

The Messenger of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Seventy-three Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 184 years, 1830 – 2014

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Youth Reach July 18-19, 2014

Smoky Mountain Convention Center
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

\$25.00 per person

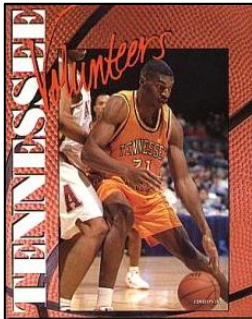
- Includes conference fee and materials
- Lodging NOT included

Please call 442-6604 or visit our website for more information.

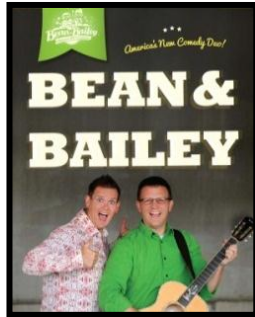


SHAWN McBRIDE

Evangelist



Saturday Morning Testimony by
Former UT and NBA Basketball Star
STEVE HAMER



Friday and Saturday
Special Guests
BEAN & BAILEY

Music by
**LIFE
WIDE
OPEN**



Prayer for Sweetwater Baptist Association

Please pray for the Pastors, Congregations, Associational Officers and Staff of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

crossing north america

2014 associational missions emphasis



Southern Baptist Convention

2014 SBC Annual Meeting

Baltimore Convention Center, Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland

June 10-11, 2014

2014 SBC Pastor's Conference, June 8-9, Baltimore



Sweetwater Baptist Association presents

Men's Ministry
2014 Sportsmen's Day
Saturday, September 13th
Watch for further details!



Sweetwater Baptist Association
Family of Churches Welcomes
Pastor Jeremy McNally
Island Creek Baptist Church

Our prayers are with this pastor, his wife, Brandi, their children, Haley and Brady, and this congregation as they work together to win their community to Christ.

**Director
of
Missions**

The Sweetwater Baptist Association had a great Executive Board Meeting in April. Two recommendations were presented by the Missions Committee and were approved, with no opposition.



The Fellowship Church in Sweetwater was taken into the Association and placed under watch-care until the Annual Meeting in October, 2015. The second action taken by the Association was to approve World Changers to work in the Sweetwater Baptist Association area the week of July 6-11, 2015.

The Fellowship Church is a start-up congregation with Dr. Derek McCosh as the pastor. Derek's family is steeped in the Baptist tradition and he has been educated by Southern Baptists. I personally had the privilege of being Derek's pastor in the early 1980's.

The Fellowship Church currently meets in a storefront building across from the Sweetwater Utility Board on Oak Street. The Church has been meeting for almost a year and averages about 50 people in attendance. The congregation celebrated their official "launch day" on Easter Sunday morning. There were 80 in attendance and the church baptized 3 new members. Please keep The Fellowship Church in your prayers.

World Changers are coming to our area in July, 2015. World Changers is a division of LifeWay, a Southern Baptist entity. Approximately 250 youth, with adult leadership, will do light construction work and maintenance on low-income housing. Work cannot be done on rental property. Homeowners must be referred to the SBA by a local church and pastor. Each project will average approximately \$1,500. Projects will be approved and selections of applicants will be made by the SBA Missions Committee. The estimated cost our Association needs is approximately \$25,000.00 to fund World Changers.

World Changers coincides with the present mission work in Haiti. The SBA churches presently supporting the Haiti mission project need to continue that effort, and in doing so, the Haiti ministry will be completed on time. I would encourage these churches to also plan a special offering to support World Changers.

Many congregations have requested that the Association lead in projects at home. For those churches who are not financially supporting the efforts in Haiti, World Changers is a great opportunity for you to support local missions. In addition to financial support for World Changers, teams will also be needed to prepare bag lunches for workers, distribute water to volunteers, and organize leaders for prayer groups.

