

The *MESSENGER*
of the
Sweetwater Baptist Association



*“Churches on Mission Together”
Celebrating 194 years, 1830 – 2024*

SWEETWATER
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Check Out Our Website

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

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Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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Volume 14

May/June 2024

Number 68

National Day of Prayer

Lift Up the Word...Light Up the World

THURSDAY, MAY 2



The Sweetwater Baptist Association Family of Churches Welcome...



UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR MIKE BLAIR

and wife Michelle

Our prayers are with this Pastor and
Congregation as they share
Christ in their community.

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

WMLL/Ladies Meeting

Reed Springs Baptist Church

Monday, May 6, 7:00 pm

Guest Speakers

Carolyn Outland & Ann Davenport

Care Ministries: Missionaries to Myanmar



LOVE OFFERING
WILL BE TAKEN FOR
CARE MINISTRIES

**Fellowship Meal
@ 6:00 pm**

121 Reed Springs Church Rd
Philadelphia, TN

Southern Baptist Convention

**Pastor's Conference
& Annual Meeting**

June 9-12

Indiana Convention Center
Indianapolis, Indiana

www.sbcpc.net



www.sbcannualmeeting.net

**Sweetwater
Baptist Association
Executive
Board Meeting**

Each church is allowed 2 Executive Board
Members. (The Pastor and 1 other member).

Executive Board Member Names must be
turned in to SBA prior to the meeting.

**Monday
April 15, 2024
7:00 pm**

Hosted by
Druid Hills

Baptist Church

609 Fairview Rd, Tellico Plains



On the Agenda...

Bible Baptist Church (Tellico Plains) has
petitioned to join the Association.

The Missions Committee will present a
recommendation to place

Bible Baptist Church under watch-care.

Director of Missions

A LASTING IMPRESSION: Vanilla Wafers and Kool-Aid was the snack each evening and it sure was good! The lips of each child bore witness to the flavor of the night. My favorite was



grape, and still is. When the weather cooperated snack time was held outside, and there was a brief period to run off energy. To our teachers, snack time also represented break time. Snack time was only a small part of Vacation Bible School, but it did leave a lasting impression.

Two weeks of Vacation Bible School must have been viewed as cruel and unusual punishment for class leaders and workers. Surely, this time spent would compensate for past or future misconduct. For leaders to progress through those two weeks without losing their sanity, and to have their home life remain intact was a sign of a living Saint. Although it must have been an act of penance for workers, it was pure pleasure for children.

Believe it or not, children did not mind Bible story time. Often stories were told with "Flannel" characters. A good teacher told stories from the heart as though they had been there. The people, animals, and colorful props would almost come to life as the teacher wove each picture into the storyline. Seeing and hearing the story of David facing Goliath intrigued all the boys. The illustration was inspirational and the next evening every little boy had a slingshot in his back pocket.

Silver stars stood for successfully memorizing Bible verses. Ten verses were arranged on a card, one verse for each night of Bible School. A star was placed beside each verse that was successfully repeated to the worker. Those verses still find their lodging place in our minds and hearts. Even though the silver stars have faded, the verses live on.

Make a lasting impression by participating in Vacation Bible School. We are never too old to make memories of the good ol' days for our children and grandchildren. Who knows, you may make an eternal impression in someone's life.

Spring is when an abundance of Homecomings and Decoration Day celebrations take place. These special occasions provide an excellent opportunity to represent Jesus and to encourage folks to consider renewing their relationship with Christ and His church. Roll out the welcome mat and greet folks with a warm handshake and a smile. A loving message from God's Holy Word followed by a delicious meal can go a long way to softening a heart.

Revivals are being planned across the Association. As rebirth is forthcoming from nature around us, Jesus speaks of humanity's need of rebirth in John 3. A congregation that travails in prayer can witness the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit and revival flames can flow throughout the community. Our God is willing and able to send true revival, however it is incumbent upon the believer to be prepared to receive this life changing event. Believers once prayed for a burden, specifically for a family member, a friend, or

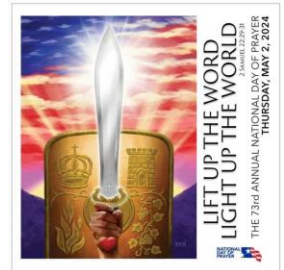
a co-worker. Agonizing, pleading for God to work the miracle of salvation. Lord, please send revival QUICKLY!

