

*Minutes of the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting  
of the Sweetwater Baptist Association  
and  
October 23, 2023  
Annual Meeting*

**Dedicated in Memory of Former Pastors**

*Dennis Robinson  
and  
Frank Hicks*



Dennis Lee Robinson



Julius Franklin Hicks

*...Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing. -2 Timothy 4:8*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2023 Annual Meeting in Memory of Former Pastors Dennis Lee Robinson and Julius Franklin “Frank” Hicks .....	1
Table of Contents.....	2
Annual Meeting Photos, 2023 .....	3
Annual Meeting, 2023 Program.....	5
SBA Historical Report.....	7
<i>Constitution and Bylaws</i> of the Sweetwater Baptist Association ( <i>adopted 10.21.2019</i> ).....	10
Proceedings of the 193 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the Sweetwater Baptist Association .....	19
Report of Registration of 2023 Annual Meeting.....	21
Director of Missions Report.....	21
Director of Missions Statistical Report.....	22
Director of Missions Updates/Presentations and Recommendations .....	22
2024 Associational Calendar of Events .....	23
Associational Staff & Officers.....	24
2023-2024 Committee on Nominations .....	24
2022-2023 Year End Financial Summary – <i>General Account</i> .....	25
2022-2023 Church/Mission Gifts ( <i>does not include designated gifts to Sweetwater Baptist Association</i> ).....	26
2022-2023 Monthly Report, Church/Mission Gifts ( <i>October, 2022 -September, 2023 gifts to SBA</i> ) .....	27
Contributions to Miscellaneous: Guatemala Mission Project, Las Mercedes .....	29
Contributions to Miscellaneous: International Missions .....	29
Contributions to Miscellaneous: Local/Home Missions.....	29
Contributions to Miscellaneous: Disaster Relief Funds.....	29
Contributions to Tennessee Baptist Mission Board.....	29
2022-2023 Financial Statement Budget.....	30
<i>Contingency Fund</i> (Savings Account), 2022-2023 .....	31
Money Market/Savings Account, 2023.....	31
<i>Local/Foreign Mission/Ministries Account</i> , 2022-2023.....	31
2023-2024 Proposed Budget .....	32
Proposed Budget Changes for 2023-2024 .....	33
Clerk’s Report, 2022-2023 .....	34
Associational Report,2023 .....	34
2023 VBS Statistics.....	39
Baptist & Reflector.....	41
Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Memphis, Tennessee .....	41
Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes .....	43
Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes.....	44
Tennessee Baptist Foundation.....	44
Tennessee Women’s Missionary Union.....	45
Carson-Newman University .....	46
Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy .....	47
Union University .....	48
Historical Report .....	49
Memorial Report .....	52
Messengers to 2023 Annual Meeting.....	54
2024 Leadership Summary (Pastors, Chairman of Deacons, Youth Pastors/Directors) .....	57
2024 Church Clerks .....	58
2024 Executive Board Members.....	61
2023 ACP Membership Summary .....	62
2023 ACP Financial Summary .....	64

**2023 Annual Meeting, New Providence Baptist Church**

Thank you, Pastor Rick Atkins and New Providence Baptist Church for hosting the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting.



As part of his Director of Missions Annual Report, Tony Rutherford asked members of the Guatemala mission team to share about their ministry opportunities:  
 Lance Hamilton (Poplar Bluff Baptist Church) *Serving as a Volunteer*  
 Javin Parson (Poplar Bluff Baptist Church) *Witnessing/Preaching at a Rehabilitation Clinic*  
 Carroll Hamilton (Pastor, Rural Vale Baptist Church) *Door-to-door Visits*

Messengers were graciously welcomed and excited to worship together in this beautiful new building!



Thank you! The Lingerfelts (Tammie, Lisa, Danny and Dennis from Island Creek Baptist Church) are always a blessing to us, as we rejoice in their singing.



Moderator, Darrell Cardin and Vice-Moderator, David Lane prepared for the Business Session.



Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford accepted a Cooperative Program plaque from Steve Pearson, Harvest Field Team Leader, TBMB.



Our Vice-Moderator, David Lane, (Pastor, Citico Baptist Church) did an outstanding job leading our time of business. We thank you for serving the churches of the Association.



We thank our Moderator Darrell Cardin (Pastor, Christianburg Baptist Church) for his outstanding service during the past year, and for sharing the Moderator's Message from Psalm 23:3, *He Restoeth My Soul* and for reminding us that *God is in control...enjoy the ride!*



The Moderator's Plaque was presented to Darrell Cardin for a job well done.



Please join with us as we pray for the 2023-2024 Leadership of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

(left to right)

Jamie Johnson, 2023-2024 Vice-Moderator (Pastor, Delano)

David Lane, 2023-2024 Moderator (Pastor, Citico)

Tony Rutherford, (Director of Missions)

Darrell Cardin, 2022-23 Outgoing Moderator (Pastor, Christianburg)



**Pastors, Messengers, Friends, and Visitors gather for 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting**

*Program of the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the  
Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023 Annual Meeting Program*

Theme: *He Restoresh My Soul – Psalm 23:3*

He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake. —Psalm 23:3

**Director of Missions**      **Vice Moderator**      **Moderator**  
Tony Rutherford      David Lane      Darrell Cardin

*Celebrating 193 Years... 1830-2023*

Monday Evening, October 23, 2023

**NEW PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH, Tellico Plains, Tennessee  
Business Session**



6:00	<i>Associational Council Report</i> .....	<i>Video Presentation</i>
6:30	<i>Greetings and Prayer</i> .....	<i>Tony Rutherford</i>
	Director of Missions (Member, Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church)	
	<i>Memorial Report</i> .....	<i>Video Presentation</i>
	<i>Video Message</i> .....	<i>Dr. Randy Davis</i>
	Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board	
	<i>TBM&amp;B Representative</i> .....	<i>Steve Pearson</i>
	Harvest Field Team Leader, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board	
	<i>Welcome and Prayer</i> .....	<i>Rick Atkins</i>
	Pastor, New Providence Baptist Church	
	<i>Presentation of Gavel</i> .....	<i>Director of Missions</i>
	<i>Call to Order</i> .....	<i>Darrell Cardin</i>
	Moderator (Pastor, Christianburg Baptist Church)	
	<i>Business Session</i> .....	<i>Moderator</i>
	<i>Constitution of Body</i> .....	<i>Becky Jones</i>
	Clerk (Member, First Baptist Church, Madisonville)	
	<i>Appointment of Committee on Nominations</i> .....	<i>Moderator</i>
	<i>Election of Officers</i> .....	<i>David Lane</i>
	Vice-Moderator (Pastor, Citico Baptist Church)	
	<i>Committee on Nominations</i> .....	<i>David Jones</i>
	Chairman Committee on Nominations (Member, First Baptist Church, Madisonville)	
	<i>Treasurer's Report</i> .....	<i>Sheri Stephens</i>
	<i>Presentation of Budget</i> .....	<i>Joe Saffles</i>
	Budget Committee Chairman (Member, Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church)	
	<i>Director of Missions Report</i> .....	<i>Tony Rutherford</i>
	Lance Hamilton <i>Serving as a Volunteer: Guatemala Mission Ministry</i> (Member, Poplar Bluff Baptist Church)	
	Javin Parson <i>Witnessing/Preaching at a Rehabilitation Clinic: Guatemala Mission Ministry</i> (Member, Poplar Bluff Baptist Church)	
	Carroll Hamilton <i>Door-to-Door Home Visits: Guatemala Mission Ministry</i> (Pastor, Rural Vale Baptist Church)	
	<i>Presentation(s) and Presentation of 2024 Calendar</i> .....	<i>Director of Missions</i>
	<i>Recommendation(s)</i> .....	<i>Director of Missions</i>
	<i>Old Business</i> .....	<i>Vice-Moderator</i>
	<i>New Business</i> .....	<i>Vice-Moderator</i>
	<i>Adjourn</i> .....	<i>Vice-Moderator</i>

Brief Intermission

Monday Evening, October 23, 2023  
NEW PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH, Tellico Plains, Tennessee  
Worship Service

Congregational Hymn.....New Providence Baptist Church  
Welcome and Prayer.....David Lane  
Vice-Moderator (Pastor, Citico Baptist Church)  
Special Music.....The Lingerfelts  
Members, Island Creek Baptist Church  
Moderator's Message.....Darrell Cardin  
Moderator (Pastor, Christianburg Baptist Church)  
Benediction.....Director of Missions

2023 Annual Meeting and Minutes of 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Sweetwater Baptist Association are dedicated in memory of former pastors, Dennis Lee Robinson and Julius Franklin Hicks.

**VOTING MESSENGERS:**

- Each participating church, meeting requirements, is entitled to seven (7) Messengers to participate in the business of the Association. (Pastors/Interim Pastors, shall be one of the Messengers, and six additional Messengers, whose names have been submitted to the Association Office, shall make up the total seven voting Messengers for each church.)
- Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council will be considered automatic Messengers to the Annual Meeting.



**REGISTRATION INFORMATION:**

- Please complete registration form on front of handout, tear off, and leave on pew. We will collect all registration forms at the close of the service. We ask that everyone please register.
- All Messengers must register at Registration table. Messenger nametag will be given during registration, before the Annual Meeting Session, and only one Messenger nametag is issued to each Messenger. Ballots will be distributed to Messengers, only if Moderator calls for a vote by ballot, and only Messengers with Messenger nametag will be given ballots. Lost or misplaced Messenger nametags and/or ballots cannot be replaced.

Please note: All reports for the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, and available reports from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, North American Mission Board and International Mission Board are included in the 2023 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

The 2023 Associational Council Report includes Recognition of New Pastors.

2023 Minute Books can be ordered and purchased from Sweetwater Baptist Association for \$7.00 each.

## SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION - HISTORICAL REPORT

DATE	PLACE OF MEETING	PREACHER	MODERATOR	CLERK
1923	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	T.W. Gaylor		
1924	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	O.E. Fleming	W.A. Ghormeley	R.D. Malone
1925	Chestua Baptist Church	J.E. Vaughn	W.A. Ghormeley	Ray D. Hicks
1926	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	O. B. Fleming	W.A. Ghormeley	J.E. Vaughn
1927	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	Joe Davie	W.A. Ghormeley	J.E. Vaughn
1928	Christianburg Baptist Church	L.O. McCracken	W.A. Ghormeley	O.D. Fleming
1929	Blairland Baptist Church	J.H. Atkins	W.A. Ghormeley	O.D. Fleming
1930	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.H. Sharp	W.A. Ghormeley	O.D. Fleming
1931	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	T.W. Hill	N.M. McDaniel	O.D. Fleming
1932	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	C.C. Slaeagle	N.M. McDaniel	O.D. Fleming
1933	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	J. F. Wolfenbarger	N.M. McDaniel	George C. Watson
1934	Rocky Springs Baptist Church	J.B. Tallent	N.M. McDaniel	George C. Watson
1935	Loudon Baptist Church	J.H. O. Clevenger	J.B. Tallent	George C. Watson
1936	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	J.R. Hodges	J.B. Tallent	George C. Watson
1937	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Ray H. Dunn	W.A. Carroll	Mrs. Theo Sloan
1938	Chestua Baptist Church	C.S. McCoy	George C. Watson	Mr. Theo Sloan
1939	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	J.W. Newman	George C. Watson	Mrs. Theo Sloan
1940	Vonore Baptist Church	Roy Creasman	R.G. Cansler	W.R. Haun
1941	East Sweetwater Baptist Church	George G. Watson	J.R. Hodges	W.R. Haun
1942	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	Dr. A. F. Mahan	J.R. Hodges	W.R. Haun
1943	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.H. Atkins	J.R. Hodges	W.R. Haun
1944	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Dr. O.W. Taylor	J.R. Hodges	C.W. Gosnell
1945	Philadelphia Baptist Church	E.G. Ingle	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1946	Prospect Baptist Church	O.D. Fleming	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1947	Glenlock Baptist Church	James Tilley	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1948	Corinth Baptist Church	Chester Millsaps	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1949	Reed Springs Baptist Church	A.B. Coutney	J.W. Newman	E.R. Webster
1950	Reed Springs Baptist Church	Virgil Tallent	John L. Tilley	George G. Watson
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
1951	Holly Springs Baptist Church	James Windham	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
	Chestua Baptist Church			
1952	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	Edd Rickman	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
	Oak Grove Baptist Church			
1953	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Thomas Franks	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
	Fairview Baptist Church			
1954	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	Wallace E. Cowan	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
1955	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	O.C. Rainwater	E.H. Thomas	Ray Hicks
1956	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.B. Watson	W.R. White	Ray Hicks
1957	Chestua Baptist Church	Clifford Debety	W.R. White	Dr. John L. Tillery
1958	Friendship Baptist Church	James Patton	W.R. White	Dr. John L. Tillery
1959	Tellico, First Baptist Church	High Ensminger	W.R. White	Dr. John L. Tillery
1960	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	Roscoe Long	Rev. John Smith	Dr. John L. Tillery
1961	South Madisonville Baptist Church	Dr. Fred Kendall	Rev. John Smith	Dr. John L. Tillery
1962	Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	J.B. Watson	D. Mynatt-Protem	Dr. John L. Tillery
1963	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Lewis Rhodes	Jewell Watson	Dr. John L. Tillery
1964	Rocky Springs Baptist Church	David Walker	James Clapp	Dr. John L. Tillery
1965	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	C.A. McKenzie	Virgil Tubyfill	Rev. Robert Sharp
1966	Cedar Fork Baptist Church	Billy Jones	Joe Little	Rev. Robert Sharp
1967	Bethlehem Baptist Church	Eugene Leaman	Anderson McCulley	Billy Jones
1968	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	John Kosier	James Atkins	Billy Jones
1969	Cedar Fork Baptist Church	Anderson McCulley	George Pittman	John Kosier
1970	Chestua Baptist Church	Van Millsaps	George Pittman	John Kosier
1971	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.B. Crisp	Ralph Millsaps	John Kosier

1972	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Bennie Creel	Ralph Millsaps	John Kosier
1973	Island Creek Baptist Church Notchey Creek Baptist Church	Jonas Stewart	R.L. Davis	Steve Byrum
1974	Madisonville, First Baptist Church Reed Springs Baptist Church	Victor Houston	Quentin Lee (Asst)	Clinton Riddle
1975	Gregory's Chapel Baptist Church Bethlehem Baptist Church	Keller Brown	Anderson McCulley	Clinton Riddle
1976	Rocky Springs Baptist Church Murrays Baptist Church	Lester Young	Fred Tate	Horace C. Brown
1977	411 Chapel Baptist Church Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Benny Woods	Fred Tate	Horace C. Brown
1978	Vonore Baptist Church Tellico, First Baptist Church	Ralph Patton	Elmer Hurst	Horace C. Brown
1979	Lakeside Baptist Church Notchey Creek Baptist Church	Nevil Smith	Grover McCrary	Horace C. Brown
1980	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church Mt. Zion Baptist Church Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	James Patton	Robert D. Moore	Nevil Smith
1981	Tellico Plains Baptist Church Island Creek Baptist Church	Anderson McCulley	Joe Caldwell	Nevil Smith
1982	North Sweetwater Baptist Church Friendship Baptist Church	Joe Caldwell	Grady Miller	Nevil Smith
1983	Fairview Tabernacle Baptist Church Unicoi Baptist Church	David Allison	Bruce Poplin	Nevil Smith
1984	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church Cedar Fork Baptist Church	Virgil Tallent	Virgil Tallent	Nevil Smith
1985	Tellico, First Baptist Church Oak Grove Baptist Church	Frank Hicks	James Jackson	Nevil Smith
1986	Glenlock Baptist Church South Madisonville Baptist Church	Dr. John Tillery	Dewey Raley	Nevil Smith
1987	Mt. Zion Baptist Church Mt. Harmony Baptist Church	John Tipton	Don Rockholt	Nevil Smith
1988	Notchey Creek Baptist Church Fairview Tabernacle Baptist Church	Robert Spradlin	Doug Alexander	Nevil Smith
1989	North Sweetwater Baptist Church New Providence Baptist Church	R.L. Davis	James Harris	Nevil Smith
1990	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church South Madisonville Baptist Church Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church	Clint Riddle	Frank Hicks	Doug Alexander
1991	Glenlock Baptist Church Bethlehem Baptist Church Vonore Baptist Church	Lon Shoopman	David Allison	Glenda Spradlin
1992	Madisonville, First Baptist Church New Macedonia Baptist Church Long Ridge Baptist Church	Alvin Patton	Robert Spradlin	Glenda Spradlin
1993	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church Chestua Baptist Church Mt. Harmony Baptist Church	Tommy Self	Lon Shoopman	Sandra Oaks
1994	Lakeside Baptist Church North Sweetwater Baptist Church Fairview-(Ballplay) Baptist Church	Clayton Dunsmore	Gerald Atkins	Shannon Clayton
1995	Vonore Baptist Church Cedar Fork Baptist Church Notchey Creek Baptist Church	Virgil Turbyfill	Gale Miller	Shannon Clayton
1996	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	James Atkins	Clayton Dunsmore	Evelyn Summers



	New Providence Baptist Church			
	South Madisonville Baptist Church			
1997	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church	Russ Cooper	Lee Chorn	Sheri Stephens
	Reed Springs Baptist Church			
	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church			
1998	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Don Edwards	Tommy Self	Sheri Stephens
	Oak Grove Baptist Church			
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
1999	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Richard Parker	Tommy Self	Sheri Stephens
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church			
2000	South Madisonville Baptist Church	Dwayne Leming	Russ Cooper	Sheri Stephens
	Vonore Baptist Church			
	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church			
2001	Bethlehem Baptist Church	Anderson McCulley	Steve Teague	Sheri Stephens
	Cedar Fork Baptist Church			
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
2002	Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	Chris Farmer	Richard Parker	Sheri Stephens
	New Macedonia Baptist Church			
	Watson's Chapel Baptist Church			
2003	Lakeside Baptist Church	Bill Roberts	Clint Riddle	Sheri Stephens
	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church			
	New Providence Baptist Church			
2004	Glenlock Baptist Church	B.J. Wall	Tony Collins	Sheri Stephens
	411 Chapel Baptist Church			
	Notchey Creek Baptist Church			
2005	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Shane Bryson	Chad Kirkpatrick	Sheri Stephens
	Westside Baptist Church			
	Vonore Baptist Church			
2006	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	Darrell Franklin	Mike Williams	Sheri Stephens
	Rocky Springs Baptist Church			
	Bethlehem Baptist Church			
2007	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church,	Russ Cooper	Chris Farmer	Sheri Stephens
	Trinity Baptist Church			
	Watson Chapel Baptist Church			
2008	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church,	Johnny Carr	Jarrod Johnson	Sheri Stephens
	Island Creek Baptist Church			
	Mt. Zion Baptist Church			
2009	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	Mike Williams	Steve Teague	Sheri Stephens
	Cedar Valley Baptist Church			
	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church			
2010	New Macedonia Baptist Church	Dennis Cagle	Bill White	Sheri Stephens
	Poplar Bluff Baptist Church			
	Rocky Springs Baptist Church			
2011	Madisonville, First Baptist Church,	Frank Hicks	Steven McDonald	Sheri Stephens
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
	Vonore Baptist Church			
2012	Glenlock Baptist Church	Dr. Lon Shoopman	Mike Williams	Sheri Stephens
	Bethlehem Baptist Church			
2013	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Dr. H. Dean Haun	Mike DeLand	Sheri Stephens
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
2014	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	Dr. Edward Johnson	Carroll Hamilton	Sheri Stephens
	New Providence Baptist Church			
2015	Watson Chapel Baptist Church	Dr. John Powers	Roman Hamilton	Sheri Stephens
	Long Ridge Baptist Church			

2016	New Macedonia Baptist Church Lakeside Baptist Church	Dr. Ronnie Owens	David Chambers	Sheri Stephens
2017	411 Chapel Baptist Church Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Dr. Doug Sager	Carroll Hamilton	Sheri Stephens
2018	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	Greg McCosh	Greg McCosh	Sheri Stephens
2019	Union McMinn Baptist Church	Charles "Bud" Boring	Charles "Bud" Boring	Sheri Stephens
2020	Vonore Baptist Church	Mitch Ingram	Mitch Ingram	Sheri Stephens
2021	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Lewis Jones	Lewis Jones	Becky Jones
2022	Bethlehem Baptist Church	Michael McLemore	Michael McLemore	Sheri Stephens
2023	New Providence Baptist Church	Darrell Cardin	Darrell Cardin	Becky Jones

**CONSTITUTION of the  
SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
(adopted by Messengers at 189<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, October 21, 2019)

**PREAMBLE**

We declare and establish this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith, and to govern the Association in an orderly manner. This constitution will help preserve the liberties of each individual church.