A privilege to serve within our community is coming to our doorstep, and we need not miss the chance to demonstrate the

glory of our God. The Scripture teaches us that God blesses the act of giving a cool cup of water in Jesus' name. How much more will He bless our efforts of providing greatly needed home repairs for deserving families?

The approval of both of these projects should create excitement within our Association. Home missions have arrived!

--- Tony Rutherford

HAITI UPDATE: Our Association of Churches continues to respond in a great way to the on-going partnership mission in Haiti. Our churches provide for 32 orphan children at the orphanage operated by Pastor Gaetan Alcegaire. We are encouraging families, churches, Sunday School classes, WMU groups, Men's groups or any group within a congregation to consider supporting a child. In order to care for each child, \$80.00 provides food, clothing, shelter and schooling each month.



In addition to providing support for the orphan children, construction continues at the new church/school building at the Foundation Yaveh Shamma for the Children Orphanage operated by Pastor Gaetan.

Please pray for Pastor Gaetan, the children, the construction teams, building project and how God would lead you to share in this ministry as we work to share the love of Christ in the country of Haiti.

**HOPE FOR HAITI FUNDS
OCTOBER 1, 2013 – APRIL 30, 2014**

Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church.....	952.00
Island Creek Baptist Church, WMU.....	240.00
Island Creek Baptist Church.....	480.00
Oak Grove Baptist Church.....	480.00
Reed Springs Baptist Church.....	480.00
South Madisonville Baptist Church.....	560.00
Sweetwater, First Baptist Church.....	630.00
Tellico (Ballplay) Baptist Church.....	1000.00
Vonore Baptist Church.....	1570.00
Walnut Grove Baptist Church.....	182.00
Williamsburg Baptist Church.....	367.92
Bettendorf (Iowa), First Baptist Church.....	1262.00
Robert and Linda Goguen.....	400.00
Kathy Kolloch.....	300.00
David and Lisa McHan.....	500.00
Don and Sandra Rockholt.....	200.00
Tony and Darnell Rutherford.....	700.00
Anonymous.....	500.00

crossing north america

2014 associational missions emphasis

Prayer for Sweetwater Baptist Association



IOWA MISSION PROJECTS: Please pray for church volunteer mission teams that will be participating in projects in Iowa during the summer months of June and July. Teams will be providing Vacation Bible Schools, Back-yard Bible Clubs, church strengthening, revivals, construction, etc. Currently, mission teams from Bethlehem Baptist Church, Walnut Grove Baptist Church and Westside Baptist Church are scheduled to do partnership missions in Iowa. We also have other churches that are participating in summer mission projects here at home, across our country and around our world. We want to remember all of our church volunteer mission teams as they share the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the world.



UPDATE FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

The Executive Board of the Sweetwater Baptist Association met on Monday evening, April 14th. Carroll Hamilton served as Moderator for the regular, business meeting for the Association. Reports from various ministries of the Association, including the Director of Missions Report and Treasurer's Report, were presented for information.



Two items of business were approved by Executive Board Members during the business session. They were as follows: (1) The Missions Committee recommended that the churches of the Association help plan, participate, promote and fund World Changers, July 6-11, 2015 for our area. (2) The Missions Committee recommended that the petition request of The Fellowship Church (organized March, 2013; Pastor Derek McCosh) be accepted in accordance with Policy and Procedures for Petitioning the Sweetwater Baptist Association for membership and that The Fellowship Church be taken under the watch-care of the Association pending the vote of Messengers at the 2015 Annual Meeting. While under watch-care, The Fellowship Church will be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Association, except that of voting.

World Changers will be a great opportunity for our churches to be involved in local missions. We are also happy that The Fellowship Church has petitioned to be part of the church family of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. We are excited that the Lord is providing us these opportunities to do ministry together.