Please take time to enjoy your walk with the Lord. Life moves faster than you think. Memories made through ministry have a way of becoming eternal blessings. The time joyfully given to Sunday School teaching, Vacation Bible School, Youth events, nursing home visits and moments of patiently listening never goes unnoticed by our Heavenly Father. --Tony

Associational News/Events/Information

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER:

The annual *National Day of Prayer* for 2024 is on **Thursday, May 2nd**. The theme for this year is *Lift Up the Word...Light Up the World* and is based on 2 Samuel 22:29-31.



Please plan now to participate in a *National Day of Prayer* event! For more information, visit www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Druid Hills Baptist Church and Pastor Ronnie Davis will be hosting the upcoming Executive Board Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. The meeting will be held on Monday evening, April 15th at 7:00 p.m.



Please remember that according to the *SBA Constitution and Bylaws*, each church is allowed 2 Executive Board Members (the Pastor and 1 other member). Executive Board Member names must be turned in to the SBA Office prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you at the Executive Board Meeting on April 15th.

Various informational department reports, as well as a report from the Director of Missions are scheduled on the agenda for the Meeting. In addition, the Missions Committee will present to the Executive Board a petition request for membership to the Sweetwater Baptist Association from Bible Baptist Church, Tellico Plains.

Moderator, David Lane will preside over the semi-annual business session. We appreciate the great leadership provided by the Moderator, Vice Moderator Jamie Johnson, as well as the Associational Council/Officers and all Committees Members for serving the Churches of the Association.

First Baptist Church, Rogersville is seeking a Full-Time Senior Pastor. Resumes may be sent to FBC Rogersville, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 267, Rogersville, TN 37857 or fbcrog@fbcrog.net. Resume deadline is May 31st.

CHURCH GIFTS: We thank all the churches for the gifts you have shared that support the various budget ministry opportunities provided by the Sweetwater Baptist Association. The total *Church Gifts* for October-March were \$115,459.02, with total budget expenses of \$103,790.81. Please note, the following report includes church gifts received as of March 25, 2024. Gifts received after this date will appear in the next printed *SBA Church Gift Report*. Please review this information, and contact the Associational Office at 442-6604 if you should have any questions. We thank you again for your support of the budget ministries of the Association.



