

# The MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Churches on Mission Together"  
Celebrating 188 years, 1830 – 2018



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

### TONY RUTHERFORD

Director of Missions  
tonyrutherford@bellsouth.net

### SHERI STEPHENS

Ministry Assistant  
sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net

### BECKY JONES

Ministry Assistant  
beckyjones@bellsouth.net

### STAR ATKINS

Office Volunteer  
423-442-6604 (office)

### SVITLANA SELF

Resident Interpreter Volunteer  
423-442-6605 (fax)

Volume 7

January/February, 2018

Number 36

Sweetwater Baptist Association

## 2018 Associational Evangelism Conference

Monday, January 29

6:45 p.m.



Conference Preacher

### Dr. Roc Collins

Director of Evangelism  
Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

Hosted by  
Notchey Creek  
Baptist Church  
Madisonville

Special Music by  
SBA Choir  
under direction of  
**PHILLIP  
JOHNSON**  
Associational Music Director

Everyone Welcome!

Sweetwater Baptist Association

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## 2018 VBS CLINIC



★ Monday, April 9

Open House 6:30 p.m.

Conferences 7:00 p.m.

Training for all VBS age levels

Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville

VBS Clinic at  
Rocky  
Springs

## ★ Sunday, April 8: Kids Choir Practice

Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville

- Children/Youth (school age) are invited to be part of the **Associational VBS Kids Choir Practice**
- Group has only **ONE** practice scheduled on **Sunday, April 8th 2:00 p.m.** at Rocky Springs in Madisonville
- Group will perform at the VBS Clinic on **MONDAY** evening, April 9<sup>th</sup>
- Children/Youth who attend practice and participate in the Clinic performance will receive free VBS t-shirt at VBS Clinic

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
Family of Churches Welcomes



Pastor James Mason and wife Nancy  
Shady Grove Baptist Church

Our prayers are with this dear pastor, his family and this congregation as they work to share Jesus in their community.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

## 2018 MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- Guatemala Mission Project... June 19-26 Youth Projects
- Guatemala Mission Project... September 18-25 Adult Evangelism Project

For additional information or for applications for upcoming mission project, please contact SBA Office at 442-6604

Island Creek to  
host Executive  
Board Meeting

## Sweetwater Baptist Association Executive Board Meeting

Monday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.

Island Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville

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

*Just a Note:* LifeWay's 2018 Vacation Bible School Sampler Kits are HERE! Please call the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office at 442-6604 to reserve your kit or stop by to pick up a kit for your church.

# Director of Missions



## Pastors: 12 Things to Remember:

Sunday will fulfill the purpose God has for your life. He called you to present Him to your congregation. What a joy and what a privilege! Dr. Joe McKeever shared an article that reminds pastors of the Sunday worship experience. The article is titled "The Top 12 Things for a Pastor to Remember just before Sunday Morning Worship." I want to share a portion of his article with you.

1. **Keep saying to yourself, "It's not about me."** Jesus is the Savior, the Redeemer, the Lord, the Master, the Beginning and the End. Therefore, it is about Him.
2. **Relax, and remember to smile.** This is the hour you have planned for...delivering God's Word. You have fallen in love with Him. Share that love!
3. **Remember to worship.** We have come to worship. Join the congregation as they worship and allow that worship to overflow in your preaching.
4. **Lead your congregation in prayer.** This prayer should be real, so tell the Lord what you and the congregation need today. Pray positively knowing God can answer and bless.
5. **Trust God to do more than you have planned or asked. Never forget the Lord wants this worship service to succeed more than you ever will.** His desire is to bring people to the Light.
6. **Expect the unexpected, even welcome it.** God loves variety and delights in surprising us. The unexpected event might be heaven-sent.
7. **Do not undermine your effectiveness by constantly second-guessing yourself.** You have learned to read the faces of your people as you preach. Sometimes that can be misleading. Stay focused on the gospel, not the faces.
8. **Do not let yourself be tricked into discarding today's sermon for a message you feel more comfortable with.** Stay with the plan, preacher. Trust the Lord. He walked with you all week and has not abandoned you this morning.
9. **Do not grade yourself on how well you did today.** You are not your master, not your own professor and most definitely not your own grader. A servant stands or falls to his own master, Romans 14:4. This is the work of the Spirit. You are only His instrument.
10. **Trust Him.** You would be surprised what He can do with nothing. He inspired a nation with a shepherd boy and a sling. He can do something with you and me, too. If we are willing to be small enough.
11. **When they compliment you, at the conclusion of the service, be cool.** They are not saying "that was the greatest

sermon ever." They are being nice. Just say "thank you" and let it rest.