YOUTH NEWS: Youth Reach is now less than 2 months away and churches should have their registration forms completed and returned to the associational office. **If your church hasn't turned in your registration yet, please send that in ASAP.**

A great line-up has been scheduled for the back-to-school worship conference on July 18-19. The guest speaker is student evangelist, **Shawn McBride**, Music will once again be provided by **Life Wide Open**, Special Guest Testimony Speaker will be former U.T Vol and Boston Celtic **Steve Hamer** and back for a second year, Christian Comedians **Bean and Bailey**. **Don't forget... registrations are due May 29th. We hope to see you in Pigeon Forge.** Chris Hollinghead, *Youth Committee Chairman*

WMU/LADIES MINISTRY NEWS:



It was a blessing to be at Bethlehem Baptist Church for our Quarterly WMU meeting in May. Our program for the evening was presented by Carla Thomas; she shared about on-going mission work at Orphanage Emmanuel in Honduras. In addition, the Bethlehem Baptist Church Youth presented skits and special music. We want to thank the ladies of the church for preparing the wonderful food. The offering received on the evening will be used to help fund the 2015 WMU Expo. It was a joy to worship together at Bethlehem Baptist Church.



Remember when it is your WMU's time to provide a birthday cake for East Tennessee Healthcare.

- May...Island Creek Baptist Church
- July...Lakeside Baptist Church
- September...Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- June...Madisonville, First Baptist Church
- August...411 Chapel Baptist Church

Sweetwater Baptist Association
WMU Quarterly Meeting
 Hosted by Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church
 Sweetwater, Tennessee
Monday, August 4th, 7:00 p.m.

I look forward to seeing you at our next WMU Quarterly Meeting. It will be held at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater on Monday evening, August 4th. Have a blessed day. Love in Christ, *Charlotte Hollinghead, Associational WMU Director*



Macy Small, M.A.
 112 Key Kile Road
 Sweetwater, TN 37874
865.414.3269
www.fairviewfamily.org
The Upper Room Christian Counseling Center

FOCUS - - - - -
Finances - Kids - Jobs - Marriage - Stress - Health - Ministry - School

All these things require attention and energy. But when these things occupy too much of our mind and energy, then we have lost focus. These things demand attention and often will dominate our mind and emotions. It's very easy to lose focus.

Think of the familiar Bible study of Peter walking on the water. As long as his focus was on Jesus, he was walking. When Peter began to focus on the storm instead of Jesus, he began to sink. The same principle applies for us today. Keep our eyes on Christ, not the storms around us.

One of the objectives of Christian counseling is to teach families and individuals to **REFOCUS**. Focus on God, not the problem. Too much of our mind, emotions, and energy is on the problem or the situation and we lose sight of God's provision and power. Let Christian counseling help you or your loved ones to **REFOCUS!** No situation is bigger than God's control.

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...." Hebrews 12:2

Macy Small, M.A., NCCA Licensed Clinical Christian Counselor, Specializing in Marriage and Family Counseling, 865-414-3269, www.fairviewfamily.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING: Sunday School Training Conferences are being offered this year by the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association are invited to attend *Equipping U...Sunday School Training Conferences* at the following locations and dates:



- August 25 Chilhowee Hills Baptist Church, Knoxville
- September 8 Brainerd Hills Baptist Church, Chattanooga

Conferences will be available for small group leaders, Sunday School leaders, Sunday School Directors, Pastors, and teachers of all age groups (adult, children and preschool), and Bible Study leaders of 1-5-1 Harvest Plants. Each conference is from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m. Pre-registration for the meal is required. The cost for the meal is \$10.00 per person. Please mark your calendar, and make plans to attend one of the important Sunday School training events.

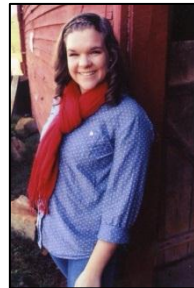
Coming in September....
Sweetwater Baptist Association
Church Growth and Development Conference
Monday, September 22, 2014, 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Madisonville
Watch for further details!