SBA Church Gifts: October, 2023 – March 25, 2024

Church/Mission	Oct-Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Antioch	75.00	25.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	150.00
Beaty's Chapel	200.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	200.00
Bethlehem	5317.00	1,419.00	1,078.00	2,011.50	0.00	9,825.50
Bible Baptist	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Calvary	60.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	60.00
Cane Creek	600.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	1,200.00
Cedar Fork	1589.14	485.10	345.59	464.61	0.00	2,884.44
Cedar Valley	3141.82	766.68	1,575.27		0.00	5,483.77
Christianburg	1351.55	728.15	0.00		0.00	2,079.70
Citico	127.30	63.40	0.00	104.75	0.00	295.45
Clifton	75.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	150.00
Community	241.41	91.47	46.80	814.47	0.00	1,194.15
Compromise	150.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	300.00
Conasauga	900.00	300.00	300.00		0.00	1,500.00
Concord	1386.07	0.00	0.00		0.00	1,386.07
Delano	974.37	385.60	309.86	307.32	0.00	1,977.15
Druid Hills	300.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	500.00
Ebenezer	30.00	0.00	0.00	77.00	0.00	107.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	4500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	9,000.00
Fellowship	516.13	198.46	124.29	150.50	0.00	989.38
Glenlock	1002.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	0.00	2,004.00
Gregory's Chapel	300.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	600.00
Hopewell Springs	0.00	0.00	500.00		0.00	500.00
Howards Chapel	1000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	1,000.00
Island Creek	600.00	600.00	300.00		0.00	1,500.00
Lakeside	0.00	300.00	0.00		0.00	300.00
Long Ridge	1000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	50.00	0.00		0.00	50.00
Macedonia	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	400.00
Madisonville, First	1250.01	416.67	416.67	416.67	0.00	2,500.02
Maple Springs	750.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	750.00
Miller's Chapel	300.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	600.00
Mt. Calvary	308.59	105.40	107.31	101.07	0.00	622.37
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	1931.43	603.50	486.50	717.77	0.00	3,739.20
Murray's	2406.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	2,406.00
New Bethany	1450.46	448.20	352.30	346.23	0.00	2,597.19
New Macedonia	600.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	1,200.00
New Providence	2526.75	917.48	665.85	657.40	0.00	4,767.48
New Zion	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	300.00
North Sweetwater	274.37	0.00	60.18	125.91	0.00	460.46
Notchey Creek	2452.50	640.41	546.51	758.48	0.00	4,397.90
Oak Grove	1090.95	704.29	394.16	388.70	0.00	2,578.10
Oakland	200.00	200.00	0.00		0.00	400.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	500.00	0.00		0.00	500.00
Paint Rock	330.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	0.00	660.00
Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Poplar Bluff	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	300.00
Reed Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,534.00	0.00	1,534.00
Rocky Springs	3400.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	4,200.00
Rural Vale	1406.44	380.16	349.51		0.00	2,136.11
Shady Grove	0.00	500.00	0.00		0.00	500.00
Shelton Grove	539.60	223.67	211.76	177.18	0.00	1,152.21
Shoal Creek	385.00	250.00	0.00		0.00	635.00
South Madisonville	300.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	600.00
Sweetwater, First	1050.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	0.00	2,100.00
Tellico	0.00	1,500.00	0.00		0.00	1,500.00
Tellico, First	1446.00	610.00	447.00	452.00	0.00	2,955.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	425.00	0.00	425.00

Towee Falls	450.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	0.00	900.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	480.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	0.00	840.00
Union Hall	293.00	48.00	0.00	124.00	0.00	465.00
Union McMinn	1200.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	2,400.00
Unity	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Upper Shady Grove	150.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	300.00
Yonore	5060.57	2,103.35	1,646.93	1,688.13	0.00	10,498.98
Walnut Grove	0.00	751.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	751.31
Watson Chapel	333.34	333.34	166.67	166.67	0.00	1,000.02
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	148.16	0.00	0.00	122.12	0.00	270.28
TBMB	2190.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	0.00	4,068.00
Misc AM	0.06	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	60.06
Misc Interest	53.91	15.82	15.52	17.47	0.00	102.72
Total Income	60,543.93	21,729.46	15,121.68	18,063.95	0.00	115,459.02

IMPORTANT: We have been made aware of a mail scam targeting non-profits business (corporate) renewals. Please see the press release from the State of Tennessee below.



If your church is incorporated, please share this information with whomever handles the corporate renewals for your church (treasurer or secretary).

**Tre Hargett Tennessee Secretary of State
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 28, 2024**

Secretary of State Tre Hargett Issues New Warning about Mail Scam Targeting Business Renewals

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett issued a new warning to businesses across the state today about a deceptive mail scam related to the filing of annual business renewals from a company known as Tennessee Business Filing Center. As part of this scheme, businesses receive an official-looking mailer from the company threatening additional fees and business dissolution if an entity does not file within 60 days of the April 1 deadline.

“... Charitable Organizations and I have recently received multiple complaints regarding a misleading mailer requesting hundreds of dollars in fees from businesses to complete their annual renewal process,” said Secretary Hargett. “We have seen similar situations in recent years targeting the good faith of our business community, and we want to remind all entities that our office provides these same services at substantially lower costs.”

Businesses are required to complete their annual filings with the state by April 1 each year. These reports update or confirm an entity's records with the Department of State, and they are required to maintain “active status” so a business can legally operate in the state. To file an annual report, please visit <https://tnbear.tn.gov/Ecommerce/AnnualReportID.aspx>.

“All Tennessee business owners should be wary of any mailing they receive from third parties offering services provided by our office,” Secretary Hargett added. “These parties are not affiliated with us in any way, and we encourage businesses to report any suspicious activity related to this situation.”