**NAME**

The body shall be known as Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. located in Madisonville, Tennessee.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Association shall be to empower, encourage and equip the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. to strategically reach the lost for Christ locally, as well as across the world, through cooperating together with the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and Southern Baptist Convention.

**OBJECTIVES**

- To promote a kindred spirit, foster Christian fellowship and committed cooperation in shared ministry among the affiliated churches.
- To uphold the doctrines and principles of our Baptist Faith and encourage our churches to be loyal to these principles.
- To promote mission giving to the Association and Southern Baptist entities.
- To provide local and international mission opportunities for churches.
- To provide training for all areas of Christian ministry.
- To aid and assist member churches and pastors.
- To be available to pastors and churches to assist with conflict resolution, if requested.
- To support future decisions made by the Executive Board or the Messengers to the Associational Annual Meeting.

**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

The Holy Bible is the inspired word of God and is the basis for any statement of faith. This Association relies on the Bible for instruction on all matters concerning ordinances, ministries, activities, membership and employment. The Holy Bible is the sole guidance for faith and practice and all activities are to be consistent with, and not contrary to, the teaching of scripture. As an additional means of applying scripture to daily living and governing of the body, this Association adheres to the *Articles of Faith* listed in the *Baptist Faith and Message* as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14, 2000.

## **RELATIONSHIPS**

The government of the *Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.* is vested in the member churches that compose it. The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will cooperate with and support the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention, as long as said entities are in agreement with the statement of faith for Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.

This *Constitution* was approved and adopted by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. on October 21, 2019.

Signed by: *Sheri Stephens, Clerk 10/21/2019*

## **THE BY-LAWS OF SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.**

### **I. MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The Association is a self-governing fellowship of member churches sharing a common faith and mission. The churches of the Association are autonomous. The fellowship of churches involves oneness, shared life and support; a common faith, grounded in harmony in faith and practice.

The Association shall be composed of churches affiliated and cooperative with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and Southern Baptist Convention, and which are in conformity with the purposes of the Association in their doctrine, polity and practice, and which have given evidence of support to the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

#### **SECTION 2: NEW CHURCH ADMISSIONS**

Churches desiring to affiliate with the Association shall make a written petition to the Mission Committee for consideration. They must also submit a copy of the record where the church has voted to request membership. The following information must be included in the petition:

- A brief history of the organization of the church/mission
- Evidence of cooperation or intention of cooperation with the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention.
- A written statement of the *Articles of Faith* and *Covenant* that the church has adopted.
- A brief history of the achievements of the church to date of petition. (*For example:* has the church acquired property; has the church constructed a building; how often do they have preaching services at the church, etc.)
- A listing of current church leadership with contact information at time of petitioning.

#### **SECTION 3: PROCEDURE FOR NEW CHURCH ADMISSIONS**

The Associational Missions Committee shall investigate the petitioning church and based upon their investigation, can choose to make a recommendation during business session to place said church under watch care. If accepted, the petitioning church will be placed under the watch care of the Association for a minimum of six (6) months. A majority vote is required to place said church under watch care.

During this time the accepted church will be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Association, except that of voting. At the conclusion of the watch care, the Missions Committee will again meet with the church to give opportunity for any questions or suggestions, by either the church or the Missions Committee.

At the conclusion of the watch care period, the Missions Committee can choose to recommend during business session to accept the petitioning church. A two-thirds majority vote during the business session will be necessary

for admission into the Association. If admitted, a church shall be considered a regular standing congregation with full privileges at the ensuing Associational Meetings.

If the recommendations of the Missions Committee concerning the said church do not receive a two-thirds majority vote of the voting business members present, it shall be automatically referred back to the Missions Committee.

## **II. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

### **SECTION 1: ANNUAL CHURCH REPORTS**

It shall be the duty and the responsibility of the churches to correspond with the Association by annual church report/letter each year on the forms furnished to the churches for that purpose. This report/letter is expected to be in the Associational office by the due date.

### **SECTION 2: FINANCES**

It is understood that membership in the Association involves financial obligation to support its ministries with regular, proportionate gift. Churches affiliated with the Association must annually share in the financial support of the work of the Association.

### **SECTION 3: FAILURE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS**

A church holding membership in the Association must participate financially in the work of the Association and must file an annual report of its work to the Association. If a church fails to meet either of these two requirements, then the Association shall initiate the following process in an effort to redeem such a church back into active participation and fellowship:

- 1) The first year a church fails to meet a requirement, the Director of Missions and/or Missions Committee will make a personal contact with the church and/or pastor for the purpose of seeking to discover what the difficulty may be and to encourage the church to participate.
- 2) If a church fails to meet a requirement for two (2) consecutive years, that church will not be recognized as a participating church during business session(s). Said church will not be permitted to have voting privileges. Executive Board members and Messengers will not be recognized. Once both church membership requirements are met, voting privileges will be reinstated and Executive Board members and Messengers will be recognized.

## **III. AUTHORITY**

The Association shall have no ecclesiastical jurisdiction over churches' internal affairs. The Association is available to advise, give counsel and propose measures.

The Association shall have power to withdraw fellowship from any church which departs from the doctrines and practices adhered to by this Constitution, and set forth in *Baptist Faith and Message* as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14, 2000.

Any questions concerning fellowship with the churches shall be referred in writing to the Missions Committee. After consideration, the Missions Committee shall submit their recommendations to the business sessions.

## **IV. SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OFFICE POLICIES, PROCEDURES & PERSONNEL HANDBOOK (aka *SBA Handbook*)**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., *Office Policies, Procedures & Personnel Handbook (aka SBA Handbook)* will be used as a guideline for office operations and procedures. The *SBA Handbook* is not part of the *By-laws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.* The *SBA Handbook* defines job descriptions for staff, department directors and non-standing committees. Non-standing committees and departments may be added or removed as the needs of the Association dictates and do not require any Constitutional or Bylaw amendment. The *SBA Handbook* also includes building and property usage guidelines. The *SBA Handbook* may be updated or revised, as

needed. Updates or revisions may be made to the *SBA Handbook* by the appropriate Committees and/or Officers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.

## V. MEETINGS

### SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Associational Executive Board shall meet annually as specified by the Associational Calendar of Events. The Executive Board shall be responsible to hear and transact business presented on behalf of the Association.

#### A. QUORUM

A quorum consists of those eligible Executive Board Members who are in attendance at the meeting that has been properly called.

#### B. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board Members shall consist of:

- Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council,
- Pastor/Interim Pastor or in the event the church has no Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacon becomes the first Executive Board Member from each church,
- One elected Executive Board Member from each church.

Names of Executive Board members from each church must be submitted to the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. in order for a list of Executive Board Members to be compiled. Each member church is permitted to have two (2) voting Executive Board members. One member must be the Pastor or Interim Pastor. In the event the church has no Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacon becomes the first Executive Board Member. The second Executive Board member shall be one (1) elected member from the participating church. All Executive Board Members must be a member of the church they represent. All Executive Board Members must be age 18 or older.

The Executive Board list shall include Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council. Members of the Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council will be considered automatic Executive Board Members with voting privileges, and do not have to be duly elected by their participating church(es). The Associational Staff will not be considered as the one duly elected Executive Board Member to represent their participating church(es).

Visitors will be welcome to attend the business session, but only registered Executive Board members will be allowed to participate in the business session.

### SECTION 2: ANNUAL MEETING

The Associational Messengers shall meet annually as specified by the Associational Calendar of Events. The Messengers of the Associational Annual Meeting shall be responsible to hear and transact business presented on behalf of the Association.

#### A. QUORUM

A quorum consists of those eligible Messengers who are in attendance at the meeting that has been properly called.

#### B. MESSENGERS TO ANNUAL MEETING

Messengers shall consist of:

- Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council
- Pastor/Interim Pastor or in the event the church has no Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacon becomes the first Messenger from each church; and shall be first of seven (7) Messengers,
- Six elected Messengers from each church for a total of seven (7) Messengers.

Each member church will be entitled to seven (7) Messengers. Messengers, other than the Pastor, shall be duly elected by their participating church, prior to the Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. Names of Messengers must be submitted to Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. office in order for list of Messengers to be compiled.

The Messenger list shall include Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council. Members of the Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council will be considered automatic Messengers to the Annual Meeting and do not have to be duly elected by their participating church(es). The Associational staff will not be considered as one of the duly elected Messengers to represent their participating church(es).

Messenger registration card(s) or form(s) will be made available to the church clerks of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. to submit names of Messengers. Messenger registration(s) must be returned, prior to the Annual Meeting to the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. office, by the due date as set by the Associational Calendar of Events.

During Annual Meeting registration, each Messenger will be presented a Messenger name-tag by the Associational Clerk or Assistant Clerk. The Messenger will be required to wear the name-tag during the Annual Meeting in order to participate in business session. All Messengers must be a member of the church they represent. All Messengers must be age 18 or older.

Visitors will be welcome to attend any and all of the Annual Meeting Sessions, but only registered Messengers will be allowed to participate in the business session.

### **SECTION 3: SPECIAL MEETING**

The Executive Board may be called into a special session at a time and place set by the Director of Missions, or Missions Committee Chairman provided churches are notified at least ten (10) days before the special meeting. The notification should state the time, place and purpose of the meeting. All special meetings may deal only with the stated purpose(s) of the meeting.

### **SECTION 4: ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING**

The Annual Meeting business session(s) may be considered and also constitute the Annual Meeting of the Corporation.

#### **A. QUORUM**

The quorum consists of those eligible members who are in attendance at the business meeting, provided it is a regular business meeting.

### **SECTION 5: VOTING RIGHTS OF MEMBER CHURCHES**

Registered member(s) present of member church(es) of good standing and having met all requirements (per Item II. *Church Membership Requirements, Section 3. Failure to Meet Requirements*) are entitled to vote in all elections and on all questions.

### **SECTION 6: VOTE**

The type of vote used shall be determined by the Moderator.

### **SECTION 7: RULES OF BUSINESS AND DECORUM**

- Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall be used as authority in all deliberations of the Association.
- Moderator shall call to order each session at the appointed time.
- Any member wishing to address the Association shall rise in place and address the Moderator.
- Moderator shall decide points of order, subject to an appeal from his decision to the Association. He shall have the preference to speak to or explain when an appeal is taken from this decision.

## **VI. STAFF OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be served by employed staff, as deemed necessary. All employed staff of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. are voting members during business sessions.

### **SECTION 2: DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**

- Job description provided in *SBA Handbook*
- When necessary, position shall be filled by recommendation of the Missions Committee, with a two-thirds majority vote, during business session.
- Employment shall be for an indefinite period of time.

### **SECTION 3: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

- Job description provided in *SBA Handbook*
- Employed for an indefinite period of time upon the recommendation of the Director of Missions, with the approval of the Personnel Committee. No vote of the Association is needed for employment.

### **SECTION 4: MINISTRY ASSISTANT**

- Job description provided in *SBA Handbook*
- Employed for an indefinite period of time upon the recommendation of the Director of Missions, with the approval of the Personnel Committee. No vote of the Association is needed for employment.

## **VII. OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be served by officers, as deemed necessary. All officers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. are voting members during business sessions.

### **SECTION 2: DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**

- Shall work with all officers of the Association and its organizations and the committees in giving counsel, guidance and oversight to every phase of the Associational work.
- Shall serve as ex-officio member with all committees of the Association.

### **SECTION 3: MODERATOR**

- After fulfilling term as Vice-Moderator, will automatically assume the office of Moderator for the coming year.
- In the event Vice-Moderator cannot serve assume office as Moderator, he shall be nominated by and elected by a majority vote of Messengers at Associational Annual meeting.
- Cannot serve more than (1) year in succession.
- Shall preside at all regular or special called meetings of the Association.
- Shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
- Will appoint two (2) members of the Committee on Nominations during the Annual Meeting.
- Will serve as member of the Committee on Nominations with voting privileges.

### **SECTION 4: VICE MODERATOR**

- Shall be nominated by and elected by a majority vote of Messengers at Associational Annual meeting.
- Shall preside in the absence of or at the request of the Moderator at Executive Board Meeting or Associational Annual Meeting.
- Will automatically assume the office of Moderator for the remainder of the term, in the event the Moderator cannot complete his term.
- At the end of 1 year term as Vice Moderator, will automatically assume the office of Moderator for the following year.

**SECTION 5: CLERK/ASSISTANT CLERK:**

- Office filled by Administrative Assistant or Ministry Assistant as defined in *SBA Handbook*.
- Shall be responsible for keeping accurate minutes of all business meetings.
- Shall compile reports from committees and churches in the annual *Minutes of Sweetwater Baptist Association*.
- Shall hold all records as property of the Association.
- Shall return records in possession at time of resignation or change of officer to Association.

**SECTION 6: TREASURER/ASSISTANT TREASURER:**

- Office filled by Administrative Assistant or Ministry Assistant as defined in *SBA Handbook*.
- Shall be responsible for keeping accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of all monies handled by the Association.
- Shall prepare a written report for business meetings of Association.
- Shall print Associational budget in the associational newsletter prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.
- Shall hold all records as property of the Association.
- Shall return records in possession at time of resignation or change of officer to Association.

**VIII. CORPORATE OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The officers of the corporation are the officers who can act on behalf of the corporation. These officers have no power other than those express powers given to them by the corporation.

The term of the corporate officers shall run for the period of one year, coinciding with the Associational year or until their successors are chosen and elected. The President and Secretary are voting officers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. during business sessions.

**SECTION 2: PRESIDENT**

The office of President is held by the Director of Missions position. The President shall have general and active management of the Corporation, and shall see that all orders and resolutions are carried into effect.

**SECTION 3: SECRETARY**

The office of Secretary is held by the Treasurer position. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the corporation and shall be responsible for preparing the minutes of such meetings.

**IX. COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1: GENERAL**

Committees are responsible for planning and promoting the work and ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. The Association will be served by five (5) standing Committees. Additional Committees may be established according to the needs of the Association. Committees, other than standing Committees, will be defined in the *SBA Handbook*.

All committees shall be under Associational control; all committee members/officers must be elected by vote of Messengers at Annual Meeting. Committees are required to report as needed to the Association. All committee members must be members of participating churches. All committee members must be 18 years of age or older.

**SECTION 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- Each committee shall be composed of at least three (3) and no more than five (5) members, all of which are in good standing of an affiliated church of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.
- Committee members shall assume their elected duties on adjournment of the current Annual Meeting of the Association.



- Members who have fulfilled their term shall not be eligible for re-election to the same Committee until out of such office for one Associational year.
- Individuals are not eligible to serve on more than two committees simultaneously, except those who serve on standing committees by virtue of their office. This restriction shall not prevent one from serving on special committees.
- Members of Committees shall be on a rotating basis. Upon completion of serving term, the Senior Committee Member(s) will move off, and a new member(s) is added.
- The new Chairman of a Committee shall be the one next in seniority on the Committee. Committee members may deem it necessary to request a change in chairmanship.
- Committees will meet as necessary.
- Committees shall report as needed to the Association through the Chairman or through an appointed Committee representative. Reports will be made during business sessions.

## **X. STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be served by five (5) standing Committees.

### **SECTION 2. COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

- Shall be responsible for bringing recommendations for all committee members of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.
- Shall be responsible for bringing recommendations for all Department Directors of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.
- Two (2) members of the Committee on Nominations will be appointed by the Moderator during the Annual Meeting. They will replace two (2) senior members of the Committee on Nominations who will rotate off the Committee on Nominations each year.
- The incoming Moderator will serve as a member of the Committee on Nominations with voting privileges.

### **SECTION 3. BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- Shall prepare and present the proposed annual operating budget.

### **SECTION 4. MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

- Shall be responsible for promotion, development and guidance of the mission work of the Association.
- Shall assist the Director of Missions in working with the churches in mission related and church related issues.
- Will be responsible to serve as a Search Committee and present a candidate for Director of Missions, as needed.

### **SECTION 5. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

- Will be responsible for working with the Director of Missions to employ all office staff and personnel.
- Will have the responsibility of giving assistance to office personnel employed by the Association.
- Is not responsible for hiring Director of Missions.

### **SECTION 6. TRUSTEES**

- Will hold in trust the property of the Association.
- Will have the actual care of the real and personal property, but shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer any property without a specific vote of the Association authorizing such action.

- Will execute, acknowledge and deliver any and all leases, agreements, deeds, mortgages, deeds of trust and any and all other papers, instruments or other documents, but only after authorized to do so.
- A majority of Trustees must sign all legal papers in behalf of the Association, and such signing must be witnessed by the Director of Missions.

## **XI. DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

Department directors shall work with the Director of Missions to promote and direct ministry opportunities of respective departments to plan meetings to train and equip the churches. Associational Department Directors are defined in the *SBA Handbook*. Associational Department Directors may be added or removed as needed.

## **XII. ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The Associational Council of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. shall be composed of Associational Staff, Associational Committee Chairmen and Associational Department Directors. The Associational Council shall work with the Director of Missions to plan and promote Associational training, events, mission and activities.

## **XIII. USE OF PROPERTIES**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The intended use of buildings or property of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. is solely for Associational administration and ministries. Buildings or property cannot be used as meeting space by individuals, community or civic organizations except for member churches as defined in the *SBA Handbook*. Properties cannot be used for any purpose that is in violation of biblical doctrine. Further use of building and property is defined in the *SBA Handbook*.

## **XIV. FISCAL YEAR**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

The fiscal year shall run concurrently with the Associational year which begins on October 1 and ends September 30.

## **XV. AMENDMENT(S)**

### **SECTION 1: GENERAL**

Proposed amendment(s) to the *Constitution and By-laws* of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be presented by the Constitution Committee. Notification of proposed amendments to the *Constitution or By-Laws* must be presented to the churches in writing 30 days in advance of the business session and voted on at ensuing business session of the Association. Amendments to the *Constitution or By-laws* shall be made by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members present who are entitled to vote during business session of the Association.

Proposed amendment(s) to the *Constitution or By-laws*, presented from the floor during a business session, will be referred to the Constitution Committee for consideration.

Amendment(s) must be added to and kept with the official copy of the *Constitution and By-laws* at the time they are passed.

These *By-laws* were approved and adopted by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. on October 21, 2019.

Signed by: Sheri Stephens, Clerk 10/21/2019

adopted 10.21.2019

**PROCEEDINGS of the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the  
SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
Celebrating 193 years, 1830-2023  
Theme: *He restoreth my soul... Psalm 23:3***

**Business Session: New Providence Baptist Church October 23, 2023, Monday evening, 6:30 p.m.**

1. The 2023 SBA Associational Council Report video presentation of the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association was presented.
2. Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford shared a word of thank you to Pastor Rick Atkins and New Providence Baptist Church for hosting the 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. The Director of Missions also presented greetings and the opening prayer.
3. The *Memorial Report* was presented as a *PowerPoint* presentation of names of those that had passed away during the year. The *Annual Meeting* and *Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association for 2023* were dedicated in memory of former pastors: Dennis Lee Robinson and Julius Franklin (Frank) Hicks.
4. A video message from Dr. Randy Davis, Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board was presented.
5. Steve Pearson, Harvest Field team Leader, TBMB Representative shared a word of greetings from the TBMB and presented a plaque for Cooperative Program giving to the Director of Missions. He further invited Messengers to attend the TBMB Summit, November 12-15.
6. Pastor Rick Atkins, New Providence Baptist Church, Tellico Plains shared a word of greetings, welcome and prayer.
7. The Director of Missions presented the "Daniel Boone Buckner" gavel to Moderator, Darrel Cardin.
8. Moderator, Darrell Cardin, Pastor Christianburg Baptist Church, shared a word of welcome, and that it was his privilege to call to order the 193<sup>rd</sup> *Annual Meeting* of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.
9. Clerk, Becky Jones, moved that Messengers from the churches present constitute a quorum, and be duly seated to conduct the business of the 193<sup>rd</sup> *Annual Meeting* of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Second by Doug Alexander, motion carried unanimously.
10. The Moderator thanked the Messengers for the prayers and the opportunity to serve as Vice-Moderator and Moderator and to be part of the various Committees during the past years. The Moderator appointed Gabe Brannon (Union McMinn Baptist Church) and Bill Wilson (North Sweetwater Baptist Church) to serve on the *Committee on Nominations*.
11. After a brief transition of power from the Moderator Darrell Cardin to the Vice-Moderator David Lane, Pastor, Citico Baptist Church, the Vice-Moderator presided over the remaining sessions for the evening.
12. The Moderator stated during the Election of Officers, that historically, the Vice-Moderator automatically moves into the Moderator position for the upcoming year for the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Thus, David Lane, Pastor of Citico Baptist Church, would serve as Moderator for 2023-2024.
13. Dennis Cagle nominated Jamie Johnson, Pastor, Delano Baptist Church, to serve as Vice-Moderator for the 2023-2024 Associational Year. Motion by Jarrod Johnson, second by Doug Alexander that nominations cease. Motion carried, with no opposition.
14. Messengers were instructed by the Moderator that the Officers for 2023-2024 were David Lane, Moderator and Jamie Johnson, Vice-Moderator.
15. Committee Chairman, David Jones presented the *Committee on Nominations Report* for 2023-2024 and moved to adopt the report as printed in the *Messenger Handout* booklet. Motion carried, with no opposition.
16. Motion by Sheri Stephens to adopt the *Treasurer's Report* as presented; second by Jarrod Johnson. Motion carried, with no opposition.
17. *Finance/Budget Committee Report* was presented by Committee Member, Richard Parker. He reviewed the proposed budget changes as printed in the *Messenger Handout* and moved the adoption of the budget for 2023-2024. Motion carried, with no opposition.
18. Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, shared 13<sup>th</sup> Annual *DOM Report* to the Messengers of the Association. He thanked the churches for their prayers and for welcoming him as he visited the family of

churches. He thanked the churches for their continuous gracious giving. He shared his written report and statistical report were included in the *Messenger Handout*.