FREE PIANO FOR CHURCH: Helen Owens has a *Kohler & Campbell* piano to donate to a church. If interested, contact Helen at 423-519-1550.

2014 SBA HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS:

Several years ago, our Association began a scholarship program for graduating high school seniors. We feel that our scholarship is a way to say to our young people that we believe in them, and would like to be part of their lives as they prepare for the future.



The 2014 SBA High School Scholarship recipients have been named. They are as follows: (photos top, left to right)

Brett Avery King, Emily Faith Carr, Haley Noelle Pittman and Emma Grace Thompson.

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Brett Avery King | Sequoyah High School | New Macedonia Baptist Church |
| Emily Faith Carr | Sweetwater High School | Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church |
| Haley Noelle Pittman | Tellico Plains High School | New Providence Baptist Church |
| Emma Grace Thompson | Berean Christian School | Long Ridge Baptist Church |

We congratulate these students who were each awarded \$500.00 cash scholarships on behalf of the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.



September 24, 2014
Armbands, posters, t-shirts, supplies, etc. for See You at the Pole can be ordered online at www.syatp.com or by calling 817-447-7526.

Is Your Church Having a Summer Revival?
Let us know, and we will be happy to share the information with our sister churches.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

Pastor and Family Picnic
Food, Fun and Fellowship!
Reservations Required.



The Pastor and Family Picnic will be held on Monday evening, September 8th. The meal for the group will be served at 6:00 p.m. This picnic is a treat for our pastors and their family. We have also invited our retired pastors, Associational Officers and Council as our guests.

Please note, this year we have a **NEW LOCATION FOR the PICNIC!** The picnic will be held at the Pavilion area, at Notchey Creek Baptist Church in Madisonville.

Reservations are required. Please call our office at 442-6604 or email the number that will be attending for your family to sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net or becky.jones@bellsouth.net in order that we can adequately prepare for the correct number in attendance.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
2014 SBC Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland
SBC Annual Meeting: June 10-11

Baltimore Convention Center, Inner Harbor
Register online at www.sbcannualmeeting.net



SBC Pastor's Conference, June 8-9

Schedule for Pastor's Conference:

- Sunday Evening, 6 p.m., June 8
- Monday Morning, 9:00 a.m., June 9
- Monday Afternoon, 2:00 p.m., June 9
- Monday Evening, 6:30 p.m., June 9

- Johnny Hunt, H.B. Charles, David Platt
- Ronnie Floyd, Clayton King, Eric Mason
- J.D. Greear, Tony Evans
- Rick Warren, James MacDonald, Francis Chan



Associational Office.. Holiday Schedule

CLOSED – May 26th (Memorial Day)
CLOSED – July 3-7 (Independence Day)

Pastor's Conference will not be held from May 26-July 7.
Pastor's Conference will resume on Monday, July 14th.

We thank the churches of our association for allowing the office staff time off with their families.

OUR SINCERE THANKS to Sara Beth Isbill for spending a day volunteering at the associational office. Sara is a member of Island Creek Baptist Church and is the daughter of Mike and Shanna Isbill. Sara is a recent graduate of Lee University and fulfilled some of her community volunteer requirements by helping out in the office. Thank you, Sara Beth!



VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT ONE:

During the November 4, 2014 elections, there will be a vote on Constitutional Amendment 1 (SJR 127) regarding abortion laws in Tennessee. For almost 15 years, Tennessee has been an abortion destination for women in the southeast. This is due to our state's very liberal guidelines on abortion. After a fourteen year legislative process, pro-life Tennesseans have finally won the right to place a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot. If this amendment passes, our elected officials will have the right to change these laws, to include life-saving protections including informed consent, waiting periods for women considering abortion and regulation of abortion facilities. In order for this amendment to pass, every pro-life Tennessean must vote YES on Amendment 1 during the November 4th election. You can find more information on Amendment 1 at www.voteYESTn.org.