12. **Resist the temptation to beat yourself up over the poor job you did.** We all have had that experience. Get over it. Believe me, God can use our failures to do something great. You have another opportunity to plan for and the congregation will give you grace.

I would never begin to tell someone how or what to preach. That is up to the One who has called and gifted you. However, please allow me to encourage you to enjoy your journey. The task can be so overwhelming that we forget to rejoice in being His. I pray that you enjoy preaching more in 2018 than ever before.

---Tony Rutherford

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY:** The Sweetwater Baptist Association wants to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Bobby Lawson, who served as pastor of churches in Monroe and Loudon counties. Through the years, Brother Bobby served on many Committees of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. He faithfully attended the Monday Morning Pastor's Conference, until his health began to fail. He was loved and respected by the people of the Association. He was a great man of God, and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his dear family.



## Tennessee Baptist Convention Bivocational Ministers and Wives Retreat

January 26-January 28, 2018

Music Road Resort Hotel and Convention Center  
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Cost \$225 per couple, covers hotel & meals

Register online or download registration form at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)

*Be Refreshed  
Acts 3:19-20*



Macy Small, M.A.  
112 Key Kile Road,  
Sweetwater, TN 37874  
865.414.3269  
[www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org)

Happy New Year!  
A new year, a time to reflect back on lessons learned, and then look forward with hope.

## Individual, Marriage & Family Counseling

For helps in obtaining goals for the New Year, call **THE UPPER ROOM CHRISTIAN COUNSELING CENTER. Macy Small, M.A.**





**2018 ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM CONFERENCE:** We invite you and your church to join us for the **2018 Sweetwater Baptist Association Evangelism Conference**. The meeting will be held on **Monday, January 29nd**. The meeting will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church** in Madisonville, and will begin at **6:45 p.m.**

Our conference speaker is **Dr. Roc Collins**, Director of Evangelism, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. He is the former Senior Pastor of Indian Springs Baptist Church, Kingsport.

Special music will be provided by the Associational Choir, under the direction of Phillip Johnson. We invite members of your Church Choir to be part of the Associational Choir. Please stop by the SBA Office to pick up a copy of the practice music "cd".

Please encourage your church leaders and members to attend the Evangelism Conference. We look forward to seeing you on **Monday evening January 29th at Notchey Creek Baptist Church!**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The Executive Board of the Sweetwater Baptist Association will meet on April 16th, at 7:00 p.m. In order to make the meeting more accessible to all attending, the April Executive Board Meeting will be held at the Island Creek Baptist Church in Madisonville.



**Island Creek Baptist Church to host  
April Executive Board Meeting  
April 16th, 7:00 p.m.**

Upcoming items to be presented at the April Executive Board Meeting include: Director of Missions, Officers and Committee Chairmen Reports.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS and ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING:** March 4-11 is the suggested date for the *Week of Prayer for North American Missionaries and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering*. Here are some frequently asked questions regarding the *Week of Prayer and Offering*.



**100%**  
of your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering\* supports North American missionaries.

**WHAT IS THE ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING?** The offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). In 1934, it was named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a bold mission advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$1 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals.

**HOW ARE THE GIFTS USED?** Every dollar given goes to train and resource more than 5,000 missionaries involved in church planting and compassion ministries who share the life-transforming gospel of Jesus Christ across the United States, Canada and their territories. For more information visit [namb.net/annualreport](http://namb.net/annualreport).