19. During the Director of Missions Report, the following shared reports of Guatemala Mission Trip: (a) Lance Hamilton (Member, Poplar Bluff Baptist Church) *Serving as a Volunteer*; (b) Javin Parson (Member, Poplar Bluff Baptist Church) *Witnessing/Preaching at a Rehabilitation Clinic*; (c) Carroll Hamilton (Pastor, Rural Vale Baptist Church) *Door-to-Door Home Visits*.
  20. Motion by Tony Rutherford, second by Doug Alexander to accept the *2024 Calendar of Activities for the Sweetwater Baptist Association* as printed in the *2023 Messenger Handout* with any further changes or stipulations that might be needed in the future. Motion carried, with no opposition.
  21. Motion by Tony Rutherford, second by Marshall Moser, to receive all reports of the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board to be included in the *2023 Book of Reports*. Motion carried, with no opposition.
  22. The Director of Missions presented a plaque for outstanding service and leadership to Moderator, Darrell Cardin.
  23. The Moderator called for old business, and there was none.
  24. The Moderator called for new business.
  25. Dennis Cagle asked for a point of clarification regarding the vote of the Vice-Moderator, Jamie Johnson, since the earlier vote was for nominations to cease. Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford agreed and called for a vote. Motion carried, with no opposition. Messengers were instructed by the Moderator that the Officers for 2023-2024 were David Lane, Moderator (Pastor, Citico Baptist Church) and Jamie Johnson, Vice-Moderator (Pastor, Delano Baptist Church).
  26. The Moderator thanked Pastor Rick Atkins and New Providence Baptist Church for hosting the meeting.
  27. Motion to adjourn by Jarrod Johnson, second by Richard Parker and the meeting adjourned with prayer led by Pastor Rick Atkins, New Providence Baptist Church.
- 7:41 p.m. *Brief Intermission at conclusion of Business Session*

Since no offering was on the program to be received at the meeting, Messengers were encouraged to share in the work at the New Providence Baptist Church Mission Center by giving items, supplies and monetary funds for the ministry work at the Center.

**Worship Session: New Providence Church October 23, 2023, Monday evening**

28. After a brief intermission, the meeting reconvened for worship, with Trey Ferguson, Choir Director, with Becky Peels serving as pianist, New Providence Baptist Church, leading the congregation in singing, *Where Could I Go*.
29. The welcome was presented by the Vice-Moderator, David Lane.
30. An opening prayer was offered by Dr. Lon Shoopman, Glenlock Baptist Church.
31. We were blessed as special music was presented by The Lingerfelts (Tammie, Dennis, Lisa, and Danny Lingerfelt from Island Creek Baptist Church). Song selections included: *God Is Faithful* and *Royal Descendant*.
32. Darrell Cardin presented the Moderator's Message. He shared scripture from Psalm 23:3 and the theme for the meeting, *He restoreth my soul*. The title of his message was *He Fixes Me*. We were reminded that when we get mixed up, and when our soul needs fixing, send it back to the Maker... (1) Life is providential (under God's control) (2) Life is perplexing (we don't understand) and (3) Life should be productive. He then encouraged us that *God is in control, so enjoy the journey*.
33. The Director of Missions shared a word of thanks to New Providence Baptist Church, Musicians, Sound and Media, and Pastor Rick Atkins for hosting the meeting, The Lingerfelts for the special music, Pastor David Lane for serving as Vice-Moderator, Pastor Darrell Cardin for serving as Moderator and sharing the *Moderator's Message*, and to the Messengers and all in attendance for the sessions.
34. The meeting was closed in prayer by Dr. Gerald Atkins, Pastor Lakeside Baptist Church.

**REGISTRATION FOR 2023 ANNUAL MEETING**

Messengers ..... 118  
Pastors ..... 27  
Visitors ..... 43  
Total Attendance ..... 188  
Churches Represented ..... 41

Sheri Stephens, Clerk                      Becky Jones, Assistant Clerk                      Darrell Cardin, Moderator  
David Lane, Vice-Moderator                      Tony J. Rutherford, Director of Missions  
8:41 p.m.                      sstephens                      sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS REPORT  
October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023  
*Our Heritage Lives On***

“Footprints in the Sand,” is a popular allegorical Christian poem. It describes a person who sees two pair of footprints in the sand, one of which belonged to God and another to themselves. At some point the two pairs of footprints dwindle to one. It is explained that this is when God carried the person through challenging times. The author of the poem is debatable, but the message is clear.

For 193 years God has led the Sweetwater Baptist Association with a heritage of leaving footprints of the Gospel with people groups around the world. Today there are saints receiving medical treatment, drinking non-polluted water, others are being fed, while hundreds are worshipping in structures dedicated to the purpose of the Gospel. Believers and non-believers alike are being wrapped in clothing and warm coats provided in Jesus’ name.

Jesus warns His followers that: “No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God.” In this statement Jesus is challenging us to cast our eyes, hopes, and commitment on the future. It is dangerous to stand, prolongingly gazing on past accomplishments, and forgetting there are more battles to be won. However, celebrating God’s victories are encouraged. David danced and sang, Josiah read the scriptures and cleansed the Temple, and Jesus commemorated the Passover. By acknowledging what God has done is an encouragement to go forward, making sure our heritage lives on. Knowing what the Holy Spirit has accomplished in the past, He will do again in the future. Even though there may be times where there is only one set of footprints in the sand.

Evidence of God’s footprints and fingerprints will be discovered in generations to come, if God tarries His return, as church doors which were closed are now reopened. Once again praises and preaching flow from Lower Chilhowee Baptist Church, the heritage lives on. A massive movement of the Holy Spirit will once again create a blaze of excitement of what God can do. What rejoicing there will be when the first new convert pronounces their faith in Jesus before that fledgling congregation. Even the angels in heaven will rejoice!

The mandate of God to equip the saints clearly compels us to leave God footprints and fingerprints on the lives of others making sure the heritage lives on. Being children of God is proof that Jesus has used others to introduce us to His amazing grace. Evangelizing the lost is the greatest way to pass the touch of the Holy Spirit to the generations that follow us. It has been said, “that the church is only one generation away from dying.” This accurate statement should convict us to share Christ with our children and grandchildren, as well as our friends and neighbors. For 193 years the SBA has walked along side of our churches to visualize and embrace the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Until time is no more, let us be found fulfilling God’s desire for us.

Personally, I can testify that my Savior has whispered sweet words of comfort; and He has touched me to assure me He has been faithful to His word, to never leave or forsake me. The Great Physician has ministered with His love where fear could have ruled; and His strength has made me whole. The Psalmist sings in Psalm 147:5 “*Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.*” In Psalm 48:1 again he sings: “*Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness;*” and finally in Psalm 96:4 “*For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised.*” Gazing on Christ’s grace in our lives should propel us to a day of celebration when He gathers His children home.

**Director of Missions Annual Report  
October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023**

Church Visits (within the Association) .....	148
Church Visits (outside the Association) .....	10
Total Church Visits .....	158
Pulpit Committee Contacts.....	28
Ordinations.....	7
Hospital & Funeral Home Visits .....	7
Committee Meetings.....	6
Associational Meetings.....	3
Special meetings with churches .....	3
TBMB Meetings .....	3
SBA Pastor’s Conference .....	29
Travel Miles (Car).....	10,995
Miles Traveled (air travel-approximate).....	17,373
Total Miles Traveled .....	28,368
Special Missions Projects.....	
SBA .....	November 2022.....Kentucky (Coats)
Israel.....	January 2023.....
Guatemala mission.....	June 2023.....Bethlehem & Poplar Bluff
Work with Lower Chilhowee .....	March 2022-Sept. 2023 .....
Citico & Howards Chapel.....	July 29, 2023.....Backpack Give aways

- Special Events .....
- Annual Meeting SBA, Oct. 2022
  - Senior Adult Christmas Celebration, Dec. 2022
  - Pastor’s Christmas Banquet, Dec. 2022
  - Biblical Studies, The Lord’s Prayer, Sept-Oct, 2022
  - Evangelism Conference, Dr. Jeff LaBorg, Jan. 2023 (2 nights)
  - Acts 2:17 Meeting, TBMB
  - SBA Pastor’s School, Feb. 23
  - Finance Conference (2), Jan. 2023
  - SBA Executive Board, April 2023
  - Attended National Day of Prayer, May 2023
  - Tellico Revival, May 2023
  - VBS Visits, June 2023 (31)
  - Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting, Concord, Aug. 2023
  - Church Clerk Conference, Sept. 2023
  - Pastor/Family Annual Picnic, Sept. 2023
  - WMU/Ladies Meeting (2)

**DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS  
Updates/Presentations and Recommendations  
to Messengers of 2023 Annual Meeting**

- (1) **RECOMMENDATION TO MESSENGERS OF ANNUAL MEETING:** Motion to adopt the *2024 Associational Calendar of Events*, as printed in the *2023 Messenger Handout*, with any further changes or stipulations that might be needed in the future.

- (2) **RECOMMENDATION TO MESSENGERS OF ANNUAL MEETING:** Motion to receive all reports of the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board to be included in *2023 Annual Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*.
- (3) Presentation of Moderator’s Plaque to Darrell Cardin.
- (4) *2023 Annual Meeting and 2023 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association* dedicated in memory of former pastors, Dennis Lee Robinson and Julius Franklin Hicks.

**TONY RUTHERFORD, DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**

**ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
2024**

**January**

Jan 1-2.....Office Closed, Holiday

**February**

Feb 24 .....East TN Evangelism Rally, Notchey Creek

**March**

Mar 1 .....Scholarship Applications Due  
 Mar 4 .....VBS Showcase, SBA Office  
 Mar 9 .....CONNECT Youth Rally, Fairview Tabernacle  
 Mar 12 .....Youth Committee Meeting  
 Mar 11 .....Scholarship Committee Meeting  
 Mar 28 .....Office Closed, Holiday

**April**

Apr 1 .....Office Closed, Holiday  
 Apr 2 .....Mission Comm Meeting  
 Apr 15 .....Executive Board Mtg, Druid Hills

**May**

May 6 .....WMU/Ladies Meeting, Reed Springs  
 May 27 .....Office Closed, Holiday

**June**

Jun 18-25 .....Guatemala Mission Trip #1  
 Jun 25-Jul 2 ....Guatemala Mission Trip #2

**July**

Jul 3-4.....Office Closed, Holiday  
 Jul 8.....Nominating Committee Meeting  
 Jul 9.....Budget Comm Meeting  
 Jul 13-20.....Iowa Mission Trip

**August**

Aug 5 ..... Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting, Delano  
 Aug 26 ..... Guidestone Retirement Conf, SBA Office

**September**

Sept 2 ..... Office Closed, Holiday  
 Sept 3 ..... Biblical Studies Class Begins  
 Sept 10 ..... Church Clerk Training, SBA Office  
 Sept 23 ..... Pastor & Family Picnic, Notchey Creek  
 Sept 30 ..... Mission Committee Meeting

**October**

Oct 3 ..... ACP/Messenger Cards Due  
 Oct 21..... SBA Annual Meeting, Sweetwater, First

**November**

Nov 4 ..... WMU/Ladies Meeting, Mt. Zion  
 Nov 27-28 ..... Office Closed, Holiday

**December**

Dec 9 ..... Senior Adult Christmas Show, Union McMinn  
 Dec 9 ..... Pastors/Wives Christmas Banq, Union McMinn  
 Dec 23-Jan 5 .. Office Closed, Holiday

**SBA Pastor’s Conference**

Meets each Monday at 10:00 am; except in June and December or if office is closed for weather, holiday, or event

**SBA Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday ..... 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

\*Calendar of Events may be subject to change

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF, OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES, 2023-2024  
David Jones, Committee Chairman**

**\*Officers or Committee Members Added 2023**

**ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF:**

Director of Missions..... Tony Rutherford  
 Administrative Assistant/Treasurer/Clerk ..... Sheri Stephens  
 Ministry Assistant/Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Clerk.....Becky Jones

**ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS:**

Music Director ..... Phillip Johnson  
 Women’s Ministry/Ladies Director..... Rachel Thompson

**By Vote of Messengers:**

Moderator ..... David Lane  
 Vice Moderator..... Jamie Johnson

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:**

Joel Tilson (2024)  
 Jarrod Johnson (2024)  
 Moderator David Lane (2024)  
 \*Gabe Brannon (2025)  
 \*Bill Wilson (2025)

**BUDGET/FINANCE  
COMMITTEE:**

Richard Parker (2024)  
 Gid Redmond (2025)  
 Trey Ferguson (2027)  
 \*Wendi Stakely (2026)  
 \*Jonas Turpin (2028)

**MISSION COMMITTEE:**

Rick Harris (2024)  
 Gerald Lynn (2025)  
 Danny Lingerfelt (2026)  
 Lon Shoopman (2027)  
 \*Carroll Hamilton (2028)

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

Janet Lynn (2024)  
 Donna McKee (2025)  
 \*Donita Moore (2026)

**TRUSTEES:**

Darrell Atkins (2024)  
 Dan Sliger (2025)  
 \*Albert Graser (2026)

**NON-STANDING  
COMMITTEES**

**SCHOLARSHIP:**

Christy McCosh (2024)  
 Tia Patton (2025)  
 Lisa Borden (2026)  
 Courtney Gray (2027)

**YOUTH COUNCIL:**

Kevin Manis (2024)  
 Tyler Martin (2025)  
 Dawson Giles (2026)

\*Added 2023-2024  
 (Year term ends to serve)



**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**Financial Statement: General Account**  
**October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023**

Balance Forward ..... \$100,648.47

Income:

Church Gifts..... 222,615.61  
Interest..... 224.41  
Subtotal..... 222,840.02  
Designated Gifts..... 149,300.75  
Total Income ..... 372,140.77

Expenses:

Budget Expense.....(199,635.83)  
Designated Expense.....(185,467.91)  
Total Expense .....(385,103.74)

Balance 09.25.2023..... \$87,685.50  
Designated Accounts .....(49,346.04)  
Total Unobligated Balance ..... \$38,339.46  
2023 Projects approved by Trustees & Budget Finance Committee (front door, entrance, security system, outside cameras)..... (20,000.00)  
Total Unobligated Balance ..... \$18,339.46

<u>Designated:</u>	
Disaster Relief Maintenance: Building, trailers, tools, equipment	548.95
Local Outreach: Ministry Trailer	165.73
Youth/Student Ministry	7,610.93
Staff Family/Marriage Counselor Ministry	8,835.00
Israel	7,970.48
WMU Christmas Fund/MK	251.05
WMU/Ladies Ministry	1,801.58
Local Community Ministry	2,144.99
Mission Development	1,441.86
2023 GSMO TBMB	6420.25
Guatemala Mission Ministry (\$1750 food bags; \$1500 medicines)	398.23
Ukraine Mission Ministry	113.45
SBA Office/Building (upkeep/repair/maintenance)	747.08
Bible Study Class/Seminary Extension	1,596.78
VBS Supplies	772.86
Bibles/Marked New Testaments (5.25 each)	60.75
Secretarial Office	1,181.17
SBA Evangelism Rally	3,659.97
SBA Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet	3,624.93
<b>Total Designated 09.2023</b>	<b>49,346.04</b>

**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
2022-2023 CHURCH/MISSION GIFTS**

(Report reflects deposits through September 25, 2023)

411 Chapel.....	3,000.00	Paint Rock.....	1,320.00
Antioch .....	275.00	Piney Grove .....	1,000.00
Beaty's Chapel.....	0.00	Poplar Bluff.....	1,078.01
Bethlehem .....	15,610.05	Reed Springs.....	5,778.49
Big Creek.....	0.00	Rocky Springs.....	3,800.00
Calvary.....	919.05	Rural Vale .....	6,167.11
Cane Creek .....	2,400.00	Shady Grove .....	400.00
Cedar Fork .....	6,784.25	Sheltons Grove .....	2,315.72
Cedar Valley.....	11,007.66	Shoal Creek.....	1,367.84
Christianburg .....	1,925.62	South Madisonville.....	1,100.00
Citico.....	825.10	Sweetwater First .....	4,200.00
Clifton .....	275.00	Tellico .....	1,200.00
Community.....	944.53	Tellico First .....	5,695.00
Compromise .....	600.00	Tevis Springs.....	75.00
Conasauga .....	2,400.00	Towee Falls.....	1,800.00
Concord .....	1,020.81	Trinity .....	500.00
Delano .....	4,239.42	Union Grove .....	1,440.00
Druid Hills .....	1,000.00	Union Hall.....	795.00
Ebenezer.....	655.00	Union McMinn.....	4,800.00
Fairview .....	0.00	Unity .....	300.00
Fairview Tabernacle .....	18,000.00	Upper Shady Grove .....	550.00
Fellowship .....	1,833.17	Vonore.....	20,521.68
Glenlock.....	4,008.00	Walnut Grove .....	3,902.10
Gregory's Chapel .....	1,200.00	Watson Chapel .....	2,000.04
Hopewell Springs.....	500.00	Westside.....	0.00
Howard's Chapel .....	500.00	Williamsburg .....	529.02
Island Creek .....	3,600.00	Miscellaneous/TBC.....	9,384.00
Lakeside .....	1,200.00	Miscellaneous AM .....	0.00
Long Ridge .....	1,000.00	Miscellaneous/Interest .....	224.41
Lower Chilhowee.....	0.00	Total .....	<b>\$222,840.02</b>
Macedonia.....	240.00		
Madisonville First .....	5,000.04		
Maple Springs.....	750.00		
Miller's Chapel.....	1,200.00		
Mt. Calvary .....	1,051.34		
Mt. Isabella.....	0.00		
Mt. Zion .....	7,586.70		
Murray's .....	1,856.14		
New Bethany .....	5,213.77		
New Macedonia .....	2,160.00		
New Providence .....	9,585.98		
New Zion .....	750.00		
North Sweetwater .....	1,192.85		
Notchey Creek.....	10,595.21		
Oak Grove.....	5,114.91		
Oakland .....	1,477.00		
Old Pond Hill.....	100.00		
Old Sweetwater.....	1,000.00		

**(Note: Church Gifts do not include designated gifts to the Sweetwater Baptist Association)**

**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**2022-2023 CHURCH/MISSION GIFTS**  
(Report reflects deposits through September 25, 2023)