SEMINARY EXTENSION CLASSES: The Fall session for Seminary Extension classes will begin on September 2, 2014. The Fall study course will be on the book of **James**. The course lasts 12 weeks and meets each Tuesday at 6:30 pm at the associational office.

The cost for students wishing to receive course credit will again be discounted to \$50.00. Students wishing to audit the class (no books or course credit) can do so for a \$20.00 fee. For more information, please contact the associational office at 423-442-6604.

TEXT ALERTS FROM SBA: The associational office now offers our text alert system for all church members. Text messages consist of associational or church announcements, and are not sent daily or weekly...only sent as needed.



To sign-up to receive text message alerts from the Sweetwater Baptist Association...

1. Text @sbatexts to 423-436-0318
2. You will receive a text asking for your name
3. Reply by texting your FIRST and LAST name

Please note: If you are a pastor and have not previously enrolled in messaging, you will need to text @6eea (instead of @sbatexts).

SBA Church Gifts through April 30, 2014

Church/Mission	Total
411 Chapel	0.00
Altoona	1,000.00
Antioch	175.00
Beaty's Chapel	100.00
Bethlehem	5,137.52
Big Creek	500.00
Calvary	570.44
Cane Creek	770.00
Cedar Fork	1,654.00
Cedar Valley	4,105.17
Chestua	700.00
Christianburg	600.66

Citico	768.39
Clifton	175.00
Community	806.31
Compromise	350.00
Concord	477.85
Druid Hills	60.00
Ebenezer	416.00
Fairview	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	7,965.31
Fellowship	431.68
Glenlock	1,100.00
Gregory's Chapel	600.00
Hilltop	225.00
Hopewell Springs	3,506.00
Howards Chapel	539.70
Island Creek	1,200.00
Lakeside	600.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	700.00
Macedonia	200.00
Madisonville, First	2,566.69
Maple Springs	500.00
Miller's Chapel	700.00
Mt. Calvary	871.40
Mt. Isabella	100.00
Mt. Pleasant	500.00
Mt. Zion	2,925.68
Murray's	3,457.35
New Bethany	2,257.98
New Macedonia	2,840.00
New Providence	3,322.00
North Sweetwater	1,172.64
Notchey Creek	2,716.07
Oakland	200.00
Oak Grove	2,175.02
Old Pond Hill	420.00
Old Sweetwater	200.00
Paint Rock	220.00
Piney Grove	200.00
Poplar Bluff	1,321.39
Reed Springs	1,220.07
Rocky Springs	3,301.95
Rural Vale	1,425.61
Shady Grove	0.00
Shelton Grove	0.00
Shoal Creek	820.00
South Madisonville	700.00
Sweetwater, First	2,450.00
Tellico	0.00
Tellico Plains, First	4,631.00
Tevis Springs	287.54
Towee Falls	750.00
Trinity	500.00
Unicoi	499.98
Union Hall	572.00
Unity	0.00
Upper Shady Grove	300.00
Vonore	5,658.60
Walnut Grove	574.59
Watson Chapel	1,250.00
Westside	0.00
Williamsburg	367.96
TBC	5,833.31
Miscellaneous	200.00
Interest	231.77
Total Income	\$96,674.63

This is the SBA Church Gifts received through April 30, 2014



Shoes for Orphan Souls are collecting shoes and socks for needy children. New shoes or new socks can be dropped off at

Mac's Auto Care on Englewood Road in Madisonville anytime during the month of August. For more information, call 442-2700.



WOULD YOUR CHURCH BE INTERESTED IN FREE MEALS AND SNACKS FOR YOUR VBS?

The Monroe County Board of Education and Sweetwater City Schools are participating in the *USDA Summer Food Service Program* for

children. This program provides free meals and snacks for any child age 18 or under. These meals are provided to any child, regardless of income, and is available for any church VBS, regardless of size or financial position.