**WHAT AND WHEN IS THE WEEK OF PRAYER?** The annual Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® is officially the first Sunday in March through the second Sunday. Your church may choose to observe the Week of Prayer during that time or at a date that is best for your congregation.

**WHAT IS THIS YEAR'S THEME, SCRIPTURE VERSE AND NATIONAL GOAL?** The 2018 theme is "On Mission: Here and Now". The Scripture verse is "We must not love with words or speech, but with truth and action" (1 John 3:18)." The national goal is \$70 million.

**WHERE CAN I FIND PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES?** Offering envelopes, posters and prayer guides are mailed annually to churches from each WMU/convention office in early January. Videos, digital and printable resources are available online at [AnnieArmstrong.com](http://AnnieArmstrong.com). A planning guide with DVD/CD ROM format is mailed annually by the North American Mission Board to churches. If you would like a copy and have not received it by January 15, please email [aaeo@namb.net](mailto:aaeo@namb.net) or call 800-634-2462.

*(Information taken from Annie Armstrong Planning Guide for Pastors and Mission Leaders and on-line at [anniearmstrong.com](http://anniearmstrong.com).)*



**WMU and LADIES MINISTRY:**

**SBA,  
WMU/Ladies  
Ministry News**

Thank you again to Pastor Richard Parker and the ladies of First Baptist Church, Tellico Plains for hosting the November WMU Meeting.

Thank you to everyone that attended and had a part in the program. A special thank you to our guest speaker, Joe Sorah for sharing work of Compassion Ministries. This was a wonderful opportunity to see and learn about missions first-hand. We had 8 churches represented with 76 in attendance. Our offering for the evening was \$195.00 and will be used for the Christmas Fund/Missionary Kid Fund.

The next WMU Meeting will be held on May 7, 2018, and will be hosted by North Sweetwater Baptist Church. We look forward to seeing you at that meeting.

Birthday cakes for East Tennessee Healthcare are to be provided by the Ladies Ministry Groups as follows:

- |               |                |               |                    |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| January ..... | Vonore         | February..... | Rocky Springs      |
| March .....   | New Providence | April .....   | Oak Grove          |
| May .....     | Island Creek   | June.....     | Madisonville First |

If you have any questions about the Birthday Cake Ministry, please contact Janice Snyder, Activities Director at East Tennessee Health Care at 423-442-3990.

My prayer is that we may have a greater desire for missions in 2018. . Love in Christ, *Charlotte Hollinghead*, Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director



**MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER AND CONNECTION 2018: is March 16-18** in Gatlinburg. Additional information regarding registration and lodging is available online at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org).



**GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT:**

Plans for Sweetwater Baptist Association mission projects in Guatemala for 2018 have been confirmed. Projects have been approved for June 19-26 for Bethlehem, Notchey Creek, Tellico and Vonore. Tentative plans call for youth to serve on these mission teams, in addition to adult volunteers. Many mission volunteers will be returning to continue to serve in ministry work in the same locations of Guatemala where work was begun by teams in 2015.



An adult evangelism project has also been approved for September 19-26. Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association if you or your church is interested in serving on a revival mission team in Guatemala in 2018.

Mission volunteers must have a valid passport and any required vaccinations from their doctor or health department. The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board requires all participants to attend an orientation training, as well as *More-Life*, cross-cultural, security, travel safety, and child protection training. Much of the training is available online or at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office.

p.m. at Rocky Springs in Madisonville. The group will perform at the VBS Clinic on Monday evening, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Children and Youth who attend practice and participate in the Clinic performance will receive a free VBS t-shirt at the VBS Clinic on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

If your church does not have Vacation Bible School, we encourage you to prayerfully reconsider. Please remember that we have the Link-up Plan, where churches recycle the current LifeWay theme material and decorations here at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office during the summer. In addition, we want to help all churches as you plan, promote, and prepare for Vacation Bible School.

If your church needs any assistance with VBS for 2018, please feel free to contact the SBA Office at 442-6604 for more information. We look forward to seeing you and your team of VBS workers at the **VBS Clinic on April 10<sup>th</sup>**.