Church Gifts	Oct, 2022	Nov	Dec	Jan, 2023	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
4th Chapel	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	3,000.00
Antioch	25.00	0.00	50.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	275.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	1,123.00	1,638.50	1,117.00	1,154.50	1,859.05	2,225.00	1,363.50	1,448.00	1,358.00	1,104.50	0.00	1,219.00	15,610.05
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary	95.00	102.00	87.00	68.00	99.00	83.70	96.33	68.25	62.40	51.72	53.00	52.65	919.05
Cane Creek	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	2,400.00
Cedar Fork	438.83	747.81	483.84	464.03	694.80	483.91	594.37	646.70	488.29	504.21	465.08	772.38	6,784.25
Cedar Valley	803.72	0.00	1,621.40	1,611.35	813.65	655.03	0.00	1,103.57	1,481.94	0.00	2,103.46	813.54	11,007.66
Christianburg	0.00	588.32	0.00	0.00	655.10	0.00	0.00	682.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,925.62
Citico	70.10	101.80	0.00	170.25	51.55	77.20	82.45	0.00	64.20	58.50	75.60	73.45	825.10
Clifton	0.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	275.00
Community	70.41	92.58	59.61	68.97	86.13	95.46	79.02	80.31	59.43	68.71	105.15	78.75	944.53
Compromise	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	600.00
Conasauga	200.00	0.00	100.00	200.00	100.00	100.00	200.00	300.00	0.00	600.00	300.00	300.00	2,400.00
Concord	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,020.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,020.81
Delano	308.04	347.17	300.70	294.28	0.00	792.38	369.12	416.44	357.06	343.65	375.44	335.14	4,239.42
Druid Hill	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,000.00
Ebenezer	54.00	42.00	53.00	0.00	198.00	67.00	45.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	46.00	0.00	655.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	18,000.00
Fellowship	136.55	219.97	189.02	150.20	146.39	156.97	103.39	166.34	0.00	315.56	135.93	112.85	1,833.17
Glenlock	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	0.00	668.00	334.00	4,008.00
Gregory's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Hopewell Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Howard's Chapel	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Island Creek	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	900.00	0.00	600.00	300.00	0.00	300.00	600.00	0.00	3,600.00
Lakeside	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	1,200.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	240.00
Madisonville First	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	416.67	5,000.04
Maple Springs	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Miller's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Mt. Calvary	60.08	70.50	108.99	54.99	106.71	90.15	81.36	80.09	112.50	97.35	99.57	89.05	1,051.34
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	679.70	584.55	471.60	579.87	760.53	834.21	663.93	622.95	521.81	586.50	634.95	646.10	7,586.70
Murray's	1,856.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,856.14
New Bethany	295.61	496.45	332.51	275.34	431.25	704.47	359.35	671.16	321.30	411.42	478.50	436.41	5,213.77
New Macedonia	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	2,160.00

**SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**2022-2023 CHURCH/MISSION GIFTS**  
(Report reflects deposits through September 25, 2023)

Church Gifts	Oct. 2022	Nov	Dec	Jan. 2023	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
New Providence	807.73	0.00	1,727.97	555.15	908.45	957.60	783.36	709.07	689.62	739.00	780.50	927.53	9,585.98
New Zion	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	750.00
North Sweetwater	90.08	102.45	96.30	79.19	102.92	94.00	52.72	110.92	83.43	119.86	177.44	83.54	1,192.85
Notchey Creek	646.91	720.45	794.01	1,326.54	1,176.96	809.91	883.49	0.00	1,085.33	1,691.47	827.43	632.71	10,595.21
Oak Grove	782.48	0.00	587.74	645.70	437.32	352.55	301.78	589.85	168.41	415.22	534.87	298.99	5,114.91
Oakland	100.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	777.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	1,477.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Paint Rock	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	1,320.00
Piney Grove	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Poplar Bluff	179.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.62	162.27	142.55	171.87	0.00	246.60	0.00	0.00	1,078.01
Reed Springs	2,483.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,592.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,703.00	5,778.49
Rocky Springs	200.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	3,800.00
Rural Vale	318.22	567.95	320.88	463.58	511.50	494.82	1,038.19	0.00	930.48	616.34	405.60	499.55	6,167.11
Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Sheltons Grove	0.00	132.66	178.29	388.80	184.36	0.00	219.81	176.88	473.04	195.21	182.85	183.82	2,315.72
Shoal Creek	0.00	282.00	0.00	0.00	271.00	0.00	0.00	295.58	0.00	519.26	0.00	0.00	1,367.84
South Madisonville	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	1,100.00
Sweetwater First	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	4,200.00
Tellico	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Tellico First	459.00	524.00	406.00	361.00	573.00	492.00	459.00	575.00	423.00	403.00	541.00	479.00	5,695.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	75.00
Towee Falls	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	1,800.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Union Grove	240.00	0.00	120.00	120.00	240.00	0.00	120.00	240.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	0.00	1,440.00
Union Hall	58.00	0.00	123.00	0.00	92.00	66.00	73.00	95.00	0.00	176.00	112.00	0.00	795.00
Union McMinn	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	4,800.00
Unity	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Upper Shady Grove	0.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	550.00
Vonore	1,342.76	1,711.37	1,492.69	1,943.07	1,783.08	1,422.17	1,694.06	2,144.56	1,943.25	1,393.97	2,088.93	1,561.77	20,521.68
Walnut Grove	1,859.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,020.55	0.00	0.00	1,022.55	0.00	0.00	3,902.10
Watsons Chapel	166.67	0.00	333.34	166.67	166.67	166.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	666.68	166.67	166.67	2,000.04
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	65.20	31.76	92.63	31.06	48.36	39.23	36.80	44.43	22.70	26.56	65.06	25.23	529.02
TBC	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	782.00	9,384.00
Misc AM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc Int	21.63	23.13	23.00	16.13	15.90	15.11	18.32	18.10	21.38	17.55	17.33	16.83	224.41
<b>TOTAL GIFTS</b>	<b>25,469.12</b>	<b>14,835.09</b>	<b>17,978.19</b>	<b>17,721.34</b>	<b>21,208.97</b>	<b>18,051.29</b>	<b>18,491.12</b>	<b>16,814.94</b>	<b>17,455.24</b>	<b>18,820.06</b>	<b>18,644.03</b>	<b>17,350.63</b>	<b>222,840.02</b>
<b>Church Gifts</b>	Oct. 2022	Nov	Dec	Jan. 2023	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept 2023	Total

**GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT: Las Mercedes**

Cane Creek .....	200.00
Cedar Fork .....	1,000.00
Clifton .....	200.00
Concord .....	200.00
Hopewell Springs .....	3,144.50
Howards Chapel .....	200.00
Lakeside .....	329.00
Long Ridge .....	801.00
Macedonia .....	200.00
Mt. Zion .....	570.00
New Macedonia .....	1,945.00
Notchey Creek .....	1,616.00
Oak Grove .....	795.00
Old Pond Hill .....	200.00
Rural Vale .....	854.15
Tevis Springs .....	100.00
Union Grove .....	288.00
Walnut Grove .....	542.00
Tommy and Cindy Lemmonds .....	25.00
Etta Hawke and Betsy Riley (in memory of Mrs. Beryl Cagle) .....	50.00
Annual Meeting .....	1,332.00
Evangelism Rally .....	1,680.26

**INTERNATIONAL MISSION PROJECT**

Bethlehem (Medicines for Medical Clinic Guatemala) .....	750.00
Birchfield (Medicines for Medical Clinic Guatemala) .....	550.00
Greg Watson (Medicines for Medical Clinic Guatemala) .....	200.00
Union McMinn (2022.23 Pastor Fred Support-Guatemala) .....	1200.00
Union McMinn (2023.24 Pastor Fred Support -Guatemala) .....	1200.00
Birchfield (Pastor Hugo Guatemala VBS) .....	500.00
Greg Watson (Pastor Hugo Guatemala VBS) .....	35.00

**MISCELLANEOUS: LOCAL/HOME MISSIONS**

Cedar Fork (Isaiah 117 House) .....	750.00
Miscellaneous (Pastor/Wife Christmas Fund) .....	300.00

**MISCELLANEOUS: DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS**

Tellico (Ballplay) (Sept. 2023) .....	3,000.00
Tellico (Ballplay) (Feb. 2023) .....	3,000.00
Notchey Creek, FLA Hurricane .....	3,007.00
Bobby and Charlotte Best .....	100.00
Anonymous, KY Floods .....	100.00
Anonymous, KY Coat Fund .....	100.00
Vonore, Seekers Sunday School Class, FLA Hurricane .....	500.00
Steekee Creek, FLA Hurricane .....	500.00
Anonymous, FLA Hurricane .....	100.00

**TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD**

Antioch (CP) .....	275.00
Clifton (LMCO) .....	100.00
Clifton (TBCH) .....	163.00
Clifton (TBAH) .....	150.00

Reed Springs (TBCH) .....	800.00
Reed Springs (AAEO) .....	6,161.00
Shady Grove (AAEO) .....	1,208.00
Shady Grove (AAEO) .....	620.00
Shady Grove (TBAH) .....	500.00
Walnut Grove (CP) .....	100.00
Williamsburg (TBCH) .....	504.40
Williamsburg (CP) .....	65.08
Williamsburg (GO) .....	47.94
Williamsburg (AAEO) .....	87.62
Williamsburg (TBAH) .....	81.24
Williamsburg (LMCO) .....	155.50









**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
CLERK’S REPORT  
October, 2022-September, 2023**

**Clerk, Sheri Stephens  
Moderator, Darrell Cardin**

**Assistant Clerk, Becky Jones  
Vice-Moderator, David Lane**

**Director Of Missions, Tony Rutherford**

This brief report highlights recommendations brought before the Executive Board this past year. The Board regularly hears reports from various departments such as Women’s Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Missions Committee, VBS, Church Growth and Development, etc. at each meeting. These reports are given, in the most part, for information only. A review of the previous Minutes, Director of Missions Semi-annual Report and Treasurer’s Report are presented to the Executive Board, as well.

**April 17, 2023**

- (1) The Executive Board met on April 17, 2023 at Oak Grove Baptist Church in Madisonville, with a total of 33 present and 16 churches represented. Various reports were presented and received for information only. Highlights of the meeting included:
- (2) The Treasurer’s Report was presented by Sheri Stephens; motion to accept report by Treasurer, second by Larry Neal, motion carried with no opposition.
- (3) An update was presented by the Director of Missions for the *Isaiah 117* project, Ukraine and Guatemala missions. He also gave an update on his health after his recent cancer surgery in March. His doctors have assured him that the cancer was contained to one area, and he is on the way to recovery with a prognosis that is very good. The Missions Committee allotted him 3 months for a time of healing, but he has already been back in the office on a limited basis.
- (4) It was announced that the Sweetwater Baptist Association *2023 High School Scholarship* selections had been made and presented as follows:
 

Marshall David Lane	Sequoyah High School	Citico Baptist Church
Ava Violet Fitch	Sweetwater High School	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church
Sarah Beth Lynn	Tellico Plains High School	Maple Springs Baptist Church
Emma Marie Wilson	Berean Christian High School	Union McMinn Baptist Church
- (5) With no old business and no new business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer led Vice-Moderator, David Lane.

**ASSOCIATIONAL REPORT, 2023  
Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2022-2023 ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL/OFFICERS**

Committee on Nominations Chairman.....	David Jones
Constitution Committee Chairman .....	Albert Graser
Disaster Relief Director.....	Jim Jollay
Evangelism Committee Chairman .....	Steve McDonald
Budget/Finance Committee Chairman .....	Joe Saffles
Missions Committee Chairman .....	Jim Swabe
Music Director .....	Phillip Johnson
Personnel Committee Chairman .....	Shannon Croft
Scholarship Committee Chairperson .....	Howie White
Trustees Committee Chairman.....	Pat McGinnis
WMU/Ladies Ministry Director .....	Rachel Thompson
Vacation Bible School Directors .....	Bryan and Kim Williamson
Youth Committee Chairman .....	Josh Croft

**ANNUAL MEETING, 2022:** The 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting was hosted by Pastor Zad Tomberlin and Bethlehem Baptist Church on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Vice-Moderator, Darrell Cardin did an outstanding job in leading the Business Session, and Moderator, Michael McLemore shared the message for the evening. The Memorial Report included

Dedication of the 2022 Minutes of the Association in memory of former pastors: Rod Miller, Fred Beaty, Kenneth Johnson and Tyson Matoy. Sheri Stephens was recognized for 30-years service as Administrative Assistant. The *2023 Annual Meeting* is scheduled for October 23, at New Providence Baptist Church, and the *2024 Annual Meeting* has been confirmed to be hosted by First Baptist Church, Sweetwater on October 21, 2024.

**BIBLICAL STUDIES CLASS:** The fall session for the *2022 Biblical Studies Class* began on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The 8 weeks study course consisted of 2 weeks: *A Tour of Israel* and 6 weeks: *The Lord's Prayer* taught by Tony Rutherford.

The *2023 Biblical Studies Class* began on September 5<sup>th</sup>. The 6-week course was led by Wayne Stockstill and the study was *Preaching From the Beatitudes*.

**CHRISTIAN LIFE:** With no licensed Christian counselor seeing clients on a regular basis in the associational office, the Sweetwater Baptist Association is referring potential clients to Macy Small, founder of *The Upper Room* Christian Counseling Service. Macy specializes in Premarital, Marriage, and Family Sessions. Children and Teen Sessions are also available. She offers Divorce, Addiction and Grief Recovery, as well as Individual Counseling for depression, anxiety, fear, anger, worry, and negative emotions. Sessions are available at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater. The Sweetwater Baptist Association has also made office counseling space available for Macy, as needed. For more information, or to schedule a visit with Macy, please call 865-414-3269 or visit the link at [www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org).

**CHRISTMAS:** The *2022 Senior Adult Christmas Show* was held on December 5<sup>th</sup> at Vonore Baptist Church. Special guest was Scott Davis, Christian comedian, author and singer. Josh Croft served as our music leader for the Christmas sing-along. The Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet was held on Monday evening, December 5<sup>th</sup> with a reading of the Christmas story, Christmas sing-along with Josh Croft and special Christian comedian/singer Scott Davis.

The *2023 Senior Adult Christmas Show* will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Vonore Baptist Church with special guests The Lore Family. This southern gospel singing family will also be featured at the Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet on the same evening.

The *2024 Pastor & Wives Christmas Banquet* will be hosted by Union McMinn Baptist Church, and held on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**CLERK TRAINING:** A *Church Clerk Training* was offered on September 12, 2023 with topics that included writing Minutes of Business Meetings, Church Membership and Completing ACP Reports. The Seminar was led by Rebecca Jones. A *Church Clerk Training* is being planned again for September, 2024.

**DISASTER RELIEF:** Our churches have responded in a great way to meet the needs of others. A trailer load of coats, gloves, sweaters were delivered to Rehoboth Baptist Church in Jackson, KY in late November. Families in homes in this small community suffered great loss when their lives were impacted by the damaging floods. Churches also responded to the flood victims in surrounding Kentucky areas, as well as hurricane victims in Florida by providing financial assistance.

In August, the Tellico Plains area suffered storm damage from flood waters. Churches responded to the needs by helping families by providing funds and bottled water. In addition, the baptismal area at Poplar Bluff Baptist Church was heavily damaged. Many churches in our Association have used this location for baptisms over the years. Volunteers assisted with repairs and donations were received to help in the reconstruction of this facility. Teams also assisted in the water removal and mud out of businesses and residences.

After the invasion of the Gaza Strip into Israel in early October, churches have begun to collect items that will be sent to the field by the TBMB. In addition, churches are providing money donations that will be shared for the shipping of donations and allowing the purchasing of items in Israel by the TBMB partner organizations. Our prayers continue to be with the many that have been affected by this tragedy.

**EVANGELISM:** Dr. Jeff LaBorg, Senior Pastor of Fairview Knox Church, Corryton, served as the guest preacher for the *2023 Associational Evangelism Rally* held on January 9-10 and hosted by Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Special music on Monday evening was provided by the Associational Choir under the direction of Phillip Johnson and Kenny Evans on Tuesday Evening.

**EVANGELISM/PREACHERS CLASS:** Notchey Creek Baptist Church in conjunction with the Sweetwater Baptist Association hosted Dr. Roc Collins for a Preachers Class on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Collins shared insights from his new book, *S.I.M.P.L.E. Preaching*. There were 70 in attendance with 20 churches represented.

Plans now call for an *East Tennessee Evangelism Rally* to be held on February 24, 2024 for all pastors, preachers, church leaders and members. This event will be hosted by Notchey Creek Baptist Church, and program to include: Dr. Dean Haun, Dr. Roc Collins, Rev. Allan Taylor, with music by the Daniel Dawson Band. The *2024 Evangelism Rally* will be held as part of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, *IGNITE Tennessee* with Dr. Roc Collins leading this initiative.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:** Members of the Executive Board met at Oak Grove Baptist Church on April 17<sup>th</sup> for the regular *Semi-Annual Business Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*, with 16 churches represented and 33 in attendance. (See *Clerk's Report* for additional information.) The *2024 Semi-Annual Meeting* will be held at Druid Hill Baptist Church in Tellico Plains on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**FINANCIAL SEMINAR:** Deborah Taylor, CPA lead the *Financial Seminar* held on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the SBA Office Building in Madisonville. Approximately 30 attended each of the two sessions that were held for pastors, treasurers and church leadership.

**GUATEMALA:** Mission teams from Bethlehem Baptist Church and Poplar Bluff Baptist Church traveled to Guatemala in June 2023 to share the Gospel of Christ. Volunteers from Bethlehem returned to continue on-going mission work with Pastor Hugo Barrios at the Jesus is the Way Baptist Church at El Canal. The team from Poplar Bluff Baptist Church visited numerous locations as part of a fact-finding vision project. Vacation Bible Schools, medical clinics, Bible Study, revivals and food give-aways were all part of the ministry/evangelism opportunities.

Guatemala mission projects are being planned for 2024. The planned dates for the Poplar Bluff team are June 18-25 and the dates for the Bethlehem team are June 25-July 2.

**GUATEMALA, FEBRUARY LOVE OFFERING:** SBA Churches were asked to share in a love offering for the Lamb of God Baptist Church in Las Mercedes where Pastor Fred Aguilar Osoria serves in Guatemala. The building needed 3 major building projects (1) construction of bathrooms (2) covering of existing water well (3) installation of sanctuary floor. \$16,271.91 was received for this project.

**HOLY LAND TOUR:** Tony Rutherford led a group of 33 to Israel, January 23-February 1, 2023.

**IOWA MISSION PROJECT:** A *2024 Iowa Mission Project* with a mission team from Notchey Creek is being planned for July 13-20.

**LOWER CHILHOWEE:** On May 28, 2023, the Director of Missions was asked to meet with the congregation of Lower Chilhowee Baptist Church for the purpose to reactivate the Worship Services. All official positions for the

Church were vacated, and the Sweetwater Baptist Association was asked to assist until such time as positions were filled by Lower Chilhowee. Two temporary Trustees were elected by the Church to facilitate matters between the Church and the Association. Worship Services began on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Joey Bivens has been called to serve as Pastor. Our prayers continue to be with this congregation.

**MEDIA:** Dr. Scott Shepherd led a *Media Conference* on August 28<sup>th</sup>. The event was hosted by First Baptist Church, Madisonville and held at the TRIBE Building. Twelve churches were represented with 28 in attendance. Focus included technology, apps, and graphics; and resources to enhance livestream and presentations.

In 2023, six new Bible Studies were added to the Associational Media Center. There are now a total of 55 studies available for check-out. The new studies consist of:

1. *Twelve Women of the Bible*, by various authors, including Lysa Terkeurst
2. *Redeemed: Seeing the Messiah in the Book of Ruth*, by Dr. Sam Nadler
3. *The Mayberry Bible Study, Vol. 1*
4. *Why Not Now*, by Mark Matlock & Christopher Lyon
5. *In the Footsteps of the Savior*, by Max Lucado
6. *Seeing God as a Perfect Father*, by Louie Giglio

**PASTOR/FAMILY/CHURCHES:** The *Pastor/Family Picnic* was held on September 11 at the pavilion area at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Approximately 40 attended the annual bbq meal that is provided by the Sweetwater Baptist Association for pastors and their families. The *2024 Pastor/Family Picnic* is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Churches were encouraged to affirm their love and appreciate to the men of God as they observed *Pastor Appreciation Month/Day* during October.

#### **New Pastors during the year were...**

- Cody Dalton      Cane Creek
- Gerald Atkins      Lakeside
- Joey Bivens      Lower Chilhowee
- Brandon Wilcox      New Zion
- Jason Pounds      Sweetwater First
- Sam Baines      Tevis Springs
- Gabe Brannon      Union-McMinn

Our prayers are with all of these pastors, their families and congregations, as they work together to share the love of Christ with their communities.

Pastors were encouraged to enroll to receive text messages from the SBA Office. Messages consist of announcements for Associational or Church events.

#### **Churches without pastors are:**

- Calvary, Ebenezer, Fairview Tabernacle, Hopewell Springs, Murrays, Tellico (Ballplay), Unity, Williamsburg

Our prayers are with these congregations as they seek a shepherd to serve their flocks.

**In memory:**

Our hearts were deeply saddened this year in the loss of former pastors, Dennis Lee Robinson and Julius Franklin “Frank” Hicks. These dear men of God were much loved and respected by family, friends and the people of the Association. Their sweet spirit will remain in our hearts, and they will be sadly missed.

