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

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Resident Interpreter Volunteer

**Volume 12 January/February, 2023 Number 60**

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**Vacation Bible School Showcase**  
**Tuesday, March 7th**  
6:30 p.m. SBA Office, Madisonville



*Just a Note:* You will have an opportunity to preview 5 great VBS themes and enter to win a 2023 VBS Starter Kit.


Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**2023 Associational Evangelism Rally**  
**January 9-10 6:45 p.m.**  
Hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville**



**Dr. Jeff LaBorg**  
Senior Pastor, Fairview Knox Church, Corryton  
**Conference Preacher**

Sweetwater Baptist Association presents  
**FINANCIAL SEMINAR**  
SBA Office Building, Madisonville  
**Monday, January 16, 2023**  
10:00 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.

**CHURCH FINANCIAL ISSUES:**  
Valuable information for pastors, ministers, financial secretaries, treasurers, bookkeepers, finance and personnel committee members, payroll clerks, church administrative leadership and staff!





**DEBORAH TAYLOR CPA**

Two times to choose from!

**Mark your calendar! Watch for more information!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**  
Monday Evening, Associational Choir  
under direction of Phillip Johnson  
Tuesday Evening, Kenny Evans

**EVERYONE INVITED!**

Sweetwater Baptist Association Family of Churches Welcome

**LAKESIDE**  
**Pastor Gerald Atkins**  
**and wife Vivian**



May the Lord bless these dear pastors and congregations as they share the love of Christ in their communities.



**UNION-MCMINN**  
**Pastor Gabe Brannon**  
**wife Shea, and children**  
**Isla, Uriah and Abram**

**Annual Meeting, 2022**  
Please join us as we pray for the Leadership of the Sweetwater Baptist Association (left to right)



Tony Rutherford, (Director of Missions)  
Darrell Cardin, Moderator 2022-2023 (Pastor, Christianburg Baptist Church)  
Michael McLemore, Outgoing Moderator 2021-2022 (Pastor, 411 Chapel Baptist Church)  
David Lane, Vice-Moderator 2022-2023 (Pastor, Citico Baptist Church)

*A Christmas Message  
From the Staff of the  
Sweetwater  
Baptist Association*

*And ye shall seek me, and find me,  
when ye shall search for me with all your heart.  
-- Jeremiah 29:13*

*Jesus*



*Sharing with you the Glory,  
Wonder and Miracle of the Christ Child.*

*May the blessings of His love  
Shine throughout this Christmas and the New Year.*



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Sweetwater Baptist Association*

*Tony Rutherford*

*Becky Jones*

*Sheri Stephens*

*"...behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." --Luke 2:10-11*



2022

**REPORT FROM ANNUAL MEETING, 2022:** Thank you Bethlehem Baptist Church and Pastor Zad Tomberlin for hosting Messengers as they gathered for the 192<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. *Our Heritage Lives On* was the theme for the 2022 Annual Meeting.



The opening welcome and prayer were presented by Pastor Zad Tomberlin. Wes Jones shared a word of greetings from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and presented a plaque on behalf of churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association that participate in the *Golden Mission Offering*. 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. These men were beloved and faithful servants to this Association and our Lord. They will be sadly missed.



We thank our Moderator, Michael McLemore for his kind spirit and outstanding leadership this past year. In addition, Vice-Moderator Darrell Cardin did an exceptional job in leading the Business Session. Items approved by Messengers included: Darrell Cardin (Pastor of Christianburg) will serve as Moderator and David Lane (Pastor of Citico) was elected as Vice-Moderator for 2022-2023; and a proposed budget of \$203,269.00 was approved.



The Director of Missions *Report* indicated that churches have continued to be on mission here at home and around our world. Mission teams shared the Gospel of Christ in Iowa and Guatemala. Relief efforts, funds and supplies were shared in Tennessee, Kentucky and Ukraine. It was also reported that short-term mission projects are being planned for 2023.

We want to thank Pastors, Messengers and visitors from churches represented that were in attendance for the sessions. We want to thank our host church, Bethlehem Baptist Church and Pastor Zad Tomberlin for the gracious welcome. We also want to thank everyone that served on the program for this year's *Annual Meeting*.

*A Note of Thanks:* Thank you for the plaque and gift (in recognition of 30-years as Administrative Assistant) presented to me at the 2022 Annual Meeting. I am honored, blessed and delight in the joy of our Lord, as I continue to be part of this amazing ministry.