**SBA – 2018 VBS CLINIC Schedule**

- **Sunday, April 8 2:00 p.m.,** Rocky Springs, Madisonville  
**Kids Choir Practice for VBS Clinic**
- **Monday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.** Rocky Springs, Madisonville  
**Open House, 7:00 p.m. VBS Conferences**

Put this on your calendar!



**2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SAMPLER KITS: LifeWay's 2018 GAME ON! Jump-Start Kits are now available at the SBA Office.** Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 to reserve a kit for your church or stop by the SBA Office to pick up a kit for your church.

**GAME ON! Gearing UP for Life's Big Game** invites kids to grab their megaphones, lace up their cleats and tune up their instruments! It's time to root from the stands, march in the band, hustle on field; the time is now-it's Game On! God has already given us everything we need. He's given us His Word as the playbook. He has given us Himself, which gives us a reason to celebrate. He wants us to join His team, to train hard, to celebrate our salvation and encourage one another. Get in the spirit today with Game On VBS! The VBS Motto is *Gear up! Get Ready! Game On!* with Scripture focus from 2 Peter 1:3.

The Biblical Story/Point for each session is as follows:

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) The Lost Sheep          | <i>Jesus Cares About Me</i>   |
| (2) Resurrection of Lazarus | <i>Jesus Gives Me Hope</i>    |
| (3) Thomas Believed         | <i>Jesus Helps Me Believe</i> |
| (4) John Wrote About Jesus  | <i>Jesus Loves Me</i>         |
| (5) Paul and Silas          | <i>Jesus Gives Me Joy</i>     |

If you have not used LifeWay Vacation Bible School materials and supplies in the past, we encourage you to look at the Jump-Start Kits. We will be happy to help you with your 2018 Vacation Bible School team, resources and supplies.

In the next few weeks, we will have all materials, t-shirts, supplies and resources available at the Association office, as well. We will be happy to help you with your 2018 order for materials and supplies, or even a team of VBS workers. We are praying for our churches and for your Vacation Bible Schools.

LifeWay's 2018 VBS Sampler Kits are available at the SBA Office. Please call 442-6604 to reserve your kit or stop by the SBA Office to pick up a kit for your church.

**Guatemala Missions Information Meeting for Tellico Area Churches**

**Tuesday**  
**January 30, 2018, 6:30 pm**  
**New Providence Baptist Church**

**Anyone interested in participating in a 2018 Guatemala Mission Trip is invited to attend.**

**We are hoping to form a "Tellico Team", however, anyone is welcome to attend and learn about the mission opportunities in Guatemala.**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 2018:** It is a good time now to plan for Vacation Bible School, 2018. We want to help you get started, so please mark your calendars with the following dates!

The **Associational Vacation Bible School Clinic** will be held on **Monday evening, April 9<sup>th</sup>**. Open House to view rooms, decorations, etc. will begin at 6:30 p.m. and Training Conferences will begin at 7:00 p.m. **The VBS Clinic** will be hosted again this year by **Rocky Springs Baptist in Madisonville**, so please be sure and mark your calendar with these times, dates and location! All Vacation Bible School leaders, teachers, and helpers are encouraged to attend.

Just a reminder...**Children and Youth are invited to be part of the Associational VBS Childrens/Youth Choir.** This group has only ONE practice scheduled. The practice will be on **Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>**, at 2:00



**Forms W2 and 1099  
are available at the  
Associational Office.**

**We are happy to provide these tax forms for our churches.**

# FINANCIAL ISSUES

## Tennessee Baptist Mission Board Church Financial Seminars

- **January 16, 2018, 6:30-8:30**  
Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland
- **January 18, 2018, 6:30-8:30**  
First Baptist Church, Kingston

### REMINDER FOR CHURCH TREASURERS:

The IRS requires charitable organizations (including churches) to provide written receipts for individual donations of \$250.00 or more. For amounts less than \$250.00, a written receipt is not required. However, it is recommended that churches provide an annual itemized statement to each contributor, regardless of the amount of donation. The statement should cover the January-December tax year and given to the contributor in a timely manner for use in filing income tax returns. Written receipts should include the following information:



- 1) Name and address of the church;
- 2) Date and amount of each donation;
- 3) Statement that no goods or services were given to individual making donation.