The associational staff recently met with representatives of the Monroe Co. School Nutrition Dept. and we are very excited about this wonderful opportunity for our churches. Participation in this program is simple and provided at NO COST to your church. Please note, free meals are only provided for children. Adult meals must be purchased (average cost, \$1.50 per meal). Several churches in our association have already signed-up. This program is also available for other children's programs, such as TeamKids, Youth nights, Sunday School parties, etc.

If you would like to sign-up or get more information, contact Kathy Smith or Vicki Bivens with Monroe Co. Schools (Phone: 442-2092; email: kathy@monroe.k12.tn.us or bivensv@monroe.k12.tn.us) or Jewell Sledge at Sweetwater City Schools (Phone: 337-7053; email: jewell.sledge@scstn.net).



2014 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: We want to thank everyone who attended and participated in the 2014 Associational VBS Clinic. Thank you VBS team leaders for all of your hard work and the outstanding job you did in leading the conferences. Thank you also to Jana Sandoe, Tina Bowers and the Associational Children's Choir! You were great! A special "thank you" to Ronnie Blair and Watson Chapel Baptist Church for hosting the VBS Clinic this year.



This year, 1♥VBS backpacks were given to 4 attendees at the Associational VBS Clinic. Recipients of the backpacks were Laura Jones (Bethlehem), Rebecca Isbill (Chestua), Jason Carter (Notchey Creek) and Karen Nicholson (Reed Springs). Congratulations to all of these!

We are already looking forward to what God is going to do in our communities as *Vacation Bible Schools* begin across our Association! The Associational VBS Team is planning an off-site VBS at Tellico Plains High School on Saturday, June 28th. Watch for additional details or please contact the Associational Office for more information regarding this VBS at Tellico Plains High School.

If your church hasn't previously conducted a Vacation Bible School, we encourage you to prayerfully reconsider! There are many tools available to help your church with VBS including the church Link-up Plan. We will be happy to help your church with VBS team workers,

and/or link-up resources and supplies. If your church needs any assistance with VBS this year, or if you have ANY questions about conducting a VBS, feel free to contact the SBA office for more information.

God wants to do GREAT and MIGHTY things, if only we are willing! May God continue to bless our efforts, as I know He will. So get ready for an action-packed, fun-filled adventure, as we *Discover...Decide...Defend* --- who Jesus really is! *Katrina Umphrey, Associational VBS Director*

(Please note: Additional VBS Clinic photos and Church VBS photos will be posted on the Sweetwater Baptist Association website and Facebook page.)

2014 VBS Dates		
411 Chapel	..... June 2-6.....	6:30-8:30
Bethlehem	..... June 1-6.....	6:30-9:00
Cane Creek	..... July 27-Aug 1.....	
Cedar Valley	..... June 22-27.....	6:30-9:00
Chestua	..... June 1-6.....	6:30-8:45
Glenlock	..... July 27-31.....	
Hopewell Springs	..... June 1-6.....	6:00-8:30
Island Creek	..... June 8-13.....	6:30-8:30
Long Ridge	..... June 2-6.....	7:00
Madisonville, First	..... June 2-6.....	6:00-8:45
Miller's Chapel	..... June 1-6	
Mt. Calvary	..... June 15-20.....	6:30-8:30
Mt. Zion	..... June 1-6.....	
Murray's	..... June 16-20.....	
New Macedonia	..... June 2-6.....	6:00-9:00
New Providence	..... July 6-11.....	6:00-8:30
North Sweetwater	..... June 1-6.....	
Notchey Creek	..... June 1-5.....	6:00-8:30
Poplar Bluff	..... May 28-31.....	
Rocky Springs	..... June 1-6.....	6:00-8:30
Rural Vale	..... June 9-13.....	6:30-8:30
Shady Grove	..... June 26-28.....	6:00-8:30
Shoal Creek	..... June 1-6.....	6:00-8:30
South Madisonville	..... May 25-30.....	6:30-8:30
Sweetwater, First	..... June 2-6.....	9:00am-Noon
Towee Falls	..... June 15-20.....	7:00-9:00
Unicoi	..... June 15-20.....	
Vonore	..... June 8-13.....	6:00-8:45
Walnut Grove	..... July 13-17.....	
Watson Chapel	..... June 22-25.....	6:15-8:15
Westside	..... July 14-18.....	6:30-8:30