**Churches were encouraged to participate in the...**

- *Golden Offering* for Tennessee Missions
- *Mother’s Day Offering* for Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes
- *Father’s Day Offering* for Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes
- *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering* for North American Missions
- *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering* for International Missions

**Miscellaneous Information:**

- October is *Pastor Appreciation Month*
- Complete *Annual Report Corporation Filing* at <http://tnbear.tn.gov/>
- Helps for ministering to unwed mothers, new mothers, babies..
  - Hope Resource Center, Knoxville 865-525-4673 <https://knoxvillehope.com/resources/> Andrew Wood, Executive Director
  - Embrace Grace <https://embracegrace.com/>
  - Beth Moore, TBMB, Compassion Ministry Specialists, 423-440-6225 [bmoore@tnbaptist.org](mailto:bmoore@tnbaptist.org)

**PRAYER:** Pastors and church leaders were encouraged to participate in the *National Day of Prayer*, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

An *Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting* was hosted by Pastor Neal Pillion and Concord Baptist Church on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 60 were in attendance, with 10 churches represented. Pastor Isaac Sparks was the guest preacher, and special music was provided by the Monday Morning Pastors Conference Group. The *Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting* for 2024 is scheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup> and will be hosted by Delano Baptist Church.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Four (4) SBA High School Scholarships the amount of \$500.00 each were awarded. Students receiving the 2023 SBA High School Scholarship were:

▪ \$500.00	Tellico Plains High School	Sarah Beth Lynn	Maple Springs
▪ \$500.00	Sweetwater High School	Ava Violet Fitch	Sweetwater First
▪ \$500.00	Berean Christian High School	Emma Marie Wilson	Union McMinn
▪ \$500.00	Sequoyah High School	Marshall David Lane	Citico

**TRUSTEES:** The SBA building continues to be updated, as we make repairs and upgrades at the Associational Office. Improvements for all offices and the downstairs conference room have been made as needed.

The ministry trailer and disaster relief trailer have recently been reworked on the inside. New jacks and a vent cover on the roof were installed in the ministry trailer. A covered area is much needed to provide for the longevity of these trailers. The Trustees and Budget Committee have approved the installation of a covered metal awning/garage type structure to house the ministry trailers.

Upgrades were made in all bathrooms throughout the building, with overhead fans/lights in the bathrooms along with the electrical switches being replaced. The building and sidewalks were pressure washed. Funds for these small work projects were available.

Desktop computers are being upgraded due to the current operating systems, and the desktop computers are not able to install updates. A new printer was purchased, and battery backups have been purchased for both desktop computers during the year.

The Budget Committee has approved up to \$20,000 for proposed projects by the Trustees. This includes the purchase of a Security System with cameras for the front and back area of building. In addition, the funds are to be used to correct the problem occurring at the entrance at the front door, since 2 people have fallen in the last 3 years. Quotes have been received and plans are underway for the upgrade and replacing the door for the entranceway. The approximate cost of all projects is \$20,000.

We are so thankful to the many volunteers that work together to keep the Associational Office building, equipment and trailers in good repair in order to have a great place for the churches of the Association to do ministry.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SHOWCASE:** A first ever *VBS Showcase* was held at the SBA Office on Tuesday evening, March 7<sup>th</sup>. 17 churches were represented in those attending. Five different VBS themes were on display at the Associational Office. Pastors, VBS Directors and Church Leaders were invited to see the options that were available for their church. The 5 Sampler Kits were given away at the end of the month following the *Showcase*. (See *2023 VBS Statistical Report*). The *VBS Showcase* for 2024 is planned for March 4<sup>th</sup>.

**WMU/LADIES MEETING:** The WMU/Ladies met on November 7, 2022 at South Madisonville Baptist Church. Eleven (11) churches were represented with 33 in attendance. The guest speakers for the evening were from Jehovah Jireh feeding ministry based in Sweetwater. The offering received for the evening, in the amount of \$594.22, was given to Jehovah Jireh, as well as food and donations that were brought for the ministry. Gently used coats were also received for Kentucky flood victims.

Notchey Creek Baptist Church hosted the 2023 *WMU/Ladies Meeting* on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The guest speaker for the evening was Kim Cruse, former IMB missionary. Twelve (12) churches were represented with 65 in attendance. The offering received was \$900.00 plus additional gift cards which were given to the guest speaker to be used in Philippines missions.

The *WMU/Ladies Meetings* are scheduled as follows:  
 November 6, 2023 Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church  
 May 6, 2024 Reed Springs Baptist Church  
 November 4, 2024 Mt. Zion Baptist Church

2023 VBS Statistics (as reported by the Church)		
<u>Church</u>	<u>Enrolled</u>	<u>Decisions</u>
411 Chapel .....	108.....	10
Antioch .....	24.....	0
Bethlehem .....	227.....	1
Big Creek .....	45.....	1
Cane Creek .....	55.....	0
Cedar Fork .....	45.....	0
Citico .....	40.....	0
Community.....	15.....	0
Conasauga.....	89.....	0
Concord .....	35.....	0
Delano .....	60.....	0
Fairview (Tellico) .....	62.....	0
Fairview Tabernacle .....	200.....	0
Glenlock .....	150.....	0
Gregory's Chapel.....	45.....	0
Howard's Chapel .....	58.....	1
Island Creek.....	105.....	0
Lakeside.....	77.....	10
Long Ridge.....	80.....	3
Madisonville, First .....	218.....	5
Maple Springs.....	67.....	7
Miller's Chapel .....	82.....	1
Mt. Calvary .....	126.....	3
Mt. Zion .....	124.....	0
New Bethany .....	149.....	7
New Macedonia .....	170.....	5
New Providence .....	127.....	7
New Zion .....	73.....	1
North Sweetwater.....	96.....	0
Notchey Creek.....	289.....	12
Oak Grove .....	86.....	0
Oakland .....	15.....	0
Old Sweetwater.....	153.....	19
Poplar Bluff.....	134.....	6
Reed Springs.....	110.....	6
Rocky Springs .....	131.....	2
Rural Vale .....	76.....	2
Shady Grove .....	9.....	0
Shelton Grove .....	90.....	1
Shoal Creek .....	149.....	19
South Madisonville.....	124.....	2
Sweetwater, First .....	165.....	5
Tellico Plains, First.....	70.....	0
Tevis Springs.....	23.....	0
Towee Falls.....	35.....	1
Trinity .....	62.....	0
Union Grove .....	121.....	0
Union McMinn .....	294.....	16
Vonore.....	147.....	0
Walnut Grove .....	97.....	10
Watson Chapel.....	146.....	1
Westside.....	114.....	0
Williamsburg .....	20.....	0

The WMU/Ladies Groups are encouraged to participate in the monthly Nursing Home Birthday Cake program at the Madisonville Health & Rehab. Contact information for the facility is the Activities Director at 442-3990.

Girls in grades 6-12 were encouraged to attend the *2023 Connection...CLARITY...DO YOU GET JESUS?* September 15-17 in Cookeville, Tennessee.

**YOUTH:** The Youth Committee planned the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual *CONNECT* Youth Rally. This year's event was held on Thursday, July 13, 2023, at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. There were approximately 110 people in attendance, with approximately 7 churches represented. The music was led by *Roger Williams & AMUQ*. Ryan Keaton delivered the gospel message. Ryan is the Emerging Generations Specialist with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board.

*CONNECT 2024* is being planned for Saturday, March 9, 2024, at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater. The guest evangelist will be Shaq Hardy, with music being provided by the youth bands from Fairview Tabernacle and Sweetwater, First Baptist.

In September 2023, hundreds of area students participated in the annual prayer event, "*See you at the Pole*". The association provided SYATP armbands to churches, youth groups and FCA groups. We are happy to be a small part of this great event.

#### **UPDATES:**

- In 2019, the SBA provided funds to build micro "tiny" houses. Four (4) tiny houses have now been completed and are being used to assist with the homelessness in our area.
- In 2020, funds were received to provide water wells for the people of Myanmar. Thirty (30) water wells have been drilled since January, even in the middle of government unrest and while experiencing a devastating military takeover.
- In 2021, a love offering was received for the *Monroe/McMinn County Isaiah 117* House. The house is located at the intersection of County Road 517 and 519 in Englewood and is now complete and operational.

**TBMB/SBC:** Pastors and church leaders were encouraged to attend :

- *2022 Annual Meeting*, The Summit, Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, November 13-16
- *2023 State Evangelism Conference*, January 29-30, New Vision Baptist Church, Murfreesboro
- *2023 Bivocational Pastor/Wife Retreat*, Pigeon Forge, January 26-28
- *2023 Missions Get-Together*, March 16-18, Brentwood Baptist Church
- *2023 YEC*, First Baptist Concord, Knoxville, March 24-25
- *2023 Church Administration Conference*, April 17-18 Judson Baptist Church, Nashville, TN
- *2023 Southern Baptist Convention*, June 11-14, Pastors Conference & Annual Meeting, New Orleans
- *An Acts 2:17 Group Listening Session* was held at the SBA Office on February 27<sup>th</sup> as part of the TBMB initiative to determine the direction for the TBC following the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024.
- 2023 Annual Meeting of Tennessee Baptist, The Summit, will be held November 12-15 at Chattanooga Convention Center.



## **BAPTIST & REFLECTOR, 2023**

**Lonnie Wilkey, Editor**

Since 1835, the *Baptist and Reflector* has produced and shared articles and columns that impact Tennessee Baptist Convention churches.

The *B&R* is mailed to nearly homes, 26 weeks a year, reaching nearly 40,000 readers. For nearly 10 years in a row, the *B&R* staff has been recognized for excellence in journalism by the Baptist Communicators Association in its annual awards competition.

In addition, the *B&R* website has grown steadily since it was introduced in late 2015. Our number of page views grows steadily. We also send out a weekly newsletter highlighting not only the top stories in the print issue but other articles that are posted on the website but may not appear in the print issue.

The goal of the paper is to “tell the story of Tennessee Baptists” through news, feature stories and photographs. As in the past, the paper this year placed a major emphasis on what Tennessee Baptists are doing to reach the world for Christ by focusing on stories related to the Five Objectives, the strategic plan messengers to the Tennessee Baptist Convention adopted in 2014.

In addition, the *B&R* has helped inform Tennessee Baptists in 2022-23 about Blue Oval City, located in Haywood County, roughly 40 miles east of Memphis. Blue Oval City in Stanton will eventually become a massive Ford plant that covers approximately 4,100 acres.

Tennessee Baptists are being intentional and assertive about making an impact for Christ in Blue Oval City. Upcoming articles will continue to keep readers informed of the numerous opportunities that will be available in the months and years to come in West Tennessee.

The *Baptist and Reflector* continues to utilize social media tools such as Twitter and Facebook and other outlets to keep Tennessee Baptists aware of breaking news.

The staff monitors trends that could affect Tennessee Baptists and prints those stories to keep readers informed. We also have kept our readers informed of current events throughout the Southern Baptist Convention as well.

The paper continually seeks to enlist new subscribers. The Church Trial Plan is still available for churches that want to introduce the paper to its members. We need more churches willing to send the paper to their leadership such as deacons, Sunday School teachers, etc. We plan to reinstitute the “Friends of the *B&R*” program this year to help increase subscriptions. Information will be forthcoming in the coming months.

For more information about subscription plans, call the *Baptist & Reflector* office at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-2003.

## **BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, 2023**

**Memphis, Tennessee**

**Jason Little, President and CEO**

Baptist Memorial Health Care began as a 150-bed hospital in downtown Memphis in 1912. It was formed by the Southern Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas because they recognized a tremendous need for a health care facility in this part of the country. The hospital’s early days were rough – at one point, it almost closed – but eventually it grew to become the largest private hospital in the world. The hospital played a very important role in the history of health care in the 20th century, celebrating many firsts along the way.

The Baptist Memorial Health Care system was created in 1981 to provide an integrated health care delivery system offering a full continuum of care to communities throughout the Mid-South. Today, a total of 22 hospitals in Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi; an 800-member physician group; and dozens of other entities are affiliated with Baptist.

Baptist Memorial Health Care's staff chaplains are a part of the health care team. Patients, family members or employees know that they can ask for a chaplain at any time to augment our health care with spiritual or emotional care. In our hospitals, our chaplains represent their own faith but often deal with spiritual issues that transcend denominational lines.

The Rev. Jimmy Terry Preaching Series, hosted by Baptist's Pastoral Care Department, observed its sixth anniversary this year. The series, named in memory of a beloved member of Baptist's Board of Trustees and the founder of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Clarksville, Tennessee, welcomes a speaker – usually an ordained Baptist minister – each month to deliver an evangelical message to employees, physicians, patients and visitors from Baptist's flagship hospital. The message is broadcasted live to all 22 Baptist hospitals. Video recordings of each event on our Facebook page have been viewed more than 166,900 times and have reached 170,300 people in the past year.

In January, Baptist Memorial Health Care celebrated the grand opening of our new Baptist Arlington Emergency Department in Arlington, Tennessee. The \$16 million facility measures 35,000 square feet and offers eight patient rooms and CT scan, X-ray and ultrasound imaging technology. A Baptist Medical Group primary care office, an imaging center and a helipad are also located on the campus.

Baptist Health Sciences University welcomed newly named president Hampton Hopkins, Ed.D., who will oversee the opening of the university's new College of Osteopathic Medicine, which earned pre-accreditation this year. It's the first school of its kind in the Mid-South and will welcome its first class of medical students for the 2024-25 academic year. A special event to commemorate the beginning of construction on the Baptist University College of Osteopathic Medicine building took place in June, during which a Bible was placed in a capsule in the facility's foundation.

Baptist played a significant role in the aftermath of a destructive tornado in Tipton County in March. Despite damage to Baptist Memorial Hospital-Tipton's roof and canopy, and personal property damage and loss for many of our team members, the staff at Baptist Tipton performed heroically, even delivering a baby during the storm. Baptist Ambulance provided 911 ambulance service and routed ambulances from nearby counties to help with the disaster response.

In April, Baptist held a dedication and ribbon cutting for Dorothy's Cottage, a 4,100-square-foot expansion of Baptist Centers for Good Grief. Named in honor of Dorothy Lee Wilson, wife of Holiday Inn founder and entrepreneur Kemmons Wilson, Dorothy's Cottage provides a safe environment for grieving children, teens and adults to explore and express grief for the loss of a loved one.

The Jackson Clinic, one of the largest physician practices of its kind, and Baptist Memorial Health Care held a topping out ceremony and beam signing last July to celebrate a major milestone for a new outpatient medical campus in Jackson, Tennessee. The event marked the placement of the topmost beam on a 134,966-square-foot, \$62 million, two-story medical office building, which will be located on the campus. Baptist will lease approximately 40,000 square feet of the building for an outpatient surgery center that will include eight operating rooms and four procedure rooms. The Jackson Clinic will lease approximately 70,000 square feet and offer diagnostic imaging, laboratory, pharmacy, and specialty services.

In January, Baptist Union City celebrated the opening of its new, \$10 million physician office building in Union City, Tennessee. It will serve as the home of the newly named Baptist Medical Group-Women's Health Center of Union City. The clinic has 18 exam rooms, two procedure rooms, two ultrasound suites, a lab, and a large conference room.

The Leapfrog Group recently awarded “A” Hospital Safety Grades to Baptist Union City and Baptist Carroll County to recognize their achievements in protecting patients from harm and error in the hospital.

Baptist Booneville and Baptist Union City both earned a five-star rating in the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings for 2022. Only 429 hospitals nationwide were given this rating.

Baptist Union City was awarded a three-year, \$1.5 million grant by the Health Resources & Services Administration’s Rural Public Health Workforce Training Network Program for education, training and employment opportunities for community paramedics/emergency medical technicians and respiratory therapists.

Baptist was also awarded \$5.5 million to expand the critical care unit at Baptist Collierville and received \$3.5 million to purchase an autonomous nursing robot that can be controlled from a central hub at our corporate offices.

### **TENNESSEE BAPTIST ADULT HOMES, INC., 2023**

**Mark Anderson, President/Treasurer**

Our Baptist Village Humboldt ministry remains in the construction phase. We had high hopes of finishing the first phase that includes the first two duplex units by the spring of 2023. However, there have been various issues, mostly related to the availability of building supplies, that have caused some significant delays. So, we are a bit cautious about making predictions about when this ministry will be available. That said, we have a measured degree of confidence that these first two duplexes will be completed before the end of 2023. When the entire Baptist Village Humboldt project is completed, there will be 10 duplexes serving 20 financially needy retired pastors and missionaries.

The SOAR fund (Supplying Ongoing Aid to Residents) that was established through the Tennessee Baptist Foundation in 2019 has suffered significant losses, just as all investments everywhere over these past four years. Because of these investment losses and the rate of inflation over the past 2 years, we were forced to invade the SOAR fund in order to keep operating our group homes and to continue our development of Baptist Village Humboldt. Our financial losses, since the dissolution of our nursing home about 8 years ago, have placed us in a position of needing additional funding in the very near future. This circumstance has created the need for us to seek additional funding from the Cooperative Program. Your gifts to the Cooperative Program and to the Father’s Day Offering will allow us to stop spending our quickly dwindling reserves and to continue providing a Christian home for the men and women in our six group homes.

Speaking of our Father’s Day Offering, receipts are pretty much on target to come in at a rate consistent with previous years. Now more than ever, however, we are hopeful that we will far surpass previous years and even exceed our goal. Again, exceeding our FDO goal along with an increase in Cooperative Program funding will allow us to avoid using any further reserves.

We reported last year that after having to cancel Special Friends Camp for three years in a row (2020-2021-2022) due to our inability to find Counselors. The result of those cancellations is that TBAH has determined that we will not seek to have Special Friends Camp for the foreseeable future and possibly ever again.

Thank you, Tennessee Baptists, for your prayers and your financial support! Thank you for ***Showing What Love Is!***

## **TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES, 2023**

**Greg McCoy, President/Treasurer**  
**tennesseechildren.org                      615-376-3140**

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes has been welcoming children in hard places with the love of Christ for 132 years! Because of the faithfulness of churches, businesses and individuals who have a heart for children and families who are struggling, we have been able to serve nearly 200 children and their families this year. Thank you for your prayers, for your service, and for sharing your financial resources with TBCH. Our ministry operates without the use of government funds. We have chosen to rely on God's provision through His people to supply the resources necessary to meet the needs of the children and families we serve.

In 2022-23 TBCH continues to forge ahead with our "Safe Environment Project." One of the core values that drives our ministry is that we will provide a safe environment for the children we serve. TBCH has made changes throughout the years to fulfill this core value and we are now faced with the need to make the change in our residential care program to individual bedrooms and baths for each resident. Because of what many of our children have experienced or been exposed to, this need becomes more apparent as each year passes.

TBCH is making sacrifices to bring this vision into reality. We are reducing the size of our campuses without reducing the number of children we serve. While liquidated property is helping us put our plans into action we are still in great need of your financial assistance. Thank you to those of you whose churches give faithfully to the Cooperative Program and who also make a direct gift to TBCH through the Mother's Day Offering or through your annual missions offerings. May your tribe increase!

I am asking the Lord for \$30 million to bring all three campuses up to date so that we will be set to care for children in a safe environment for the next 75 years! Did that sentence make you gasp?! Then follow it with this one: *"Ah Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You"* (Jeremiah 32:17). We sense strongly that this is the Lord's direction for us to take and we are trusting Him to make a way. If you have questions about the "Safe Environment Project" and how you can be a part of it, I would love to have a conversation with you!

Since 1891, thousands of children's lives have been changed through the ministry of TBCH. We invite you to rejoice with us over the 63 children who found safe homes on our three campuses this fiscal year, along with 133 in our foster homes across the state, 19 reunifications, 14 adoptions, and especially the seven who said YES to Christ. Great things happen as God's people pray, serve, and give!

## **TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION, 2023**

**615.371.2029      [www.tbfoundation.org](http://www.tbfoundation.org)**  
**Serving Tennessee Baptists Since 1938**

**Rev. C. William (Bill) Gruenewald, III**  
**President-Treasurer**  
[bgruenewald@tnbaptist.org](mailto:bgruenewald@tnbaptist.org)

**Dr. Tod Tanner**  
**Executive Vice President and Chief Development Officer**  
[ttanner@tnbaptist.org](mailto:ttanner@tnbaptist.org)

Since 1938 the Tennessee Baptist Foundation has been of service to Tennessee Baptists and Kingdom causes around the world. The assets under management of the Foundation have grown from \$6,577 to \$171 million during that time. God continues to bless this ministry and we are pleased to make our report to the associations as to highlights for the fiscal year 2022-23 thus far. The Foundation is pleased to offer the following services to Tennessee Baptists:

- ◆ Presenting informational Faith-based estate planning seminars for churches

- ◆ Working with individuals, helping them develop distinctively Christian personal estate plans
- ◆ Assisting individuals in their establishment of various Charitable Trusts
- ◆ Serving as Trustee of trusts and funds committed to its care
- ◆ Providing investment services to Tennessee Baptist churches, associations and institutions
- ◆ Helping churches establish Legacy Ministries
- ◆ Facilitating loans to Tennessee Baptist churches/associations
- ◆ Providing grants for qualifying new ministries and projects

Highlights of the Foundation’s stewardship thus far for this fiscal year include:

- ✓ Funds under management: 1,136
- ✓ Assets under management: \$171,524,886 (as of June 30, 2023)
- ✓ New fund additions as of June 30, 2023: \$3,927,071 (23 new funds)
- ✓ Educational scholarships: 181 - totaling \$223,000 for 2023-2024 academic year. (Awarded over \$6.3 million in scholarships since 1987)
- ✓ Special Project Grants: As of June 30, 2023, we have distributed \$32,700 to assist 5 ministry projects.
- ✓ Cooperative Program: \$350,500 distributed as of June 30, 2023. Projected to give over \$500,000
- ✓ Baptist and charitable causes: \$2,120,530 distributed as of June 30, 2023. Projected to give over \$3 million

*The Tennessee Baptist Foundation continues its commitment to manage funds with integrity and help Tennessee Baptists leave legacies with a Kingdom focus.*

### **TENNESSEE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION, 2023**

**Ramona Hicks, President**

**Vickie Anderson, Executive Director-Treasurer**

Tennessee WMU encourages and equips churches and individuals to engage in missions learning and involvement that enables them to fulfill the Great Commission. This report shares information about some of the state events, ministries, and initiatives that have taken place.