**CHURCH GIFTS:** We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have shared with our office. These gifts support the various budget opportunities provided by the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Total church gifts for October 1<sup>st</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup> were \$46,592.77; with total budget expenses of \$40,219.83. Please note, the following report reflects only church gifts received through December 23, 2017. Gifts received after December 23<sup>rd</sup> will appear in the next printed *SBA Church Gift Report*.



Please review this information, and contact our office if you should have any questions. Again, we thank you for your support of the budget ministries of the Association.

### SBA Church Gifts: October 1 – December 23, 2017

Church/Mission	Oct., 2017	Nov., 2017	Dec., 2017	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Altoona	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Antioch	50.00	25.00	0.00	75.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	866.00	980.00	997.00	2843.00
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary	74.19	105.31	86.40	265.90
Cane Creek	200.00	200.00	200.00	600.00
Cedar Fork	396.41	546.28	503.65	1446.34

Cedar Valley	736.24	0.00	827.07	1563.31
Christianburg	0.00	294.14	0.00	294.14
Citico	73.65	72.80	66.35	212.80
Clifton	25.00	25.00	25.00	75.00
Community	44.25	47.25	37.77	129.27
Compromise	50.00	50.00	50.00	150.00
Conasauga	200.00	0.00	200.00	400.00
Concord	401.58	0.00	0.00	401.58
Druid Hills	0.00	60.00	0.00	60.00
Ebenezer	84.00	77.00	65.00	226.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1128.09	1285.39	1117.27	3530.75
Fellowship	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Glenlock	0.00	200.00	400.00	600.00
Gregory's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	300.00
Hilltop	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hopewell Springs	186.00	188.00	162.00	536.00
Howards Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Island Creek	300.00	300.00	600.00	1200.00
Lakeside	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Long Ridge	0.00	1000.00	0.00	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madisonville, First	416.67	416.67	416.67	1250.01
Maple Springs	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Miller's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	300.00
Mt. Calvary	119.00	0.00	172.00	291.00
Mt. Isabella	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Mt. Zion	657.44	512.31	487.17	1656.92
Murray's	2596.00	0.00	0.00	2596.00
New Bethany	338.46	313.38	323.29	975.13
New Macedonia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Providence	404.00	300.00	544.00	1248.00
North Sweetwater	101.78	95.39	110.00	307.17
Notchey Creek	436.70	436.70	436.70	1310.10
Oak Grove	307.50	310.55	351.12	969.17
Oakland	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paint Rock	110.00	110.00	110.00	330.00
Piney Grove	400.00	0.00	200.00	600.00
Poplar Bluff	279.00	252.00	272.40	803.40
Reed Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rocky Springs	900.00	0.00	800.00	1700.00
Rural Vale	258.21	389.76	362.43	1010.40
Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shelton Grove	0.00	294.88	0.00	294.88
Shoal Creek	0.00	208.00	0.00	208.00
South Madisonville	100.00	100.00	100.00	300.00
Sweetwater, First	350.00	350.00	350.00	1050.00
Tellico	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tellico Plains, First	391.00	600.00	432.00	1423.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Towee Falls	150.00	150.00	150.00	450.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	120.00	120.00	120.00	360.00
Union Hall	40.00	38.00	37.00	115.00
Union McMinn	400.00	400.00	400.00	1200.00
Unity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Upper Shady Grove	50.00	0.00	100.00	150.00
Vonore	1932.16	2227.56	1652.11	5811.83
Walnut Grove	0.00	159.84	118.83	278.67
Watson Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	116.77	0.00	51.00	167.77
Miscellaneous/TBC	782.00	782.00	782.00	2346.00
Misc AM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc Interest	29.10	25.48	26.65	81.23
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>17701.20</b>	<b>14348.69</b>	<b>14542.88</b>	<b>46592.77</b>

**YOUTH COMMITTEE:** Happy New Year! No doubt, Youth Leaders have already been making plans for their students for the new year. A couple of events that are coming up soon are *Winter Jam* and *YEC*. *Winter Jam* concerts will be held in Knoxville on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, and in Chattanooga on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit their website at [www.2018.jamtour.com](http://www.2018.jamtour.com). The Tennessee Baptist Convention's *Youth Evangelism Conference (YEC)* is scheduled for March 9-10 in Nashville. For more information on this event, visit [www.yectn.org](http://www.yectn.org).