Lifeway's Conference for Men

Featuring in Person

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| President George W. Bush | Michael W. Smith | Darrell Waltrip | Bobby Bowden |
| Tommy Bowden | Thom S. Rainer | Maj. (Ret) Jeff Struecker | Derwin Gray |
| Robert Lewis | John Croyle | Michael, Jr. | Matt Carter |
| Kyle Froman | Billy Mauldin | | |

\$89.00 per person (registration closes after July 18)

Can't make it to the live event...simulcast the event in your community

Details available at lifeway.com/themainevent

ORPHANAGE EMMANUEL:

Members of several SBA churches have volunteered on mission projects at Orphanage Emmanuel in Honduras. One of the ways these volunteers continue to aid the orphanage is by sending supplies to them monthly. If you or your church would like to donate items for the orphanage, those donations can be dropped off at the associational office. Some of the items they need are:



Diaper Wipes, Soap, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Lice Shampoo, Deodorant, Hair Brushes, Hair Accessories, Children Cough & Cold Medicine, Children & Adult Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Wart Medicine, Cold Sore Medicine, Pepto-Bismol, Q-Tips, Cotton Balls, Calamine Lotion, Triple Antibiotic Ointment, Peroxide. You can find a complete list of needed items, including clothing and shoes, on the associational website at www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com. You can also read more about the orphanage at <http://orphanageemmanuelhn.weebly.com/>.

singers The Hymnsmen Quartet. Everyone is invited to attend.

FELLOWSHIP: We celebrated our official church launch day on April 20, 2014 (Easter Sunday). We enjoyed a wonderful service with 80 in attendance and 3 baptisms.



POPLAR BLUFF: We are celebrating our 75th Anniversary on Sunday, May 25th. Worship begins at 10:30 am with lunch to follow. Everyone is invited to join us.



ROCKY SPRINGS: We would like to congratulate and thank our *Relay for Life* captains Lois Moses and Marilyn Moses, and all who helped our *Relay for Life* team. They raised over \$11,000 and won first place in the church division! We also congratulate the graduating seniors. Our prayer is that each of them keeps their trust in God and lets Him guide their lives. We also want to welcome our new members. God is blessing at Rocky Springs. If you do not have a home church or are not attending church, we invite you to join us.

WATSON CHAPEL: Our Youth traveled to Greenville, TN to attend a *Mercy Me* concert on May 10. On Wednesday nights we are preparing for our World Changers trip, which will be June 7-14 in Huntington, WV. Our lessons cover the reality and needs of missions both locally and abroad. Everyone is welcome to attend! Also, our youth will be attending a Christian weekend retreat from July 18-20th at Smoky Mountain Christian Camp. This will be an opportunity to teach them to "return to the basics and focus on their personal relationships with our Savior, Jesus Christ, as well as others". --Chad Wilburn, Youth Pastor



RURAL VALE: On Saturday, May 24th, beginning at 8:00 a.m., we will host a Men's Prayer Breakfast. Brother Robert Johnson will be the guest speaker. On Sunday, May 25th, we will celebrate Homecoming and Decoration Day. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. and special singing will be provided by *Still Blessed*. On Sunday night, June 8 at 6:00 p.m., our special guest singers will be *Twice Born*.



VONORE: Our 4th Annual Sportsman Expo will be held on Saturday, June 14th from 10:00 am till 4:00 pm. Special guest, Hank Parker. For more information, contact Steve Giles at 865-680-0117 or Greg Moses at 423-519-7947.