In September 2022, WMU began a four-year Project HELP: Mental Health emphasis to raise awareness of this important issue and equip members to lead and champion mental health initiatives in the church and local communities.

Three high school students were chosen to serve on the 2022-23 Tennessee Youth Venture Team – Lydia Nakamine and Emma Henley from Red Bank Baptist in Chattanooga and Jacob Murray from Silver Springs Baptist in Mt. Juliet. The students participated in a team retreat and bi-monthly virtual meetings for discipleship, mentoring, and missional study.

Tennessee WMU produced the *SPORTS JAM* missions event kit for children in grades 1-6 with plans, ideas, tips, and instructions to help churches host a missions event for the children in their church or community. The event kit included a Bible lesson, missions lesson highlighting IMB missionaries in Spain, and suggestions for crafts, games, and mission projects.

The 2022 Connection was held at FBC Sevierville on September 30 – October 2 and had 87 youth girls and leaders representing 11 churches in attendance. The event featured Bible study leader Amy-Jo Girardier, IMB missionary speaker Amy Jones from Germany, and local missionaries Jodie Lamon and Melanie Hart reaching internationals in Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg.

RA Camp-o-Ree celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 14-16, 2022, at Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center with over 350 boys, leaders, and personnel in attendance. This missions camping event for boys grades 1-12 is hosted by Mid-South Royal Ambassadors and Tennessee WMU.

The 2023 Missions Get-Together was held at Brentwood Baptist Church on March 16-18, with a total attendance of 644 people representing over 132 churches. The event featured Bible study leader Mary Wiley and national WMU executive director Sandy Wisdom-Martin. Participants brought over 77,000 items for Christian Job Corps sites in Tennessee through the event ministry project. \$18,814.79 was given through the event **missions offering benefiting** the We Must Have a Place/Linden Valley Village Project (90%) and the TN WMU Touch Tomorrow Today Endowment (10%),

The 2023 Tennessee WMU Annual Meeting occurred on March 17 during the Friday morning general session of Missions Get-Together. The meeting included highlights of the work of Tennessee WMU and the election of 2023-24 state officers and new Executive Board members.

- State Officers: President: Ramona Hicks, Recording Secretary: Linda Rader, Vice President, East: Sheila Hall, Vice President, Middle: Kim Griffin, Vice President, West: Sandy Louden
- Executive Board members: Tracey Gholson, Becky Jackman, Jean Warren

Tennessee WMU awarded \$39,100 in scholarships to 42 students attending graduate school, seminary, and undergraduate schools in Tennessee during the 2023-24 school year. These scholarships are funded through endowments, invested funds, and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions.

Christian Job Corps is a ministry of WMU that seeks to help men and women break the cycle of poverty through job and life skill classes, Bible study, and mentoring. There are currently 19 Tennessee CJC sites - 14 Christian Women's Job Corps and five Christian Men's Job Corps.

As Tennessee WMU celebrates our 135<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 19, 2023, we are excited about the possibilities and opportunities in the days and years ahead.

### **CARSON NEWMAN UNIVERSITY, 2023** **Submitted by Charles A. Fowler, President**

From a dream, to development, to its August 1851 opening, Baptists of this state have been instrumental in the creation and maintenance of Carson-Newman. Your partnership and support enable us as Christian educators to help our students reach their full potential as educated citizens and worldwide servant-leaders.

We have had a blessed year at Mossy Creek. Highlights of this past year includes:

- The University entered its second year of a five-year strategic plan entitled "*Acorns to Oaks: Pursuing God's Preferred Future*," seeing the completion and opening of the Drama and Ted Russell Center, home to C-N's health sciences as the plan's first major project.
- As part of *Acorns to Oaks*, C-N also broke ground on its first student-residential complex in two decades. West Campus Commons is the largest construction project in C-N's history and is slated to open Fall 2024.
- University Board of Trustees approved a new Campus Master Plan that will guide decision-making over the next 20 years regarding construction, renovation and campus experience.
- A new partnership with Morgan County Correction Complex offers selected inmates the opportunity to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies with an emphasis in Ministry Studies. Dr. Phil Young is the new director of the program.
- As part of a new archeology minor, Carson-Newman University, in collaboration with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the American Veterans Archaeological Recovery, completed the initial groundbreaking excavation project at the ruins of Herod the Great's majestic desert fortress, Hyrcania.

- Fortune Media Group named C-N as having one of the nation's best online nursing programs (No. 38 in the U.S.). U.S. News & World Report ranked both C-N's nursing and education online programs No. 2 in Tennessee in their respective categories. The University was also named a College of Distinction and a Christian College of Distinction by the organization Colleges of Distinction.
- Partnering with NAMB's GenSend program, C-N students took part in mission trips during the year to such locations as Denver, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Washington, D.C. and Barcelona, Spain.
- University students and staff teamed up with members of TrueLife Church of Jefferson City and Blue Springs Baptist of Rutledge for a mission trip to Honduras. The team of 14 visited schools, and homes, and met with and encouraged missionaries.
- Carson-Newman hosted the 2022 East Tennessee Evangelism Rally, featuring award-winning Christian music artists Nic Gonzales and Jaci Velasquez, as well as guest speaker Dr. Steve Gaines, senior pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church.
- In partnership with Manley Baptist Church, we were grateful that students and staff chose to express public professions of faith in Christ by being baptized in Mossy Creek on C-N's campus during the fall. There were many other public professions of faith who chose to pursue baptism at their home churches instead of in Mossy Creek. We celebrate that life-changing impact of the Gospel that is transforming lives across our campus.
- Members of C-N campus community banded together for its annual Operation Inasmuch Day of Service. Teams took part in service projects throughout four East Tennessee counties.
- Younger Associates concluded an economic study indicating the Baptist institution produces an \$84 million annual impact on the local area economy.
- The University presented the annual Ken Sparks Award to pastor, missionary, evangelist and trainer for church planters, Dr. Wade Akins.

Highlights presented here are made possible because of the cooperation, support and generosity of Tennessee Baptists.

## **HARRISON-CHILHOWEE BAPTIST ACADEMY, 2023**

(dba The King's Academy)

**Submitted by Jeremy Sandefur, President**

This year, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy celebrates 144 years of Christ-centered education in East Tennessee. For the past thirty years, Tennessee Baptist's accredited Christian boarding and day school has operated as The King's Academy. Students from across the globe are the Academy's most distinctive feature, with over 1,100 students and 101 nations represented since 1935.

The 2022-23 academic year has come to a close and will go down as a very successful year in the lengthy history of The King's Academy. The goal of this associational report is to provide transparent information regarding the state of The Academy, to highlight exciting additions, and clearly communicate what is expected in the coming year.

While no year will ever be perfect, as we have many obstacles to conquer and the fact that we are inherently not perfect, this past year has been successful in providing stability and setting up the successful future of The Academy. As an administrator, I seek to monitor numbers as they are an indicator of our schools' health and growth. Below is a quick look at TKA by the numbers for the 2022-23 academic year:

- 13: TKA was blessed to start the year with a 13% increase in enrollment from the previous year.
- 16: In the spirit of global outreach, we are thrilled to announce that The King's Academy has reached over 16 nations this past year.
- 32: Students who called our Residence Life Program Home (rebuilding the depleted numbers due to Covid-19)
- 35: Number of Love Where We Live (LWWL) projects that served our community.
- 27: This is my favorite number of all. This year 27 students accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

- 1,000,000: This represents the faithful amount that has been raised collectively to the Legacy Fund and tuition assistance funds this year. These gifts represent the faithful support of so many.
- 75: The amount of faculty and staff who faithfully poured into our students on a daily basis.
- 1: The audience for which we do what we do: our Lord.

The King's Academy is positioned to make an even larger impact on our community and world in our 144th year of operation because of the cooperation, support and generosity of Tennessee Baptists. Please join me in praying that the Lord will continue to maximize the reach of this ministry as we continue to strive to develop servant leaders who will change the world for Christ.

### **UNION UNIVERSITY, 2023**

Samuel W. "Dub" Oliver, Ph.D.  
President, Union University

Over the past year, Union University had the opportunity to celebrate its bicentennial and reflect on 200 years of God's faithfulness. What a history! The Lord has provided for Union time and time again and poured out blessing upon blessing as we have equipped thousands of students to serve the church and society. Generations of Union alumni have taken their gospel witness into all the world, making a difference for Christ in their families, their churches, their workplaces, and their communities.

As we have looked back on our past, we have also dreamed about what God will do through Union in the future. Union trustees in December approved a strategic plan entitled *Protinus* that will guide the university's operational goals and planning over the next five years. *Protinus* is a Latin word that means "to move immediately, forward, continuously, uninterrupted, as from the very first."

*Protinus* includes four major themes – advancing Christ-centered higher education, pursuing faithful innovation throughout and across campuses, continuing to solidify and develop Union's financial position and enhancing Union's culture of shared life and commitment to one another's flourishing.

Each theme includes several goals for the university to accomplish by 2027. For example, the theme of advancing Christ-centered higher education includes such goals as focusing each department and athletic team on intentional student discipleship and providing leadership to kindred Christ-centered institutions of higher education.

Another goal in the plan is the completion of a comprehensive fundraising campaign. Union launched "Union 200: Tradition. Truth. Transformation." in September with an \$80 million goal. About \$38 million has been given and pledged toward that goal thus far.

Other highlights from the past year:

- Plans are underway for a new academic building on campus that will house the McAfee School of Business and the departments of computer science and engineering.
- In partnership with the TBMB, Union hosted its first youth apologetics conference, EQUIP!, with more than 260 attendees.
- The Union debate team won another national championship, and the Cardinal & Cream was named the best college magazine in the South for the second straight year.
- The College of Pharmacy's class of 2022 scored a 92 percent pass rate on the NAPLEX, the highest rate in the state and the 12<sup>th</sup> highest nationally.

None of this would be possible without the Lord's provision and without the support of Tennessee Baptists. We are grateful for your friendship, and we ask that you would continue to pray for Union as we seek to be faithful to our mission.



## 2023 HISTORICAL REPORT

### 411 Chapel

Purchased ½ acre of land to add to our church property; Purchased a new baby grand electronic piano; Many members attended Smoky Mountain Jubilee and fellowship time at a cabin.

### Antioch

Parking Lot.

### Bethlehem

Supported missionaries from Ramu Valley Academy, Papua New Guinea; South Sudan and Pioneer Missions; Inspiration Center, Shepetivka, Ukraine.

Dec 2022: Christmas Consignment Shop and Give-Away.

Apr 2023: 1<sup>st</sup> Bethlehem Women's Conference; Children went on mission to Assisted Living Housing.

May 2023: Hosted Pastor Saleem Shalash from Nazareth, Israel.

Jun 2023: 1<sup>st</sup> Bethlehem Bike Rally for VBS Kickoff. Funds raised at Bike Rally & VBS used to purchase Children's Study Bibles for Guatemala.

Jun 2023: Mission trip to Coatepeque, Guatemala (9 volunteers); Mission Trip with World Changers, Huntington, WV (1 volunteer).

Apr-Jul 2023: Bethlehem Community Garden (helping individuals in need with free fresh vegetables).

Jul 2023: Progress in moving Bethlehem Church Road away from church side entrance. Jesse Bunch was affirmed as Pastor's Intern for remainder of 2023.

Aug 2023: Continued participation in Buckner's "Shoes for Orphan Souls".

Sept 10, 2023: Recognition of Bob & Gail McConkey for 50+ years of faithful service to Bethlehem Baptist Church.

Bob was awarded the title of Deacon Emeritus for 45+ years as Deacon and will continue to serve; Bob has served in many positions of service. Gail was recognized for 50 years as a Sunday School teacher and many other positions of service.

### Cane Creek

Completed new church sanctuary. Hosted joint service with Poplar Bluff Baptist Church in June for Homecoming, Sanctuary Dedication and Ordination Service for Jeff Dalton.

### Citico

Installed new carpet; New flooring in hallway and bathrooms; Installed new guttering with leaf guard.

### Fairview Tabernacle

Started construction on a new educational building.

### Fellowship

Monthly meals; Beginning of the year clothes drive; Christmas service; Easter service; Ghana mission work (Summer 2023).

### Glenlock

Back to school day; Trunk or Treat.

### Gregory's Chapel

Installed new carpet in church sanctuary.

### Howard's Chapel

Summer Backpack Give-Away to community. Remodel: Floor repair in sanctuary, restructure choir. Repainted parking lot spaces.

**Island Creek**

Celebrated 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; Replaced playground equipment at Youth Building.

**Lakeside**

Installed new guttering; New upholstery on pews, etc.; Renovated Sunday School room; Upgraded internet; Upgraded and serviced air vents and thermostats.

**Long Ridge**

Veteran's Service; Celebration of Pastor Steve Teague for 40 years in ministry.

**Lower Chilhowee**

After suspending all worship services for a year (beginning May 2022), re-launched Sunday Morning services in May 2023; Called Joey Bivens as Pastor on October 15, 2023.

**Macedonia**

Installed handrails from basement; Installed LED lights in basement; Paving.

**Maple Springs**

Jan 2023: Interior paint and renovations to sanctuary.

**Mt. Calvary**

Parking lot was pressure washed; Painted and new floors in Sunday School rooms; Celebrated Pastor Gerald Lynn's 30 Year Anniversary in ministry; Participated in a countywide 2-week Revival at Tellico Plains High School; Participated in area-wide Old Time Singing (Red Back Hymnal) in downtown Tellico Plains; Held 3 service projects by our youth.

**Murray's**

Paint/Remodel church entrance and sanctuary.

**New Bethany**

Feb 5, 2023: Ordained Robert Hill and Matthew W. Johnson as Deacons.

**New Providence**

Ordained Ronnie Croft and Mike Grant as Deacons; Licensed Chris Maney, Hunter Patton and Morgan Peels to preach; Opened the New Providence Mission Center at 451 New Providence Rd, Tellico Plains, TN.

**Notchey Creek**

Replaced a/c unit in Nursery; Created Church Security Team; Installed protective film on glass doors; Sold older church bus; Hired the Lewis Group to do a walk-through study of the church to maximize floor space.

**Oak Grove**

Installed electronic church sign; Removed picnic shed; Seasonal activities for the church, youth and community; Continued sharing church services online and on CD.

**Old Pond Hill**

Installed new carpet; Repaired walls, replaced paneling; Replaced A/C unit; Replaced light bulbs.

**Old Sweetwater**

Feb 15, 2023: Moved into the new sanctuary and 1 young man gave his life to the Lord; Feb 19, 2023: Special ceremony commemorating this special event.

**Poplar Bluff**

Completed Pavilion; Purchased new sound equipment; Baptistry washed away in Aug 2023 flooding; Mission Team to Guatemala in June 2023; Praise Team monthly singings at local churches and community events; Called Jeff Dalton as Youth Pastor, Ordained April 2023.

**Reed Springs**

Ordained Ronnie McDowell (called to serve as Pastor of First Baptist Church, Riverdale, GA); Elected Cody Hill as Youth Pastor; Finished kitchen in Family Life Center (cabinets, countertops, appliances, food warmer, ice machine, utensils, cookware, etc.); Tore down and removed old parsonage due to safety issues; Remodeled nursery (wood floors, painting, repairing a wall, added cabinets and shelving, tables and activity centers); Purchased filing cabinets and desk for Pastor's Study; Updated wiring for sound system; replaced florescent light in basement with LED panel lights; Community Fall Festival; Community Candlelight Christmas Service; Began jail ministry at Monroe Co Jail; Weekly community visitation; Weekly food pantry; Community scavenger hunt and egg hunt; School Backpack mission project; Women's Bible Study; Built handicap ramp for church member; Supplied breakfast for Philadelphia Elementary teacher.

**Rocky Springs**

Oct 16, 2022: Licensed Rev. Dan Martin to preach. Jan 1, 2023: Carter Williamson announced his call to preach. Participated in a youth rally at Sequoyah High School. Sponsored 3 "adopt a chief" from Sequoyah High School football team.

**Rural Vale**

Purchased over 2 acres of land across the road bordering the cemetery. Replaced subfloor in sanctuary (parts of it were as old as the church).

**Shady Grove**

Installed new carpet in sanctuary; Installed stonework on outside of building to cover where old window air conditioners were removed; Purchased land adjoining the church property; Added city water.

**South Madisonville**

Feb 19, 2023: Licensed Sam Baines as Preacher; June 11, 2023: Ordained Sam Baines into the Gospel Ministry.

**Sweetwater, First**

Called Jason Pounds as Pastor (hired Dec 11, 2022, started Jan 2023); May 16, 2023: Kayce Loomis resigned as Children's Minister; Sept 3, 2023: Trish Wheeler became new Children's Minister Coordinator.

**Tevis Springs**

Called Pastor Sam Baines, April 16, 2023.

**Towee Falls**

Ordained Jeff Pike into the Gospel Ministry; Mission trip to West Virginia.

**Trinity**

Continued Blessing Box ministry; held food drives to stock Blessing Box; 2<sup>nd</sup> year of having a community garden; Designated first Sunday School Director and established new classes; Began men's and women's bible study outside of designated church services; Continued to support local mission including Fresh Start Ministries and High Five and School Supplies.

**Union Grove**

Installed canopy roof and lights over the handicap ramp. Removed a downstairs wall to make a larger Sunday School room. Men of the church did all the work on both projects.

**Union McMinn**

June 10-17, 2023: Mission trip to Clear Creek Bible College, Pikeville, KY (construction, painting, cleaning); VBS at Victory Baptist Church, Arjay, KY. Tom White, Mission Trip with group to Greece for Bible Study and VBS. Emma Wilson, Mission Trip with group to Bahamas for Bible Study and VBS. Feb 10-11, 2023: Men’s Conference; Feb 25, 2023: Women’s Conference. Called new Pastor, Gabe Brannon.

**Upper Shady Grove**

October 2023: Church Fall Festival.

**Vonore**

Replaced floor and painted in the Family Life Center.

**Walnut Grove**

TBMB Backpack collection; Added additional parking space; VBS; Installed new handicap toilets; Blessing Box; Isaiah 117 House; Created new church website.

**Watson Chapel**

Adults and Youth participated in 16 mission projects.

**Williamsburg**

August 13, 2023: 125-Year Celebration.