Of course, we are hoping you have made plans to attend **YOUTH REACH 2018**. Not only is this conference close to home (Pigeon Forge), and a great worship experience for your students, it also supports the youth ministry of the association. So, mark your calendar for **July 20-21**, and bring your students to *Youth Reach 2018*. Registration Packets will be mailed out in March.

As always, don't forget that the associational office can be a great resource for your Student Ministry. Should you need help with ministry resources or promotion of youth events in your church, please contact SBA. . *Anthony Smith, Chairman*

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND YOUTH WORKERS:**

**Sweetwater Baptist Association High School Scholarship:** Applications due March 1<sup>st</sup> and can be picked up at the associational office or downloaded at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)



**Tennessee Baptist Foundation Scholarship:** Visit [www.tbfoundation.org](http://www.tbfoundation.org)



**CONCLAVE, 2018**

January 25-26-27 Chattanooga, TN

A worship and training event for all Youth Ministers, Adult Youth Leaders (full time, part-time, volunteers) and Student Leaders in grades 6-12. Register now at [www.ymconclave.org](http://www.ymconclave.org)



**WINTER JAM, 2018**  
February 23 Knoxville, TN  
February 25 Chattanooga, TN

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents...



**YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE**

**March 9-10, 2018**

Nashville Municipal Center, Nashville

*Celebrating 50 Years of YEC*

**LEADING A GENERATION TO FOLLOW JESUS – AS DISCIPLES**

*Scheduled Speakers and Artists*

Friday, March 9 Clayton King

Saturday, March 10 Darren Whitehead

Friday & Saturday The Skit Guys; YEC Band; Kent Shingleton

Register now at [www.yectn.org](http://www.yectn.org)

**A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL:**

**Attention Church Leaders:** Do you receive mail from the Sweetwater Baptist Association? If so, did you know you are the voice of the association in your church? It would be impossible for every flyer, postcard, letter or announcement be mailed to every member of your church (and every member of the other 70+ churches). We depend on church leaders to take those flyers, posters and announcements to their church and display them on the church bulletin board, have the information printed in their bulletins or added to the church announcements, or simply pass them along to an appropriate person in the church who might need or want the information.



Over the course of a few months, the association has hosted a *Senior Adult Christmas Show*; gave away *Food Boxes*; promoted a *Food Drive* for Monroe County students; planned an *Evangelism Conference*; offered *Seminary Extension Classes*; planned *Guatemala Mission projects*; plus many other events and ministry opportunities. We depended on church leaders who received the information on these events to make sure they were announced to the congregation. Otherwise, most church members would not know about these events and ministry opportunities. Therefore, we are asking you to help the association be good stewards of the money spent to print and mail these items out to your church. We simply ask that if you receive mail from the association, please don't just throw it in the trash or lay it aside and forget about it. Please take the flyers, posters, postcards, etc. and share them and the information with your church family.

Thank you all for the great work you do in your churches, communities and around the world. We enjoy sharing in this journey with you. ---*The Staff, Committees and Council of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.*



# January Food Drive

Monroe County Schools Family Resource Center

\*approx. 250 students receive food to take home each week

## Items Needed

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Spaghetti Sauce              | Trail Mix Packets      |
| Pasta/Noodles                | Fruit Snack Packs      |
| Saltine Crackers             | Goldfish-Type Crackers |
| Hormel Compleats             | Graham Crackers        |
| Juice Boxes                  | Handi Snacks           |
| Chef Boyardee Microwave Cups |                        |



**DONATED ITEMS NEED TO BE DROPPED OFF AT THE ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>**



**MT. ZION:** On Sunday, January 28 at 6:00 pm, we are hosting a *Community Singing* along with Howard's Chapel, Ebenezer and Citico. Everyone is invited to attend.