To report suspicious activity to the Division of Business and Charitable Organizations, email INSOS.CERT@tn.gov. You can also call (615) 741-2286. To file a complaint with the Attorney General's office, call (615) 741-3491 or visit Attorney General & Reporter. sos.tn.gov



2024 SBA HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS: We want to thank SBA Scholarship Committee Chairman, Christy McCosh for recently coming by our office to draw the names for the 2024 SBA High School Scholarship.

Recipients for 2024 are: Addison Kate Garner, Kloey Elizabeth Stinnett, David Blaine Watson and Alicia Starr Kimble. Each of these students were awarded \$500.00 cash scholarships on behalf of

the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

We offer our congratulations to these, as well as to all of the high school seniors that will be graduating from across our Association. Thank you also to the churches for providing scholarships for our young people.



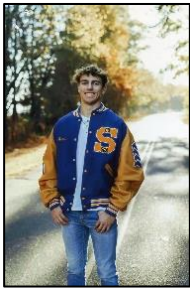
Addison Kate Garner

Fairview Tabernacle Baptist Church
Loudon High School



Kloey Elizabeth Stinnett

Shoal Creek Baptist Church
Tellico Plains High School



David Blaine Watson

Madisonville, First Baptist Church
Sweetwater High School



Alicia Starr Kimble

Rocky Springs Baptist Church
Sequoyah High School

GUATEMALA: The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB) and Guatemala Baptist Convention have confirmed plans for the Sweetwater Baptist Association mission project in Guatemala for 2024.



A team from Poplar Bluff will be working in a new ministry area with Pastor Antonio at Iglesia Bautista Macedonia, Aldea La Union, Macedonia Baptist Church.

We are excited that a team from Bethlehem and Birchfield (Blount County) will be returning to continue on-going mission work with Pastor Hugo Barrios at the Jesus is the Way Baptist Church at El Cañal. In addition, this team will also work and visit the LaPalmita Baptist Mission and the Lamb of God Baptist Church where Pastor Fred Aguilar Osoria serves.

Various ministry opportunities for the teams include: (1) Ladies Bible Study (2) Men's Bible Study (3) Sports clinic/evangelism (4) Vacation Bible School (5) Door-to-door Witnessing (6) Evangelism, Crusade, Revival. Please pray for these teams as they travel to Guatemala, June 18-25 and June 25-July 2.

According to the US Embassy in Guatemala, there are no entry or exit requirements for COVID. Therefore, there are no COVID shots or testing required at this time. Please keep in mind that the Guatemala government could always change their mind before June. However, we do not anticipate any change in the requirements unless there is a large outbreak of COVID. Mission volunteers must have a valid passport, as well as any required vaccinations from their doctor or health department.

FORT SHERMAN TRAINING is required for all volunteers participating in upcoming mission projects in Guatemala. This online security training is valid for 2 years. In addition to the Fort Sherman Travel Security, the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board requires all participants to complete online evangelistic, cross-cultural, and child protection training. Go to <https://fsa.thinkific.com/courses/traveling-saint-online> to complete FSA training.



IOWA: Please be in prayer for the partnership mission team from Notchey Creek Baptist Church that will be traveling to Iowa, July 13-20. Volunteers will work with a local pastor and church in a community near Iowa City called Downey. The team will participate in small construction projects, Vacation Bible Schools, revivals, and door-to-door witnessing. Please join with us as we pray for all teams from the Churches of the Association that will be sharing the Gospel of Christ here at home, across the country and our world, over the next months.





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SBA WMU/LADIES MEETING

Monday, May 6, 7:00 pm

Light meal planned @ 6:00 p.m.

Reed Springs Baptist Church

121 Reed Springs Church Road, Philadelphia



Just a reminder! The Ladies Ministry/WMU Meeting will be held on **May 6th at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be hosted by Reed Springs Baptist Church in Philadelphia. The church will be offering a light meal at 6:00 p.m. prior to the meeting.