*-Sheri Stephens*

*Thank You*

**HOLY LAND GROUP TOUR for SBA & Yael Adventure** (Hosted by Tony Rutherford): Please pray for the 2023 Israel Tour. This group will travel to Israel January 23-February 1, 2023.



**2023 ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM RALLY:** We want to personally invite you and your church to attend the 2023 Sweetwater Baptist Association Evangelism Rally!



The Evangelism Committee has planned a 2-night *Evangelism Rally* again for 2023! The meeting will be held on **Monday and Tuesday, January 9 & 10!** Both nights will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church** in Madisonville. The meeting will begin at **6:45 p.m.** each evening.

Our conference speaker is **Dr. Jeff LaBorg**. Dr. LaBorg currently serves as Senior Pastor of Fairview Knox Church, Corryton. Dr. LaBorg loves God and loves to do Kingdom work. He leads teaching tours in Israel and has done post-graduate studies through Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is known for his passionate preaching of God's Word, his loving leadership for those he is privileged to pastor and his relentless call for us to be ready as we watch the unfolding of God's Prophetic Word in these Last Days. We are excited to have Dr. LaBorg to come and share with us for both evenings.

We know you will be blessed as special music on Monday evening will be provided by Phillip Johnson and the Associational Choir. Phillip is Minister of Music at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater. We are fortunate to have Phillip to serve as our Associational Music Director.

Then we know you will receive an added blessing as Kenny Evans will provide special music on Tuesday evening. Kenny is a well-known Christian musician/vocalist, evangelist and entertainer in our area, as well as across our country. We know he will be a blessing to you.

Please encourage your church leaders and members to attend the *Evangelism Rally*. You will not want to miss this great event! Everyone is invited to attend. Mark your calendars for **Monday and Tuesday evening, January 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at Notchey Creek Baptist Church!**

**2023 State Evangelism Conference**  
**January 29-30**

New Vision Baptist Church, Murfreesboro



Program Personalities include:

- |               |             |                 |               |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Jamie Dew     | Randy Davis | Roc Collins     | Matthew Greer |
| Barron Martin | Dan Spencer | Stephen Rummage | JJ Washington |

For registration details and more information, visit [www.win.org](http://www.win.org)



**YEC East TN**  
Youth Evangelism  
Conference  
March 24 7:00 p.m.  
March 25 10:00 a.m.



First Baptist Concord, 11704 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN

Additional information available at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)



Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**CONNECT, 2023**  
Youth Rally  
Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.

Additional information available at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) or watch for further details!

**2022 MINUTE BOOKS AND 2023 CALENDARS:**

If your church has **NOT ALREADY** picked up the 2022 *Minutes of the 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association* (that had been previously ordered) or the 2023 *Associational Calendars*, these **WILL BE DELIVERED** by our Director of Missions to churches during early December. **You should find them near your church door or on the porch.**



This year the 2022 *Minutes* were dedicated in memory of former pastors, Rod Miller, Fred Beaty, Kenneth Johnson and Tyson Matoy. The *Minutes of the 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting* are also available on our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com).



We hope Pastors and Church Leadership will use the calendar in planning church events for 2023, and anything we have scheduled would not hinder any of the events at one of the churches. This allows each of us the opportunity to support the ministries that are offered by both the Association and each of our churches.



**FEBRUARY LOVE OFFERING FOR GUATEMALA:**

The churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association have partnered in missions with the Guatemala Baptist Convention for several years. One of the Pastors we work with is Pastor Fred Aguilar Osoria of the Las Mercedes Baptist Church. This church building is in need of three major items.

- (1) Construction of bathrooms
- (2) Covering for existing water well
- (3) Installation/finishing of sanctuary floor

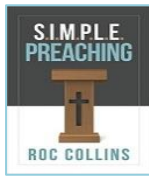


Messengers at this year's Annual Meeting voted to ask the Churches to receive a love offering to help fund these projects. The suggested date for the offering is February 12, 2023. If your church would like to participate in this project, please send your donation/offering to the Association Office. Be sure to indicate that the offering is for *Guatemala, Las Mercedes Project*. We ask that your church prayerfully be part of this ministry.