**ISLAND CREEK:** On Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm, the *Journey Home Singers* will be at Island Creek. Everyone is invited to attend.



**PASTOR & WIVES CHRISTMAS BANQUET:** Thank you to Vonore Baptist Church and Pastor Doug Sager for hosting our banquet in December. Thank you to all who attended. We had a great evening.



## Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street  
Madisonville, TN 37354

Return Service Requested

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### ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2017-2018

MODERATOR	VICE MODERATOR	Associational Council
Greg McCosh	Charles "Bud" Boring	Officers & Committee Chairmen
Pastor Advisor Frank Hicks	Church Growth/Leadership Director Frank Crawford	Mission Committee Carl Croft, Chairman
Disaster Relief Director Tony Curtis	Historian Kay James	Media Ministry Director Betty Wolfe
Men's Ministry Director Bryan Coffey	Music Director Phillip Johnson	Prayer Ministry Director Svitlana Self
RA Director Phil Roy	WMU Director Charlotte Hollinghead	Vacation Bible School Directors Bryan and Kim Williamson
Preschool/Mission Friends Director Savonna Chambers	Girls/GA Director Kendra McDonald	Ac teens Director Connie Gardner
Annuity Committee Director of Missions	Bivocational Pastors Council SBA Office Staff	Christian Life Committee Darrell Cardin, Chairman
Committee on Nominations Tim Swabe, Chairman	Constitution Committee Kay James, Chairperson	Evangelism Committee Lon Shoopman, Chairman
Finance Committee Jim Swabe, Chairman	Program Committee Dennis Robinson, Chairman	Scholarship Committee Chris Hollinghead, Chairman
Trustees Carl "Buddy" Richesin, Chairman	Youth Council Anthony Smith, Chairman	

### NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

#### Welcome New Pastors

Shady Grove.....James Mason

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

Cane Creek, Long Ridge, Murrays, New Macedonia, Reed Springs



#### SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

*Check Out Our Website*

[www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)

*Visit us on Facebook*

## Upcoming Events/News

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

January 26-27. TBC Bivocational Pastor/Wife Retreat, Pigeon Forge  
January 29..... Evangelism Conference, Notchey Creek, 6:45 p.m.  
February 5..... Evangelism Committee Meeting, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.  
February 12.... Youth Committee Meeting, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.  
February 14.... Valentine's Day  
March 1..... Completed High Scholarship Applications due at SBA Office  
March 4-11..... Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
March 9-10..... YEC, Nashville Municipal Center  
March 11..... Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 12..... Scholarship Committee Meeting, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.  
March 30..... Good Friday  
April 1..... Easter  
April 8..... VBS Kids Choir Practice, Rocky Springs, 2:00 p.m.  
April 9..... VBS Clinic, Rocky Springs, 6:30 p.m. Open House, 7:00 p.m. Conferences  
April 10..... Mission Committee Meeting, SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.  
April 16..... Executive Board Meeting, SBA Office, 7:00 p.m.



### East TN Healthcare Ladies Ministry Groups, Birthday Cake

<b>January</b> Vonore	<b>February</b> Rocky Springs
<b>March</b> New Providence	<b>April</b> Oak Grove
<b>May</b> Island Creek	<b>June</b> Madisonville, First

For additional information,  
please contact  
Janice Snyder,  
Activities Director at  
East Tennessee Health Care  
423-442-3990.

### SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION 2018 High School Scholarship Applications

Applications available online at  
[www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)

Completed Applications **DUE March 1st**



### SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION 2018 SBA Pastor's Conference Monday Mornings, 10:00 a.m. at SBA Office

#### Newsletter:

Information for the next newsletter must be received by **March 10<sup>th</sup>**.

#### SBA Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

The Upper Room Christian Counseling

**Macy Small, M.A.**

112 Key Kile Road, Sweetwater, TN 37874 865.414.3269

[www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org)