IMPORTANT NOTE: In an effort to be good stewards and conserve costs, *The Messenger* is not printed and mailed during the summer months of July/August. The next issue of the newsletter will be printed for September/October. It will include the program for the 2014 Associational Annual Meeting, as well as the Proposed Budget for 2014-2015. If your church would like to submit information or announcements for the next issue of the newsletter, we will need to receive the information in the Sweetwater Baptist Association office by **September 1st**. Information is included in *The Messenger* on a first-come, first-served basis.



CEDAR VALLEY: What a beautiful Easter at Cedar Valley Baptist Church. We began the day with sunrise service with Rev. Richard Lane bringing a wonderful message. A pancake breakfast was served afterwards by our brotherhood men. Nothing is more beautiful than hearing about our Savior's resurrection as the sun comes up over His beautiful creation. We also had a great morning service with the flowering of the cross. It is amazing how our Lord and Savior takes something ugly (sin) and turns it into something beautiful through his blood. HE IS ALIVE! --Lisa McHan



ISLAND CREEK: We are so happy to welcome our new Pastor, Rev. Jeremy McNally and his family to our church. Jeremy, along with his precious wife Brandi and their two beautiful children, Haley and Brady have already become family at Island Creek. We are excited to have them serve with us and are looking forward to God's blessings on our ministry together.



NOTCHEY CREEK: Our Children's Department Easter Celebration was a huge success. Despite the rain, more than 100 people were in attendance. There were lots of activities for the children, including crafts, games and a huge egg-hunt. Pastor Gale shared a message of the resurrected Savior with the children. Then on Mother's Day, all our Moms, Grandmothers, and Great-grandmothers thoroughly enjoyed the Children's Department special performance at the annual *Muffins with Mom* Festivities.



LONG RIDGE: We will celebrate Family Day/Homecoming on June 1st with special guest



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 Madisonville, TN 37354

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION



Welcome New Pastors
 Island CreekJeremy McNally

Director of Mission Visits:
 New Bethany, Notchey Creek, Mt. Calvary, Maple Springs, North Sweetwater, Old Sweetwater, Fellowship, Madisonville First, Paint Rock, Murray's, Hopewell Springs, Macedonia, Hilltop, Mt. Pleasant, New Providence, Mt. Isabella, Westside, South Madisonville, Gregory's Chapel, Delano First, Altoona, Glenlock, Oak Grove, Fairview Tabernacle, Shelton Grove, Old Pond Hill, Oakland, Piney Grove, Rocky Springs

Please pray for our churches without pastors:
 Clifton, Old Sweetwater (Interim)




FREE HEALTH FAIR: CHOTA COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES to offer Free Health Fair (free men/women health/physical exams, free fasting lab work) at Tellico Plains Office, on Wednesday, June 4th, 9:00-3:30. Call 420-6016 for more information.

June, 2014							July, 2014													
"Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful." --Psalm 116:5							"O Lord, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name." --Isaiah 25:1													
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday							
1 NO PASTOR'S CONFERENCE IN JUNE	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7 No Pastor's Conference Office Closed	8	9	10 Office Closed	11 Independence Day	12							
8 Southern Baptist Convention-Baltimore, MD SBC Pastor's Conference	9 Southern Baptist Convention-Baltimore, MD SBC Pastor's Conference	10 Southern Baptist Convention-Baltimore, MD	11 Southern Baptist Convention-Baltimore, MD	12	13	14	13	14 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	15	16	17	18 Youth Reach Pigeon Forge, TN	19 Youth Reach Pigeon Forge, TN							
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21 Summer Begins	20	21 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Youth Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	22 Budget Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Nominating Committee, 6:30 p.m.	29	30	31	AUGUST	East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake- July - Lakeside							
29	30	JULY	East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake- May- Island Creek		East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake- June- Madisonville, FBC															
Mother's Day Offering 							Father's Day Offering 							Please NOTE: Information for the next newsletter must be received by September 1st. <i>SBA Office Hours Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.</i>						