**Funds received for GUATEMALA MISSION OFFERING**  
**Las Mercedes Baptist Church**

Annual Meeting Offering 2022.....	1332.00
Macedonia Baptist Church.....	200.00

**PREACHERS CLASS IN FEBRUARY:** Notchey Creek Baptist Church in conjunction with the Sweetwater Baptist Association will host Dr. Roc Collins for a **Preachers Class** on **Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**. A light breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m. with conference beginning at 9:00 a.m. Light refreshments will be available during the conference, which will conclude at lunchtime.



All pastors, ministers and preachers (young and old) are invited to attend. This will replace the regular *Winter Bible Study Class* (which is usually held in January). Thus, all *Winter Bible Study* students are encouraged to attend this *Preachers Class*, as well. The total class fee is \$15.00 per person to cover the cost of materials.



During this one-day session, Dr. Collins will share insights from his new book, *S.I.M.P.L.E. Preaching*. The meeting will be held at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Copies of the book will be available on the day of the class.

Registration is encouraged to guarantee a copy of the book. Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at [sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net) or [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) for registration or additional information.

**CHURCH GIFTS:** Total church gifts for October 1<sup>st</sup> through November 23<sup>rd</sup> were \$40,304.21, with total budget expenses of \$26,272.16. Please review the following information, and contact our office if you should have any questions. We thank you for your support of the budget ministries of the Association.



**SBA Church Gifts: October 1 – November 23, 2022**

Church/Mission	Oct. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2022	Total
411 Chapel	1,500.00	0.00		1,500.00
Antioch	25.00	0.00		25.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00		0.00
Bethlehem	1,123.00	1,638.50		2,761.50
Big Creek	0.00	0.00		0.00
Calvary	95.00	102.00		197.00
Cane Creek	200.00	200.00		400.00
Cedar Fork	438.83	747.81		1,186.64
Cedar Valley	803.72	0.00		803.72
Christianburg	0.00	588.32		588.32
Citico	70.10	101.80		171.90
Clifton	0.00	25.00		25.00
Community	70.41	92.58		162.99
Compromise	50.00	50.00		100.00
Conasauga	200.00	0.00		200.00
Concord	0.00	0.00		0.00
Delano	308.04	347.17		655.21
Druid Hill	0.00	100.00		100.00
Ebenezer	54.00	42.00		96.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00		0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1,500.00	1,500.00		3,000.00
Fellowship	136.55	219.97		356.52
Glenlock	334.00	334.00		668.00
Gregory's Chapel	100.00	100.00		200.00
Hopewell Springs	0.00	0.00		0.00
Howards Chapel	0.00	0.00		0.00
Island Creek	300.00	300.00		600.00
Lakeside	0.00	0.00		0.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	0.00		1,000.00

Lower Chilhowee	0.00	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madisonville, First	416.67	416.67	833.34
Maple Springs	750.00	0.00	750.00
Miller's Chapel	100.00	100.00	200.00
Mt. Calvary	60.08	70.50	130.58
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	679.70	584.55	1,264.25
Murray's	1,856.14	0.00	1,856.14
New Bethany	295.61	496.45	792.06
New Macedonia	140.00	140.00	280.00
New Providence	807.73	0.00	807.73
New Zion	150.00	0.00	150.00
North Sweetwater	90.08	102.45	192.53
Notchey Creek	646.91	720.45	1,367.36
Oak Grove	782.48	0.00	782.48
Oakland	100.00	0.00	100.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00	0.00	0.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paint Rock	110.00	110.00	220.00
Piney Grove	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Poplar Bluff	179.10	0.00	179.10
Reed Springs	2,483.49	0.00	2,483.49
Rocky Springs	200.00	400.00	600.00
Rural Vale	318.22	567.95	886.17
Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shelton Grove	0.00	132.66	132.66
Shoal Creek	0.00	282.00	282.00
South Madisonville	100.00	100.00	200.00
Sweetwater, First	350.00	350.00	700.00
Tellico	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tellico, First	459.00	524.00	983.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00
Towee Falls	150.00	150.00	300.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	240.00	0.00	240.00
Union Hall	58.00	0.00	58.00
Union McMinn	400.00	400.00	800.00
Unity	0.00	100.00	100.00
Upper Shady Grove	0.00	50.00	50.00
Vonore	1,342.76	1,711.37	3,054.13
Walnut Grove	1,859.00	0.00	1,859.00
Watson Chapel	166.67	0.00	166.67
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	65.20	31.76	96.96
Miscellaneous/TBC	782.00	782.00	1,564.00
Misc AM	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc Interest	21.63	23.13	44.76
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,469.12</b>	<b>14,835.09</b>	<b>40,304.21</b>

**HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS, 2023:**

Just a reminder to our pastors and youth leaders! Information regarding the Sweetwater Baptist Association, *High School Scholarship* program is available for a limited time online on our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) or can be picked up at the Associational Office. Scholarship applications for 2023 must be completed and returned to the Association Office by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please help us get this word out to our students by announcing this to your church.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**      **BIBLE NEWS:**

Vacation Bible School time is right around the corner! And Vacation Bible School Jump-Start Kits and VBS materials for 2023 are now available for your church.



concrete for the front and back porches has been poured. Up next is grading, counter tops, gutters, completion of porches, and shelving! The *Monroe/McMinn County Isaiah 117* house is located at the intersection of County Road 517 and 519 in Englewood. What a blessing this home will be to the children of Monroe and McMinn counties when it is completed and open!

**VBS 2023 SHOWCASE**  
 March 7 @ 6:30 pm  
 SBA Office  
 Preview 5 Great Themes  
 Enter to Win a VBS 2023 Starter Kit

With that in mind, new plans have been made as we plan for the Sweetwater Baptist Association, VBS 2023! A "VBS Showcase" will be held on Tuesday evening, March 7<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office in Madisonville and will begin at 6:30 p.m.

We will have 5 different VBS themes on display at the Associational Office from 5 different companies. We will have Sampler Kits for each of the following themes: (1) *Ready, Set, Move!* (2) *Twists & Turns* (3) *Hero Hotline* (4) *Stellar..Shine Jesus' Light* (5) *Keepers of the Kingdom*

Pastors and VBS Directors are invited to see the options that are available for their church. Ordering information for each theme will be available. In addition to the showcase night, the display will remain set up in the SBA Office for about a month, so others from the churches can come in during office hours and see the themes. Then at the end of the month, we will have a drawing to give away the VBS sampler kits.

As you organize, promote, plan and conclude your VBS, please remember that the Association offers the "VBS Link-up" program. This allows churches to donate leftover materials and supplies and the materials are then passed on to other churches to use for free. (Thank you to each church who participates each year in this program.)

Also, please let us remind you that no matter what theme you choose for your church, please complete your VBS report at the end of your Vacation Bible School. It is quick and easy! Just go online at <https://vbs.lifeway.com/vbs> and provide the required information. It is important to complete the report regardless of the curriculum used. This info helps to better serve your church and to celebrate what God has done in our Association, in Tennessee and around the world!

The Associational staff and VBS team are available and happy to help you with 2023 Vacation Bible School materials, workers, and resources. Please contact the SBA Office at 423-442-6604 for more information or if we can be of assistance in any way. --Bryan and Kim Williamson, *Associational VBS Directors*

**ISAIAH 117 HOUSE:** Just an update on the *Isaiah 117* House for Monroe/McMinn County. The tile floors have been installed in all bathrooms. The vanities and cabinets have been set and counter-top templates have been completed. The water meter has been installed and a ditch has been dug for the water line. The HVAC installation is complete. The



**Individual, Marriage & Family Counsel**  
**Wonderful Counselor**  
*Tabitha Woodby*  
 The UPPER Room Christian Counseling Center  
 865.414.3269

**SBA WMU/Ladies Ministry News**

Thank you to South Madisonville for being such gracious hosts for our November meeting. (Wasn't the food great!)



Special thanks to Tabitha Woodby and *Jehovah-Jireh Ministries* for sharing about the work they do in



the Sweetwater area to feed hungry people. And thank you, Ladies, for your generous donations, not only to *Jehovah-Jireh*, but to the SBA Coat Drive as well. If anyone is interested in more information about *Jehovah-Jireh*, you can find them on Facebook or contact them at 423-519-5159.