**2023 MEMORIAL REPORT**

**411 Chapel**

Getter (Buddy) Haynes  
Hattie SWABE

**Bethlehem**

Bobby Dailey  
Frank Hicks  
Joyce Millsaps

**Big Creek**

Wanda Peels

**Cane Creek**

Bob Giese  
Sonny Nichols  
David Thomas

**Cedar Fork**

Deborah Bettis  
Gwen Henry  
Wayne Henry  
Estelle Holt

**Citico**

Bonnie Haynes  
Neil Tallent

**Conasauga**

Wanda Parker  
Armond Watson

**Delano**

Harold (Pug) Landers  
Jennifer Wood

**Fairview Tabernacle**

Mary Brewster  
Carolyn Chorn  
Ian Cooper  
Jerald Ervin  
James Galliher  
Frances Lingerfelt  
Johnny Risher  
Julia Robison  
Doug Watson  
Jo Zimmerman

**Fellowship**

Chris Bidwell

**Glenlock**

Nathan Barnes  
Robert Bowers  
Faye Randolph

**Gregory’s Chapel**

Howard Stockton

**Howard’s Chapel**

Virgie Crowder

**Island Creek**

Ross (Junior) Bowers  
Charles Morgan

**Lakeside**

Wilma Cansler  
Freida Jones  
Michael Holloway  
Mildred Millsaps

**Long Ridge**

Marion Hamby  
Flossie Wilson

**Madisonville, First**

Pat Atchley  
Joyce Estes  
Melvin Hall  
Jim Hudson  
Johnnie Jones  
Dorothy Judd  
Ronald Lewis  
Jerry Moreland  
Dorothy Payne  
Virginia Poneleit  
Margaret Sue Sloan  
Albert Smith  
Bill Spradlin  
Mike Steele  
Mary Tallent  
Fay Watson  
Maxine Woods

**Maple Springs**

Leigh Evans  
Charlie Martin  
Mark McKenzie  
Shirley Morrow  
Tommy Olley

**Miller's Chapel**

Tammy O'Dell

**Mt. Calvary**

Beryl Cagle  
Willie McConkey  
Donald Trew

**Mt. Isabella**

James Marty Butler

**Mt. Zion**

Faye Arp  
Nanita Dailey

**Murray's**

Margaret Lawson

**New Bethany**

Don Clowers  
Robert Hicks  
Craig Johnson

**New Macedonia**

Robert Bowers  
Gail Clemmer  
Ruth Russell  
Faye Stamey

**New Providence**

Dennis Cole  
Guy Johnson  
Joe Maheiu

**New Zion**

Chris Bridwell  
Thersa Cantrell  
Neva Hammonds  
Kitty Hamilton  
Jerry Livingston  
Aileen Martin  
Clayton Martin, Jr.  
Mary O'Neal  
Jimmy Woods

**North Sweetwater**

Charles (C.A.) Clark  
Jerry Gray  
Katie Upton Jones  
Elfreda Kirkland  
Reba Willett

**Notchey Creek**

Ricky Fadeley, Sr.  
Alvin Johnson  
Robert (Bob) Leslie  
Kennard McDaniel  
Cody Moser  
Lois Trentham  
Dean Turpin  
Jack D. Watson

**Oak Grove**

George Anderson  
Robert Carroll  
Bill Hatmaker  
Kenneth Kirkland

**Oakland**

Garland Green

**Old Sweetwater**

Ruth Millsaps  
Ronald Smith

**Poplar Bluff**

Wilma Hamilton

**Rocky Springs**

Muriel Atkins  
Jimmy Hawkins  
Reed Massingale  
Susie West Moser  
Barbara Raper

**Rural Vale**

Kevin Couey  
Sharon Self Taylor

**Shady Grove**

Steve Rogers

**Shoal Creek**

Lisa McDaniel

**South Madisonville**

Harold Trost

**Sweetwater, First**

Ruby Belk  
Josephine Denton  
Charles Ingram  
Joyce Newman  
Irene Thomas  
Paul Watson  
Levette Whitlock  
Virgil Lynn Whitlock  
Ross Young  
Leon Verderese

**Union Grove**

Teresa (Terry) Comerford  
Harmony Ilese Thompson

**Union Hall**

Barbara Rose  
Lloyd Tallent

**Union McMinn**

Deanie Brown  
Reecie Frisbie  
Danny Reagan

**Unity**

Judy Hatfield  
Steve Isbill

**Vonore**  
 Nevona Cagle  
 Johnnie Ruth Carmley  
 Michelle Covert  
 Kenneth Felgenhour  
 Pam Sibley  
 Willie Williams

**Walnut Grove**  
 Neal Millsaps

**Watson Chapel**  
 Margaret Hicks  
 Tim Underwood

**Westside**  
 Ronnie Taylor  
 Charlotte Williams

### MESSENGERS TO THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

<b>411 Chapel</b>	Michael McLemore Allen Ingram	Billy Coleman Dakota McLemore	Ed Dawson	Blake Disspain David Worley	
<b>Antioch</b>	Danny Roberts Johnny Matoy	Crystal Roberts Wilma Matoy	Wilburn Aikens	Phyllis Aikens	
<b>Beaty's Chapel</b>	NONE REPORTED (Larry Walker)				
<b>Bethlehem</b>	Zad Tomberlin Sherry Smith	Albert Graser Wayne Smith	Donna McKee Donald Torbett	Steve Moore	
<b>Big Creek</b>	Michael Jacobs Kalieb Skinner	Deanna Jacobs	Gary Lyons	Bree Lyons	
<b>Calvary</b>	NONE REPORTED (No Pastor)				
<b>Cane Creek</b>	Cody Dalton Jared Hudgins	Deborah Dalton Ronnie Lynn	Ronnie Dalton Kevin Wiseman	Travis Debety	
<b>Cedar Fork</b>	James Mason	Pat McGinnis	Brenda McGinnis	Bill Viar	Eva Viar
<b>Cedar Valley</b>	NONE REPORTED (Joel Tilson)				
<b>Christianburg</b>	Darrell Cardin William Humphreys	Elaine Dotson Tommy Saint	Johnny Gibson Mack Wilson	Shane Hobbs	
<b>Citico</b>	David Lane Janie Loveday	Brannon Davis Dustin Self	Sarah Davis Gordon Self	Brent Loveday	
<b>Clifton</b>	NONE REPORTED (Ronnie Rhea)				
<b>Community</b>	Dennis Atkins	Jack Russell	Matthew Russell	Matthew Yearwood	
<b>Compromise</b>	Delbert Umphrey	Audrey Umphrey	Marvin Umphrey		
<b>Conasauga</b>	Tony Curtis	DeLane Stiles	Randy Rayburn		
<b>Concord</b>	Neal Pillion Jane Roper	Jessica Godsey Anthony Smith	Robert Livingston Ashley Smith	Jim Roper	
<b>Delano</b>	Jamie Johnson John Hensley	Chuck Burgess Patrick Kelly	Dennis Cagle Josh Landers	Jake Cook	
<b>Druid Hill</b>	NONE REPORTED (Ronnie Davis)				
<b>Ebenezer</b>	NONE REPORTED (No Pastor)				
<b>Fairview (Tellico)</b>	John Coleman Steve Todd	Thomas Standridge	Tim Standridge	Billy Taylor	
<b>Fairview Tabernacle</b>	Tim Swabe	Nick Farrell Rusty Vineyard	James Jenkins	Yvonne Jenkins	Ron Mincey
<b>Fellowship</b>	Derek McCosh				
<b>Glenlock</b>	Lon Shoopman Michael Byrum	Debbie Allen Roger Coleman	Dean Babb Michael Harrison	Rodney Bowers	
<b>Gregory's Chapel</b>	T.J. Wattenbarger	Kenny Keller	Josh Smith		
<b>Hopewell Springs</b>	NONE REPORTED (No Pastor)				
<b>Howards Chapel</b>	Ronnie Best Marleta Costner	Tangie Best Robert Costner	Debbie Baker Carol Peters	Pearce Baker	

<b>Island Creek</b>	Lewis Jones Tracy Maxwell	Dennis Lingerfelt Chad Price	Danny Lingerfelt Jason Thompson	Ronnie Moses
<b>Lakeside</b>	Gerald Atkins	Vivian Atkins	Doug Blankenship	Harry Brown
<b>Long Ridge</b>	Steve Teague Denver Roberts	James Graves Steve Thompson	Wayne Moser	William O'Dell
<b>Lower Chilhowee</b>	Joey Bivens			
<b>Macedonia</b>	Arthur Moser			
<b>Madisonville, First</b>		Chris Moore	John Acuff	Robert Moore
<b>Maple Springs</b>	Vernon Webb Adam Martin	Chris Brummett Megan Martin	Megan Brummett	James "Pug" Jones
<b>Miller's Chapel</b>	Micah Collins Shane Miller	Roger Lovin Jesse Powell	Kraig Miller	Robert Miller
<b>Mt. Calvary</b>	Gerald Lynn Kaye McDaniel	Janet Lynn Scott Teague	David Dobbins Trisha Teague	David McDaniel
<b>Mt. Isabella</b>	NONE REPORTED (Josh Butler)			
<b>Mt. Zion</b>	Andy Franklin Bruce Millsaps	Holly Franklin Donna Millsaps	Louise Couch	Edna Franklin
<b>Murray's</b>	David Edgmon Carl "Buddy" Richesin, Jr			
<b>New Bethany</b>	Matthew D. Johnson		Margie Gray	Judy Webb
<b>New Macedonia</b>	Mitch Isbill Toby Massey	David Allmond Taylor Morris	Ben Curtis Russell Woody	Jeff Kelley
<b>New Providence</b>	Rick Atkins Dan Sliger	Trey Ferguson Gary Williams	Steven Patton Pam Williams	Tia Patton
<b>New Zion</b>	Brandon Wilcox Chelsie Stewart	Marla Wilcox Don Stewart	Archie Campbell Scott Stewart	J.J. Carson
<b>North Sweetwater</b>	Bill Wilson Gary Crosby	Judy Wilson Cindy Reynolds	Mary Kate Colbock Tommy Reynolds	Claretta Crosby
<b>Notchey Creek</b>	Shane Johnston Sharon Jones	Doug Alexander Sheri Stephens	Verna Alexander Doug Stephens	Ronny Jones
<b>Oak Grove</b>	Wayne Trentham Steve Carringer	MaryAnn Trentham Olin Flowers	Mike Brashears Jill Flowers	Sharon Brashears
<b>Oakland</b>	Jim Swabe Marion Randolph	Tracy Swabe	Martha Bush Maxine Randolph	Paul McDaniel Sandi Seacrest
<b>Old Pond Hill</b>	Myrl Vaughn	Aaron Howard	Jodi Howard	
<b>Old Sweetwater</b>		Richard Lane	Josh Croft	
<b>Paint Rock</b>	Keith Kile	Marie Selvidge	Heather Sharp	
<b>Piney Grove</b>	NONE REPORTED (Ollie Lankford)			
<b>Poplar Bluff</b>	Roman Hamilton Randy Wear	Jon Harris	Javin Parson	Roger Powers
<b>Reed Springs</b>	Steven McDonald Joe Lovin	Kendra McDonald Joe Malone	David Grimes Becky Malone	Leonard Grimes
<b>Rocky Springs</b>	Greg McCosh David Winters	Dan Martin	Tammie Martin	Allen Winters
<b>Rural Vale</b>	Carroll Hamilton Madeline Lynn	Cynthia Hamilton Nickey Lynn	Chandler Butler Danny Martin	Allen Cain
<b>Shady Grove</b>	BJ Wall Debra Morgan	Diane Wall Roger Morgan	Ronnie Hale	Luke Keller
<b>Shelton Grove</b>	Tim Watson Dewey Henry	Bryan Carter Gene Manis	Andy Edgemon Todd Tilley	Lee Roy Edgemon
<b>Shoal Creek</b>	Steve Strickland	Michael Brooks	Bill Jones	Trey Strickland
<b>South Madisonville</b>	Rick Harris Willie O'Dell	Connie Harris Roy Smith	Robert Koontz Alice Fay Smith	Patricia Koontz

<b>Sweetwater, First</b>	Jason Pounds	Janet Collins	Phil Hall	Cindy Lemmonds
	Tommy Lemmonds			
<b>Tellico (Ballplay)</b>	Mike Williams	Bobby Best	Mark Best	April Best
	Michael Hunt	MaShell Hunt	Harold Sloan	
<b>Tellico Plains, First</b>	Richard Parker	Marilyn Parker	Randy Fulbright	Phyllis Fulbright
	Richard Proctor	Leisa Proctor	Susan Newman	
<b>Tevis Springs</b>	Sam Baines	Rhonda Baines	Ashley Bright	James Bright
	Tiffany Bright	John Swabe		
<b>Towee Falls</b>	Steven Stone	Gerald Burrell	Devon Byrd	Isaac Byrd
<b>Trinity</b>	Jarrold Johnson	Mitchell Wicker	Mark Woods	Rebecca Woods
<b>Union Grove</b>	Isaac Sparks	Nick Brown	Tim Geehan	Jamie Hanley
	Steve Hanley	Karen Pell	Trent Thompson	
<b>Union Hall</b>	Tom Chadwick			
<b>Union McMinn</b>	Gabe Brannon	Mack Bland	Bryan Coffey	Marshall Moser
	Howie White	Scott White	Gerald Wilson	
<b>Unity</b>	NONE REPORTED (No Pastor)			
<b>Upper Shady Grove</b>	NONE REPORTED (Noah Russell)			
<b>Vonore</b>	Mike Akins	Liz Akins	Donna Bowerman	Jim Jolley
	Elaine Jolley	Gary Kirkland	Hass Sarshuri	
<b>Walnut Grove</b>	Jonas Turpin	Leonard Blevins	Mike Burgess	Angela Burgess
	Kevin Manis	Tressa Manis	Kris Treadway	
<b>Watson Chapel</b>	Jason Blair			
<b>Westside</b>	NONE REPORTED (Dwight Torbett)			
<b>Williamsburg</b>	NONE REPORTED (No Pastor)			

**\*2023 MESSENGERS - ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF/COUNCIL** (not otherwise listed as Church Messengers)

Tony Rutherford (SBA Staff)  
 Sheri Stephens (SBA Staff)  
 Becky Jones (SBA Staff)

*2022-2023 Council (non-pastors, non-church messengers)*

Josh Croft (Youth Comm Chairman)  
 Shannon Croft (Personnel Comm Chairperson)  
 Phillip Johnson (SBA Music Director)  
 David Jones (Comm on Nominations Chairman)  
 Pat McGinnis (Chairman Trustees)  
 Joe Saffles (Budget Comm Chairman)  
 Rachel Thompson (WMU/Ladies Ministry Director)  
 Bryan Williamson (VBS Director)  
 Kim Williamson (VBS Director)



**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023-2024 LEADERSHIP**

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Chairman of Deacons</b>	<b>Youth Pastor/Director</b>
<b>411 Chapel</b>	Michael McLemore	Horton Dawson	Horton Dawson
<b>Antioch</b>	Danny Roberts	Wilburn Aikens	Geraldine Rogers
<b>Beaty's Chapel</b>	Larry Walker	Ronnie Belcher	None Reported
<b>Bethlehem</b>	Zad Tomberlin	Steve Moore	None Reported
<b>Big Creek</b>	Mike Jacobs	None Reported	Kalieb & Tara Skinner
<b>Calvary</b>	No Pastor	None Reported	None Reported
<b>Cane Creek</b>	Cody Dalton	Ronnie Lynn	Cody Dalton
<b>Cedar Fork</b>	James Mason	Pat McGinnis	None Reported
<b>Cedar Valley</b>	Joel Tilson	Josh Gourley	Craig McKenzie
<b>Christianburg</b>	Darrell Cardin	Mack Wilson	None Reported
<b>Citico</b>	David Lane	Gordon Self	James Davis
<b>Clifton</b>	Ronnie Rhea	None Reported	Melinda Spurling & Samantha Wiseman
<b>Community</b>	Dennis Atkins	None Reported	Loretta Russell
<b>Compromise</b>	Delbert Umphrey	Marvin Umphrey	None Reported
<b>Conasauga</b>	Tony Curtis	None Reported	None Reported
<b>Concord</b>	Neal Pillion	Chris Lindner	Anthony Smith
<b>Delano</b>	Jamie Johnson	Chuck Burgess	Jake Cook
<b>Druid Hills</b>	Ronnie Davis	James Monger	Patrick Underwood
<b>Ebenezer</b>	No Pastor	Willard Anderson	Donna Miles
<b>Fairview Tabernacle</b>	No Pastor	Robert Vineyard	Dawson Giles
<b>Fairview (Tellico)</b>	John Coleman	Thomas Standridge	Billy Taylor
<b>Fellowship</b>	Derek McCosh	None Reported	JJ Hughes
<b>Glenlock</b>	Lon Shoopman	Joseph Allen	Michael Byrum
<b>Gregory's Chapel</b>	T.J. Wattenbarger	Noel Wicker	None Reported
<b>Hopewell Springs</b>	No Pastor	Jim Alexander	None Reported
<b>Howard's Chapel</b>	Ronnie Best	Robert Costner	Debbie Baker
<b>Island Creek</b>	Lewis Jones	Dennis Lingerfelt	Jason & Cody Thompson
<b>Lakeside</b>	Gerald Atkins	Doug Blankenship	None Reported
<b>Long Ridge</b>	Steve Teague	James Graves	None Reported
<b>Lower Chilhowee</b>	Joey Bivens	None Reported	None Reported
<b>Macedonia</b>	Arthur Moser	Claude Stewart	Alice Moser
<b>Madisonville, First</b>	Chris Moore	Jon Grubb	Logan Blackwell
<b>Maple Springs</b>	Vernon Webb	Adam Martin	Adam & Megan Martin
<b>Miller's Chapel</b>	Micah Collins	Kraig Miller	None Reported
<b>Mt. Calvary</b>	Gerald Lynn	Scott Teague	None Reported
<b>Mt. Isabella</b>	Josh Butler	James Butler	None Reported
<b>Mt. Zion</b>	Andy Franklin	Carl Miller	Staci Dean
<b>Murray's</b>	No Pastor	Carl Richesin, Jr.	None Reported
<b>New Bethany</b>	Matthew Johnson	Jody Schroeder	Chad Johnson
<b>New Macedonia</b>	Mitch Isbill	Russell Woody	Kevin Gentry
<b>New Providence</b>	Rick Atkins	Trey Ferguson	Kevin Ervin
<b>New Zion</b>	Brandon Wilcox	Scott Stewart	None Reported
<b>North Sweetwater</b>	Bill Wilson	Danny Sledge	None Reported
<b>Notchey Creek</b>	Shane Johnston	Josh McDaniel	Billy Harrill

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023-2024 LEADERSHIP**

Congregation	Pastor	Chairman of Deacons	Youth Pastor/Director
Oak Grove	Wayne Trentham	Steve Carringer	Vic Bivens & Ashley Fischer
Oakland	Jim Swabe	None Reported	Cheryl Hicks
Old Pond Hill	Myrl Vaughn	Bennie Henderson	None Reported
Old Sweetwater	Richard Lane	Danny Thornburg	Josh Croft
Paint Rock	Keith Kile	None Reported	Deborah Kile
Piney Grove	Ollie Lankford	Melvin Martin	None Reported
Poplar Bluff	Roman Hamilton	Jon Harris	Jeff Dalton
Reed Springs	Steven McDonald	Leonard Grimes	Cody Hill
Rocky Springs	Greg McCosh	Bryan Williamson	None Reported
Rural Vale	Carroll Hamilton	Nickey Lynn	Ethan Curtis
Shady Grove	B.J. Wall	None Reported	Luke Keller
Shelton Grove	Tim Watson	Dewey Henry	Kayla Watson
Shoal Creek	Steve Strickland	Jerry Moses	Beth Brooks
South Madisonville	Rick Harris	Kevin Brown	John Patterson
Sweetwater, First	Jason Pounds	Mark Houston	Brett King
Tellico Plains, First	Richard Parker	E.L. McClellan	None Reported
Tellico (Ballplay)	No Pastor	Harold Sloan	Michael Hunt
Tevis Springs	Sam Baines	John Swabe	Tiffany Bright
Towee Falls	Steven Stone	None Reported	Cliff Moser
Trinity	Jarrold Johnson	Mitchell Wicker	None Reported
Union Grove	Isaac Sparks	Nick Brown	Kelly Hensley
Union Hall	Tom Chadwick	None Reported	None Reported
Union McMinn	Gabe Brannon	Gerald Wilson	Bryan Coffey
Unity	No Pastor	None Reported	None Reported
Upper Shady Grove	Noah Russell	Goley Hollinghead	None Reported
Vonore	Dustin George	Hassan Sarshuri	Steve Giles
Walnut Grove	Jonas Turpin	Leonard Blevins	Kevin Manis
Watson Chapel	Jason Blair	None Reported	None Reported
Westside	Dwight Torbett	Terry O'Dell	Larry Watson
Williamsburg	No Pastor	David Miller	Patrick Flanary

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023-2024 CLERKS**

Congregation	Church Clerk	Mailing Address
411 Chapel	Mrs Kelly Leming	302 Old Loudon Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Antioch	Ms Wilma Matoy	186 Williamsburg Rd, Vonore, TN, 37885
Beaty's Chapel	Mrs Henrietta Cathey	180 Walker Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
Bethlehem	Mrs Donna McKee	248 Big Creek Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Big Creek	Ms Donna Rucker	132 Houser Dr, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
Big Creek	Mrs DeAnna Jacobs	4885 Caldwell Rd, Loudon, TN 37774
Calvary	Mrs Brenda Brannon	PO Box 284, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Cane Creek	Ms Rebecca Pearson	120 Hartland Dr, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Cedar Fork	Mrs Gail Farrell	423 Big Sandy Rd, Philadelphia, TN 37846

