuals, God will guide us, the Holy Spirit will prepare their heart, and in November, God will save thousands upon thousands. *Dennis Cagle*

A poster for the 'Coming to Life Rally' held from June 23-25, 2013, at 7:00 pm. The background is dark blue with a large, glowing white cross. The text is white and yellow. It lists three locations: Sequoyah High School, Sweetwater High School, and Tellico Plains High School. Guest speakers are Chris Hollinghead, Roman Hamilton, and Darrell Collins. Bands performing are The Wave Worship Band and Perfectly Broken. A note states that students attend at their own school each night and speakers and bands rotate to each school.

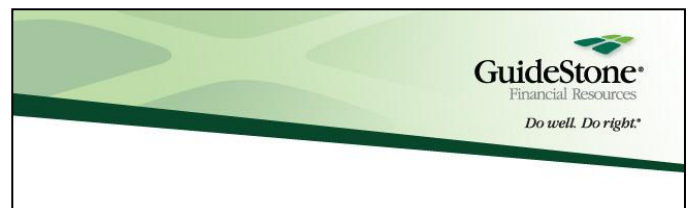
**Coming to Life Rally**  
June 23-25, 2013 @ 7:00 pm

3 Locations  
Sequoyah High School  
Sweetwater High School  
Tellico Plains High School

Guest Speakers  
Chris Hollinghead,  
Roman Hamilton and Darrell Collins

Among the Bands Performing  
The Wave Worship Band  
Perfectly Broken

Students attend at their own school each night.  
Speakers and Bands will rotate to each school.



## PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT SEMINARS

- **April 9** Hamilton County Baptist Association  
6625 Lee Highway, Chattanooga 423-267-3794 (9:30-11:30 a.m.)
- **April 11** Knox County Baptist Association  
7709 Westland Drive, Knoxville 865-693-9097 (9:30-11:30 a.m.)  
(You must pre-register by contacting GuideStone.)

Richard Skidmore and Mike Ford will be at various locations throughout the state of Tennessee to speak with you about "Preparing for Retirement." Retirement isn't something you just stumble into one day. It requires careful attention to details.

Topics at the seminar will include the decisions you need to make, and learn how these decisions can impact your financial well-being and lifestyle in retirement. You will learn about GuideStone's benefit options and useful tools and resources that are available. Also to be discussed: Your retirement income needs, and the resources you have available. The basics of Social Security and Medicare. The ins and outs of starting your benefit with GuideStone. Investment adjustments to consider before retirement. Developing a personal countdown-to-retirement timeline.

Having a GuideStone *Estimate of Benefits* prepared before the seminar might be helpful. You can request yours from GuideStone by simply calling 1-888-98-GUIDE (1-888-984-8433), or log in at [www.MyGuideStone.org](http://www.MyGuideStone.org). Choose the Retirement and Investments tab, click on Retirement Income, and finally, "Get Started" at Retirement Income Solutions.

# April, 2013

“You are my Father, my God, the Rock, my Savior.” –Psalm 89:26

# May, 2013

“This is the gate of the Lord, through which the righteous may enter.” –Psalm 118:20

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Missions Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	9	10	11	12	13 Bill Bradley Memorial Fishing Tournament Tellico Plains High School Prom
14 Cooperative Program Sunday	15 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Executive Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Church Grief Seminar, SBA Office, 7:00 p.m. Led by: Dr. Tony Rankin	23	24 National Administrative Professionals Day	25	26	27 Girl's Day Out, New Bethany, 9:00 am-3:00pm
28	29 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	30	East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake - <b>MARCH</b> - <b>New Providence</b>			East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake - <b>APRIL</b> - <b>Altoona</b>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4
5	6 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. WHU Quarterly Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Cedar Valley Baptist Church	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	14	15	16 Sweetwater High School Graduation 7:00 pm	17 Sequoyah High School Graduation, 7:00 pm	18 Tellico Plains High School Graduation, 9:00 am
19	20 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	21	22	23	24 Last Day of School Monroe County Dismiss @ 10:00	25
26	27 No Pastor Conf. Memorial Day Office Closed	28	29	30	31	East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake - <b>May-Island Creek</b>

**SBA Office Hours**  
Mon.-Thurs.  
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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

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

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Scholarship Committee Chris Hollinghead, Chairman	Trustees Don Rockholt, Chairman	Youth Council Jarrod Johnson, Chairman

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

### Welcome New Pastors:

Dennis Wiseman Union Hall

### Director of Mission Visits:

Vonore, Altoona, Macedonia, Upper Shady Grove, Tellico First, Tellico (Ballplay), Towee Falls, Wilton (Iowa), Mt. Pleasant, 411 Chapel, Clifton, Shoal Creek, Union Hall, Haiti, Raleigh Road (Henderson, NC), Shady Grove, Antioch Mt. Calvary, Big Creek, North Sweetwater, Cane Creek, Calvary

### Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Cane Creek, Community, North Sweetwater, Oakland, Rural Vale, Unicoi