Looking forward, we are planning for the next meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Notchey Creek. We hope to see you there. --Rachel Thompson, *Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director*

Tennessee WMU  
**Save the Date**  
 MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER  
 MARCH 16-18, 2023  
 BRENTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH  
 BRENTWOOD, TN  
 TNWMU.ORG

**STAND FIRM**  
 REGISTER NOW  
 Cost: \$200 per couple  
 (includes 2023-2024 Bibles)  
 Register online at [www.tnbaptist.org/stand-firm](http://www.tnbaptist.org/stand-firm)  
 or by mail at:  
 TNBMU, 1414  
 REGISTRATION BEGINS: FEBRUARY 10, 2023  
 You must have 2023-2024 Bibles to receive the gift!  
 (Use by couples participating with TNBMU. Not valid for couples who registered in 2022)

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents  
**2023 Bivocational Pastor's & Wives Retreat**  
**January 26-28**  
**Music Road Hotel & Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, TN**  
 Additional information: [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)

**TBMB Acts 2:17:** Pastors, you are invited to be part of the *Group Listening Session* that will be held Monday morning, **February 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.** at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office building in Madisonville. This is part of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board *Acts 2:17 Initiative* to determine the direction for the Tennessee Baptist Convention following the 150th anniversary in 2024. Please mark this date on your calendar and make plans to attend.



haircuts in local homeless communities. All our services are free of charge. We are under contract to buy a piece of property that will be our forever home. We plan to build a couple of tiny houses or sheds on the property. We need the support of the community and local churches to help us meet the needs of others. I would love to meet with church leaders or speak to your church or organization about *Fresh Start Ministries*. If willing to talk with me or have me speak at your church, please contact me (Mike Dotson) at 423-836-3235

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents  
**Church Administration Conference**  
**April 17-18, 2023**



Judson Baptist Church, 4900 Franklin Pike, Nashville, TN 37220  
**Early Bird Registration:** \$99 per person by March 17, 2023  
**Cost after March 17, 2023:** \$130 per person  
 NO refunds after April 1, 2023

A two-day conference designed to help with legal and accounting areas in churches, associations, and non-profit entities. For more information please contact Heather Beard at 615.371.2061 or [hbeard@tnbaptist.org](mailto:hbeard@tnbaptist.org) or visit [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**Monday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.**  
 Hosted by **Oak Grove Baptist Church**

**Oak Grove to host Executive Board Meeting**

According to SBA Constitution and Bylaws, Executive Board Members are:

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

<b>Disaster Relief Funds</b>	
Received October 1st to date	
<b>Florida Hurricane Victims</b>	
Natchey Creek.....	3007.00
Seekers Sunday School Class, Vonore.....	500.00
Steekee Creek.....	500.00
Anonymous.....	100.00
<b>Kentucky Coat Drive</b>	
Anonymous.....	100.00

## ORDINATION

On November 13, **411 CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH** ordained **Edward Dawson** as a Deacon. *(Pictured Pastor Michael McLemore and Edward Dawson).*



## CHURCH NEWS

### MADISONVILLE, FIRST

We are searching for a full-time Worship Pastor to lead our blended worship services which include sanctuary choir, worship band and praise team. For more information, visit our website at [www.fbcmadisonville.org](http://www.fbcmadisonville.org). Resumes can be emailed to Pastor Chris Moore, at [chris@fbcmadisonville.org](mailto:chris@fbcmadisonville.org).



### POPLAR BLUFF

Please join Hosts, Roman Hamilton and Paul Chapman on a weekly podcast called "Truth Revival." New episodes are released every Tuesday at 10:00 am.



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

### SHELTON GROVE

We are having Revival services beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday begins at 6:00 pm and weeknight services are at 7:00 pm. Evangelists will be Tommy Self and Dwayne Leming.



### **DISASTER RELIEF FOR KENTUCKY:**

A trailer load of coats, jackets, sweaters, gloves, scarves, etc. have been delivered to the Rehoboth Bible Baptist Church in Jackson, Kentucky! Thank you to the many individuals and churches who responded in a great way to the devastating needs for the people of Kentucky. The pastor at Rehoboth Church shared that these items will be sorted and distributed to the 1800+ hurting homes in the valley. Then they will branch out to other homes in surrounding communities where families suffered great loss when their lives were impacted by the damaging floods. Please continue to pray for these who have lost so much.