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023-2024 CLERKS**

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Church Clerk</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
<b>Cedar Valley</b>	Ms Cheryl Young	960 Shelton Grove Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
<b>Christianburg</b>	Mrs Cherry Oliver	400 County Rd 342, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Citico</b>	Ms Debbie Gentry	243 Smokey Branch Rd, Vonore, TN 37885
<b>Clifton</b>	Ms Melinda Spurling	264 County Rd 267, Niota, TN 37826
<b>Community</b>	Mrs Loretta Russell	926 Hwy 11 S, Sweetwater, TN 37874
<b>Compromise</b>	Mr Marvin Umphrey	122 County Rd 202, Athens, TN, 37303
<b>Conasauga</b>	Mr Bobby Triplett	148 County Rd 622, Etowah, TN, 37331
<b>Concord</b>	Ms Kariann Lindner	3618 Upper Concord Rd, Ten Mile, TN, 37880
<b>Delano</b>	Mrs Natalie Kelly	PO Box 25, Delano, TN 37325
<b>Druid Hill</b>	Ms Jodie Underwood	256 Old Mill Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Ebenezer</b>	Ms Lora McMahan	3749 Hwy 360, Vonore, TN, 37885
<b>Fairview Tabernacle</b>	Mrs Sue Yarber	148 Circle Park Rd, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Fairview (Tellico)</b>	Mrs Sherrie Taylor	1085 Fairview Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Fairview (Tellico)</b>	Ms Gladys Standridge	2418 Fairview Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Fellowship</b>	Mr John Teutimez	405 Central St W, Sweetwater, TN 37874
<b>Glenlock</b>	Mr Roger Coleman	132 Dove Acres, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Gregory's Chapel</b>	Ms Judy Wicker	109 Galyon St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Hopewell Springs</b>	Mr Ritchie White	125 Coleman Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Howards Chapel</b>	Mr Ronnie Summey	1811 Big Gulley Rd, Maryville, TN 37801
<b>Island Creek</b>	Mrs Shanna Isbill	5177 Hwy 411, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Lakeside</b>	Mrs Mary Frank	438 Cold Stream Farm Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
<b>Long Ridge</b>	Mrs Celina Lintemuth	PO Box 97, Coker Creek, TN 37314
<b>Lower Chilhowee</b>	Mrs Virginia Tallent	237 Povo Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Macedonia</b>	Ms Carolyn Stewart	418 Sawmill Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Madisonville First</b>	Mr Alan Sloan	139 College St, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Maple Springs</b>	Ms Donna Lynn	689 Jones Dr, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Miller's Chapel</b>	Mrs Tammy Miller	PO Box 744, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Mt Calvary</b>	Ms Angela Davis	225 Sawmill Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
<b>Mt Isabell</b>	Mrs Candice Butler	1269 Rafter Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Mt Zion</b>	Mrs Elaine Hawkins	1022 Highway 360, Vonore, TN, 37885
<b>Murray's</b>	Ms Melissa Edgmon	160 Edgmon Road, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>New Bethany</b>	Ms Tara Thompson	No address given
<b>New Macedonia</b>	Mr David Allmond	218 Starrett St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>New Providence</b>	Mrs Becky Peels	404 Unicoi Lakes Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>New Zion</b>	Ms Peggy Martin	118 County Rd 660, Athens, TN 37303
<b>New Zion</b>	Mr Scott Stewart	319 County Rd 616, Athens, TN 37303
<b>North Sweetwater</b>	Mrs Claretta Crosby	805 Fair St N, Sweetwater, TN 37874
<b>Notchey Creek</b>	Mrs Linda Gregory	529 Monroe St, Madisonville, TN, 37354
<b>Oak Grove</b>	Mrs Barbara Carringer	1320 Oak Grove Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
<b>Oakland</b>	Mr Jason Hicks	106 Meadow Ln, Vonore, TN, 37885
<b>Old Pond Hill</b>	Ms Judy Watts	148 County Rd 275, Niota, TN, 37826
<b>Old Pond Hill</b>	Ms Robin Anderson	156 County Rd 275, Niota, TN, 37826
<b>Old Sweetwater</b>	Ms Lesa Shultz	606 Childress Ave, Sweetwater, TN, 37874

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023-2024 CLERKS**

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Church Clerk</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
<b>Paint Rock</b>	Mrs Janice Parks	162 Paint Rock Rd, Kingston, TN, 37763
<b>Piney Grove</b>	Mrs Charity Standridge	3322 Old Hwy 68, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Poplar Bluff</b>	Mrs Sharon Stone	710 Old State Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
<b>Reed Springs</b>	Mr Leonard Grimes	2333 Reed Springs Rd, Philadelphia, TN, 37846
<b>Rocky Springs</b>	Mrs Marilyn Moses	104 Chapel View Dr, Madisonville, TN, 37354
<b>Rural Vale</b>	Ms Misti Pike	155 Dry Creek Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Shady Grove</b>	Mrs Debra Morgan	2100 Mecca Pike, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
<b>Shelton Grove</b>	Mrs Eva Henry	2074 Raby Town Rd, Philadelphia, TN, 37846
<b>Shoal Creek</b>	Mrs Glenna Moses	544 Lick Creek Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>South Madisonville</b>	Mrs Patricia Koontz	591 Rausin Hollow Rd, Philadelphia, TN 37846
<b>Sweetwater, First</b>	Mrs Janet Collins	303 Wright St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Sweetwater, First</b>	Mrs Diane Ridgell	303 Wright St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Tellico Plains, First</b>	Mrs Heather Hall	706 Bethlehem Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Tellico (Ballplay)</b>	Mrs MaShell Hunt	249 Old Athens Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
<b>Tevis Springs</b>	Mrs Tiffany Bright	2115 Ballplay Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Towee Falls</b>	Ms Robbie Jones	1143 Towee Falls Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
<b>Trinity</b>	Mrs Rebecca Woods	152 Tango Dr, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Union Grove</b>	Ms Jamie Hanley	342 County Rd 313, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
<b>Union Hall</b>	Mrs Ethel Bivens	134 Ogle Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Union Hall</b>	Mrs Janis Jenkins	2609 Ballplay Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Union McMinn</b>	Mrs Jane Wilson	PO Box 214, Niota, TN, 37826
<b>Unity</b>	Mrs Jeanette Isbill	214 Azalea Ln, Sweetwater, TN 37874
<b>Upper Shady Grove</b>	Mrs Carol King	2212 Highland Rd, Maryville, TN, 37801
<b>Vonore</b>	Mrs Teresa White	1644 Bay Creek Dr, Vonore, TN 37885
<b>Walnut Grove</b>	Mrs Tressa Manis	7700 Washington Pk, Philadelphia, TN 37846
<b>Watson Chapel</b>	Mrs Michelle Lovin	220 Kinser Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Westside</b>	Mrs Debbie Atkins	148 Atkins Ln, Madisonville, TN 37354
<b>Williamsburg</b>	Mrs Mary Bivens	500 Trigonía Rd N, Greenback, TN 37742

**2024 Executive Board Members to the Association**

**\*As reported to the Association via the 2023 ACP Report**

Pastors are automatic Executive Board Members

In addition to the Pastor, each church is entitled to (1) additional Executive Board Member

411 Chapel .....	Ed Dawson	Murray's.....	Carl Richesin, Jr
Antioch .....	None Reported	New Bethany .....	None Reported
Beaty's Chapel.....	None Reported	New Macedonia.....	Toby Massey
Bethlehem.....	Jesse Bunch	New Providence.....	Gary Williams
Big Creek .....	Kalieb Skinner	New Zion.....	Archie Campbell
Calvary.....	None Reported	North Sweetwater .....	Danny Sledge
Cane Creek .....	Perry Miller	Notchey Creek .....	Larry Neal
Cedar Fork.....	Jesse Melton	Oak Grove .....	Barry Self
Cedar Valley .....	David McHan	Oakland.....	Jason Hicks
Christianburg.....	Mack Wilson	Old Pond Hill .....	Aaron Howard
Citico .....	Bo Butler	Old Sweetwater .....	Josh Croft
Clifton.....	None Reported	Paint Rock .....	None Reported
Community.....	Jack Russell	Piney Grove.....	None Reported
Compromise.....	Marvin Umphrey	Poplar Bluff .....	Jeff Dalton
Conasauga.....	DeLane Stiles	Reed Springs .....	Cody Hill
Concord.....	Anthony Smith	Rocky Springs.....	David Winters
Delano .....	Dennis Cagle	Rural Vale.....	Nickey Lynn
Druid Hills.....	None Reported	Shady Grove.....	Roger Morgan
Ebenezer .....	Willard Anderson	Shelton Grove .....	Dewey Henry
Fairview (Tellico) .....	Thomas Standridge	Shoal Creek .....	Trey Strickland
Fairview Tabernacle .....	James Jenkins	South Madisonville .....	None Reported
Fellowship .....	Jeremy Malone	Sweetwater, FBC.....	Todd Colbert
Glenlock .....	Herbert Hicks, Jr.	Tellico (Ballplay).....	Mark Best
Gregory's Chapel.....	None Reported	Tellico Plains, FBC .....	None Reported
Hopewell Springs .....	Stephen Self	Tevis Springs .....	James Bright
Howard's Chapel .....	Robert Costner	Towee Falls .....	None Reported
Island Creek.....	Dennis Lingerfelt	Trinity.....	Mitchell Wicker
Lakeside.....	Doug Blankenship	Union Grove.....	Nick Brown
Long Ridge.....	Barry West	Union Hall .....	Leon Jenkins
Lower Chilhowee .....	None Reported	Union McMinn.....	Mack Bland
Macedonia .....	Craig Stewart	Unity .....	None Reported
Madisonville, FBC.....	Robert Moore	Upper Shady Grove.....	None Reported
Maple Springs .....	Adam Martin	Vonore .....	Hass Sarshuri
Miller's Chapel .....	Kraig Miller	Walnut Grove.....	Kevin Manis
Mt. Calvary.....	Scott Teague	Watson Chapel.....	Bryce Joslin
Mt. Isabella .....	None Reported	Westside .....	Terry O'Dell
Mt. Zion.....	Dwight Williams	Williamsburg.....	B.W. Ledford

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023 ACP Membership Summary**

\*As reported via the 2023 ACP Reports

Congregation	Total Members	Total Baptisms	Other Additions	Worship Average Attend.	Sunday School Enroll.	Sunday School Average	VBS Enroll.	WMU	Other Women's Ministry	Mens Ministry
411 Chapel	210	0	10	80	64	60		10	10	8
Antioch	52	3	12	40	33	33	24	0	0	0
Beauty's Chapel	NOT REPORTED									
Bethlehem	659	10	16	250	202	191	227	129	60	45
Big Creek	NOT REPORTED									
Calvary	63	0	0	10	10	10	0	0	0	0
Cane Creek	217	0	0	70	56	45	55	0	2	4
Cedar Fork	111	2	2	40	36	0	45	6	0	0
Cedar Valley	NOT REPORTED									
Christianburg	131	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0
Citico	200	1	1	45	44	44	40	0	0	0
Clifton	97	0	4	35	16	18	0	0	0	0
Community	245	4	1	30	17	17	15	0	0	0
Compromise	120	0	0	14	21	21	0	0	0	0
Conasauga	194	0	0	51	45	0	89	0	0	0
Concord	40	0	0	35	36	34	35	0	0	0
Delano	188	2	3	102	70	41	60	0	0	0
Druid Hill	NOT REPORTED									
Ebenezer	NOT REPORTED									
Fairview Tabernacle	1,207	18	24	579	310	294	200	0	70	40
Fairview (Tellico)	53	0	0	42	43	43	62	0	0	0
Fellowship	90	3	0	75	95	0	0	0	7	5
Glenlock	231	2	5	125	84	65	150	79	0	0
Gregory's Chapel	190	4	14	0	25	3	45	0	0	0
Hopewell Springs	NOT REPORTED									
Howards Chapel	319	4	9	45	39	35	58	0	0	0
Island Creek	409	3	3	74	43	43	105	0	10	0
Lakeside	200	5	1	50	37	30	77	10	10	0
Long Ridge	330	2	3	60	55	55	80	0	0	0
Lower Chilhowee	92	0	6	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macedonia	40	0	0	18	14	0	0	0	0	0
Madisonville, First	797	9	19	336	397	254	218	90	45	17
Maple Springs	248	3	0	45	42	42	67	0	0	0
Miller's Chapel	167	5	0	51	48	37	82	0	0	0
Mt Calvary	184	3	7	55	73	32	126	21	0	0
Mt Isabella	54	0	1	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mt Zion	447	1	0	89	90	82	124	16	0	0
Murray's	197	1	0	25	15	15	0	9	0	0

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023 ACP Membership Summary**

\*As reported via the 2023 ACP Reports

Congregation	Total Members	Total Baptisms	Other Additions	Worship Average Attend.	Sunday School Enroll.	Sunday School Average	VBS Enroll.	WMU	Other Women's Ministry	Mens Ministry
New Bethany	367	6	3	55	37	35	149	26	0	8
New Macedonia	517	0	3	112	105	88	170	20	25	27
New Providence	640	24	24	150	48	58	127	15	0	10
New Zion	250	3	6	50	39	35	73	0	0	0
North Sweetwater	143	0	0	167	17	15	96	0	17	0
Notchey Creek	1,021	17	5	266	229	150	289	49	50	20
Oak Grove	283	3	7	55	48	31	86	0	25	11
Oakland	51	0	0	17	17	12	15	0	0	0
Old Pond Hill	87	1	0	12	4	0	0	0	0	0
Old Sweetwater	225	14	0	135	90	78	153	0	0	0
Paint Rock	275	2	0	60	32	0	0	0	0	0
Piney Grove	NOT REPORTED									
Poplar Bluff	121	25	0	100	82	50	134	0	20	20
Reed Springs	433	6	3	105	68	52	110	0	25	20
Rocky Springs	293	3	7	63	65	44	131	15	27	0
Rural Vale	157	7	8	61	71	71	76	0	10	0
Shady Grove	78	0	0	38	12	12	9	0	0	0
Shelton Grove	162	5	7	67	35	35	90	0	0	0
Shoal Creek	322	15	1	65	37	37	149	0	0	0
South Madisonville	105	0	1	80	66	66	124	0	8	8
Sweetwater, First	424	28	18	235	474	478	165	46	75	0
Tellico Plains, First	266	0	2	49	49	49	70	0	8	0
Tellico (Ballplay)	98	0	2	0	19	15	70	0	0	0
Tevis Springs	93	2	0	24	0	0	23	0	0	0
Towee Falls	107	6	1	30	43	25	35	16	0	0
Trinity	100	4	9	39	40	25	62	30	21	12
Union Grove	150	8	3	91	79	50	121	64	20	15
Union Hall	138	1	0	12	12	12	0	0	0	0
Union McMinn	310	6	12	150	221	106	294	0	15	15
Unity	35	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
Upper Shady Grove	252	14	0	47	47	23	0	0	0	0
Vonore	625	8	18	222	215	136	147	18	0	10
Walnut Grove	83	5	2	65	39	25	97	0	0	0
Watson Chapel	1,434	1	0	300	100	130	146	0	15	20
Westside	390	18	16	95	68	43	114	0	11	17
Williamsburg	50	0	0	15	14	0	20	0	0	0
<b>SBA Totals</b>	<b>17,867</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>5,597</b>	<b>4,582</b>	<b>3,530</b>	<b>5,329</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>332</b>

**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023 ACP Financial Summary**

\*As reported via the 2023 ACP Reports

Congregation	Total Receipts	Undesignated Gifts	Cooperative Program	Association Gifts	Annie Armstrong	Lottie Moon	Golden Offering
411 Chapel	107,610	88,463	0	3,000	710	2,043	0
Antioch	23,241	14,350	300	275	0	0	0
Beaty's Chapel	NOT REPORTED			0			
Bethlehem	370,080	261,290	17,043	15,610	5,268		
Big Creek	NOT REPORTED			0			
Calvary	33,904	26,970	0	919	0	0	0
Cane Creek	86,229	43,178	1,200	2,400	0	400	0
Cedar Fork	124,474	96,918	10,661	6,784	2,603	2,527	2,124
Cedar Valley	NOT REPORTED			11,008			
Christianburg	52,648	49,382	1,922	1,926	1,035	1,000	0
Citico	0	0	39	825	0	0	0
Clifton	21,649	19,690	122	275	163		
Community	28,726	28,726	541	945	0	0	0
Compromise	15,442	13,714	0	600	0	110	0
Conasauga	82,949	74,253	0	2,400	250	250	0
Concord	35,304	33,803	437	1,021	0	0	0
Delano	283,080	147,462	5,490	4,239	1,781	2,319	1,250
Druid Hills	NOT REPORTED			1,000			
Ebenezer	NOT REPORTED			655			
Fairview (Tellico)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairview Tabernacle	1,719,802	1,318,346	60,000	18,000	26,599	75,202	13,077
Fellowship	109,338	95,678	2,824	1,833			
Glenlock	174,758	168,466	3,674	4,008	2,716	2,154	0
Gregory's Chapel	49,646	49,646	0	1,200	0	0	0
Hopewell Springs	NOT REPORTED			500			
Howards Chapel	0	0	0	500	0	0	0
Island Creek	156,945	154,442	2,400	3,600	0	0	0
Lakeside	82,166	46,856	0	1,200	2,000	2,307	0
Long Ridge	144,035	136,352	0	1,000	0	0	0
Lower Chilhowee	9,063	4,921	0	0	0	0	0
Macedonia	1,518	0	0	240	200	200	0
Madisonville, First	1,377,959	779,094	71,822	5,000	19,372	60,480	10,290
Maple Springs	44,429	43,679	0	750	0		0
Miller's Chapel	37,421	9,470	401	1,200	0	0	0
Mt Calvary	40,617	35,045		1,051			
Mt Isabella	4,987	4,987	0	0	0	0	0
Mt Zion	201,310	157,371	6,941	7,587	2,425	3,240	0
Murray's	49,004	38,346	1,443	1,856	581	531	



**Sweetwater Baptist Association  
2023 ACP Financial Summary**

\*As reported via the 2023 ACP Reports

Congregation	Total Receipts	Undesignated Gifts	Cooperative Program	Association Gifts	Annie Armstrong	Lottie Moon	Golden Offering
New Bethany	115,078	86,826	5,214	5,214	2,186	1,094	981
New Macedonia	132,037	120,929	0	2,160	3,500	0	0
New Providence	281,596	191,313	23,228	9,586	7,951	1,840	0
New Zion	0	0	750	750	0	0	0
North Sweetwater	58,653	50,788	1,140	1,193	0	400	0
Notchey Creek	554,622	484,019	30,953	10,595	13,784	13,553	6,853
Oak Grove	110,623	96,724	4,816	5,115	438	830	0
Oakland	45,552	45,552		1,477	728	100	
Old Pond Hill	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
Old Sweetwater	0	0	0	1,000	0	0	0
Paint Rock	47,500	47,500		1,320			
Piney Grove	NOT REPORTED			1,000			
Poplar Bluff	105,172	105,172	16,790	1,078	1,263		
Reed Springs	192,080	164,691	0	5,778	4,593	8,851	0
Rocky Springs	184,194	121,936	7,000	3,800	3,132	9,359	2,360
Rural Vale	116,177	93,177	6,165	6,167	1,583	1,503	830
Shady Grove	0	0	0	400	620	1,208	
Shelton Grove	73,373	72,373	0	2,316	0	0	0
Shoal Creek	76,723	76,723	683	1,368			
South Madisonville	112,760	97,715	1,200	1,100	0	269	0
Sweetwater, First	681,649	593,486	31,157	4,200	4,099	12,947	2,090
Tellico (Ballplay)	40,000	25,000	1,600	1,200		2,385	
Tellico Plains, First	159,413	142,509	14,235	5,695	1,720	1,720	1,040
Tevis Springs	22,100	14,665	0	75	370	0	0
Towee Falls	53,875	47,637	0	1,800	0	0	0
Trinity	0	0	0	500	0	0	0
Union Grove	108,039	91,062	10,046	1,440	383	404	582
Union Hall	17,569	17,134	0	795	0	0	0
Union McMinn	330,527	298,804	6,000	4,800	2,600	2,885	0
Unity	29,763	29,763	0	300	0	0	0
Upper Shady Grove	58,269	37,791	0	550	0	0	0
Vonore	726,363	683,935	20,522	20,522	0	0	0
Walnut Grove	85,819	52,617	0	3,902	0	0	100
Watson Chapel	0	0	0	2,000	0	0	0
Westside	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Williamsburg	1,035	0	0	529	0	0	0
<b>SBA Totals</b>	<b>9,988,896</b>	<b>7,830,739</b>	<b>368,758</b>	<b>213,232</b>	<b>114,653</b>	<b>212,111</b>	<b>41,577</b>