### **A MESSAGE FROM MIKE DOTSON, FRESH START MINISTRIES:**

Fresh Start is a non-profit ministry to aid the less fortunate in Monroe and surrounding counties. We assist with clothing, food and household items. We offer a "shower bus" and



### **SWEETWATER, FIRST**

We are accepting resumes for the position of Full-Time Senior Pastor. Resumes can be mailed or email (emailed preferred) to:

[Pastorsearchfbcsweet@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorsearchfbcsweet@gmail.com) or 303 Wright St, Sweetwater, TN 37874. A full job description can be found on the SBA website, under the Churches tab.

**NOW  
ACCEPTING  
RESUMES**

### **UNION MCMINN**

We will have 12 and up youth basketball: Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>.

We will also have a UMBC Men's Conference on Feb. 10-11<sup>th</sup> and a UMBC Women's Conference on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.

COMING

SOON!

### **YOUTH COMMITTEE NEWS:**



### **BETHLEHEM**

- **Christmas Consignment for Missions**  
December 10, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Benefits Monroe/McMinn Isaiah 117 House

### **BIG CREEK**

- **Christmas Program: "Interview with Mr. Scrooge"**  
December 18, 6:30 pm

### **CONCORD**

- **Drive-Thru Nativity**, December 9-10, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

### **FAIRVIEW TABERNACLE**

- **Christmas Musical Drama: "With a Name Like This"**  
December 11, 9:00 am & 10:30 am
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Lord's Supper**  
December 24, 5:00 pm

### **ISLAND CREEK**

- **Drive-Thru Nativity**, December 9-10, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Rain Date: December 11

### **LAKESIDE**

- **Christmas Program: "New Star"**, December 18, 6:00 pm

### **NEW BETHANY**

- **Christmas Cantata**, December 11, Morning Service
- **Christmas Programs**, December 18  
Children: Morning Service; Adults: Evening Service

### **NEW PROVIDENCE**

- **Gift of Joy Gift Shop (free)**, Dec 10, 9:00 am  
Fellowship Hall (451 New Providence Rd)  
Children can shop for gifts for family & themselves
- **Christmas Program: "A Cricket County Christmas Feud"**  
December 18, 6:00 pm

### **NOTCHEY CREEK**

- **Adult Christmas Program**, December 11, 10:45 am & 6:00 pm
- **Candlelight Service**, December 21, 7:00 pm

### **RURAL VALE**

- **Christmas Program**, December 18, 6:00 pm

### **SHELTON GROVE**

- **Christmas Program: "It's Christmas"**  
December 18, 6:00 pm

### **SHOAL CREEK**

- **Christmas Program**, December 10, 6:00 pm  
December 11, 11:00 am & 6:00 pm

### **SWEETWATER, FIRST**

- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**, December 24, 7:00 pm

### **UNION GROVE**

- **Adult/Youth Christmas Musical/Program**  
December 17, 6:00 pm, December 18, 11:00 am
- **Children's Christmas Program**, December 18, 6:00 pm
- **Christmas Eve Service**, December 24, 6:00 pm
- **New Year's Eve Get-Together**  
December 31, 8:00 pm till Midnight

### **UNION MCMINN**

- **Christmas Program**, December 24, 6:30 pm

### **WESTSIDE**

- **Christmas for Kids (free)**, December 17, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Parents/Guardians come & pick out gifts for your little ones.

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**696 Anderson Street  
Madisonville, TN 37354PRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit 11 NP  
Madisonville, TN  
37354**ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2022-2023****MODERATOR**  
DARRELL CARDIN**VICE MODERATOR**  
DAVID LANE**Associational Council**  
Officers & Committee Chairman**Committee on Nominations**  
David Jones, Chairman**Constitution Committee**  
Albert Graser, Chairman**Evangelism Committee**  
Steven McDonald, Chairman**Budget/Finance Committee**  
Joe Samples, Chairman**Disaster Relief Director**  
Jim Jollay**Mission Committee**  
Jim Swabe, Chairman**Personnel Committee**  
Shannon Croft, Chairperson**Scholarship Committee**  
Howie White, Chairman**Trustees**  
Pat McGinnis, Chairman**Music Director**  
Phillip Johnson**Youth Council**  
Josh Croft, Chairman**WMU/Ladies Director**  
Rachel Thompson**Vacation Bible School Directors**  
Bryan & Kim Williamson**NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION****Welcome New Pastors**

Dr. Gerald Atkins..... Lakeside      Gabe Brannon ..... Union-McMinn

**Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:**

411 Chapel; North Sweetwater (Homecoming); Glenlock; Old Sweetwater; Clifton; Cane Creek; Community; Christianburg; Mt Zion; Island Creek (Ordination); Concord; Cedar Valley; New Bethany; Notchey Creek; Gregory's Chapel; South Madisonville (Missionary); Hopewell Springs; Citico; Ebenezer; SBA Picnic; Druid Hill; Beauty's Chapel; Murrays; Lower Chilhowee; Madisonville First; Compromise; Lakeside; South Madisonville (Homecoming); Mt. Calvary; Fairview Tabernacle (Revival); New Macedonia; Howards Chapel (Founder's Day); Long Ridge; Miller's Chapel; Oak Grove; Antioch; Cedar Fork (Revival); Paint Rock; Rocky Springs; Piney Grove; Shelton's Grove; Conasauga; Old Pond Hill; Rural Vale; Union Grove; 411 Chapel (Ordination); Tevis Springs; Faith Promise (Lizzy's Baptism); Oakland; New Zion; Reed Springs; New Providence

**Please pray for our churches without pastors:**

Cane Creek, Murrays, New Zion, Sweetwater First


**SWEET WATER**  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
**Sweetwater Baptist Association****Check Out Our Website**[www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)*Visit us on Facebook***SBA Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

**Upcoming Events/News**

"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power and of love." —2 Timothy 1:7"

January 9-10 Evangelism Conference, Notchey Creek, 6:45 p.m.  
January 16 Financial Seminary, SBA Office, 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
January 26-28 TBMB Bivocational Ministers & Wives Retreat, *Pigeon Forge*  
January 29-30 State Evangelism Conference, *New Vision, Murfreesboro*February 25 Preacher's Conference, *Notchey Creek led by Dr. Roc Collins*  
February 27 Acts 2:17 TBMB, *SBA Office*, 10:00 a.m.  
February 27 Youth Committee Meeting, *SBA Office*, 6:30 p.m.March 1 High School Scholarship Applications due, *SBA Office*  
March 5-12 Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
March 7 VBS Showcase, *SBA Office*, 6:30 p.m.March 13 Scholarship Committee Meeting, *SBA Office*, 6:30 p.m.  
March 16-18 TBMB WMU Missions Get-Together, *Brentwood*  
March 24-25 YEC, East TN, *First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville*  
March 26-April 1 *Spring Break, Monroe County Schools*April 3 Missions Committee Meeting, *SBA Office*, 6:30 p.m.  
April 7 Good Friday      April 9 Easter  
April 17 Executive Board Meeting, *Oak Grove*, 7:00 p.m.**Happy  
New Year!****♥ HAPPY  
Valentine's  
DAY ♥****happy  
Easter**Please contact the SBA Office at  
423-442-6604 or email  
[sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net)  
or [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) if  
you plan to be part of...**2023 MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**

- Guatemala, June 20-27
- Iowa, July 15-22

Limited spots and locations available.

**W-2 and 1099 Forms**IRS Forms available upon request  
at the SBA OfficeNewsletter: The next issue of the  
Newsletter will be March/April.PLEASE NOTE: Photos are  
taken at all associational  
meetings and events. These  
may be used by the Association  
in newsletters, on our website  
or social media sites.*The Association Office will  
be closed in observance of  
the Christmas holidays.  
We are thankful to the  
Association for allowing us  
this time to spend with  
family and friends.*

— The Associational Staff

**SBA PASTORS CONFERENCE: Monday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.**

- No Pastor's Conference in Month of December
- Pastors Conference will resume on January 9<sup>th</sup>

**The Upper Room Christian Counseling**  
**Macy Small, M.A.****112 Key Kile Road, Sweetwater, TN 37874**  
**865.414.3269****WMU/Ladies Group**

Please check the Activities Director at 442-3990 for

**Madisonville Health & Rehab – Nursing Home Birthday Cake Schedule**

<b>January</b>	Vanore	<b>February</b>	Rocky Springs
<b>March</b>	New Providence	<b>April</b>	Oak Grove
<b>May</b>	Concord	<b>June</b>	Madisonville FBC
<b>July</b>	Lakeside	<b>August</b>	411 Chapel
<b>September</b>	Mt. Zion	<b>October</b>	Notchey Creek
<b>November</b>	Bethlehem	<b>December</b>	New Bethany