The guest speaker for the evening will be Representatives from *Care Ministries* and Missionaries to Myanmar, Carolyn Outland and Ann Davenport. We know you will not want to miss as they update us on their ministry in Myanmar and how God is using them. We look forward to seeing everyone on Monday, May 6th.

If we can be of any assistance to any of our ladies groups, please feel free to contact the associational office or email me directly at racheljthompson20@outlook.com. Rachel Thompson, Associational WMU/Ladies Director

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Vacation Bible School time has begun! Thank you to those that attended the VBS Showcase at the Sweetwater Baptist Association!

Vacation
Bible
School

Five (5) VBS themes (with kits for each) were on display to review. This gave an opportunity to look at the different options that were available; and decide which theme might work best for your church. Then best of all, the 5 VBS kits were given away in mid-April. Congratulations to the following churches who each won a 2024 VBS kit:

- (1) Lifeway...*Breaker Rock Beach, God's Rock-Solid Truth in a World of Shifting Sands*..... **NEW BETHANY**
- (2) Regular Baptist Press...*WildLIVE! Showcasing Christ's Character*..... **MAPLE SPRINGS**
- (3) Answers in Genesis...*The Great Jungle JOURNEY, An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation*..... **CEDAR FORK**
- (4) Group...*SCUBA, diving into friendship with God*..... **OLD SWEETWATER**
- (5) Cokesbury...*Camp Firelight, A Summer Camp Adventure with God*..... **TRINITY**

Please join with us as we are praying for a great summer of Vacation Bible Schools in our churches, and children all across our Association coming to know Christ as Savior. If your church needs assistance with planning or conducting Vacation Bible School this year, please contact the Association Office. We are here to help!

Once your VBS is over, please call or send the SBA Office the following:

- Link-up supplies for other churches to use
- VBS Report (Total Enrollment, Average Attendance, Professions of Faith)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SHOWCASE



Ordinations & Anniversaries



On Sunday, March 3, 2024, **Maple Springs Baptist Church** ordained two new Deacons (Pictured Pastor Vernon Webb, Deacons Chris Brummett, Garry Nabors and Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford).

On Sunday, April 7, 2024, Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford presented **Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church** a Certificate commemorating their **75th Anniversary**. (Pictured Tony Rutherford and Phillip Johnson)



Sweetwater Baptist Association

2024 VBS Dates

(as reported by each church)

Church	Date	Time	Theme
411 Chapel.....	July 22-26.....		Color Kingdom
Bethlehem.....	June 2-6.....	6:00-9:00.....	Jungle Journey
Citico.....	June 1.....	10am-4pm.....	
Concord.....	June 10-14.....	6:00-8:00.....	
Howard's Chapel.....	June 10-14.....		
Island Creek.....	June 9-14.....	6:30-8:30.....	Jungle Journey
Lakeside.....	June 17-21.....	6:30-8:30.....	Camp Firelight
Long Ridge.....	June 2-6.....		
Mt. Calvary.....	June 2-7.....	6:30-9:00.....	
Mt. Zion.....	June 2-7.....	6:30-8:30.....	Shine
New Bethany.....	June 2-7.....		
New Macedonia.....	June 3-7.....		
New Providence.....	June 16-21.....	6:30-9:00.....	Jungle Journey
New Zion.....	June 17-21.....	5:30-8:00.....	Breaker Rock Beach
Notchey Creek.....	July 29-Aug 2.....	6:15-8:45.....	Jungle Journey
Old Sweetwater.....	June 9-14.....		
Reed Springs.....	June 17-21.....		Jungle Journey
Rocky Springs.....	June 2-6.....	6:00-8:30.....	Breaker Rock Beach
Rural Vale.....	June 3-7.....	6:30-8:30.....	
Shelton Grove.....	June 3-7.....		Camp Firelight
Tellico Plains, First.....	July 19-24.....	6:00-8:30.....	Camp Firelight
Union McMinn.....	June 3-7.....		Breaker Rock Beach
Vonore.....	June 3-7.....	6:00-8:30.....	Breaker Rock Beach
Walnut Grove.....	June 23-26.....	6:00-8:30.....	Camp Firelight

I ♥ VBS

YOUTH COMMITTEE

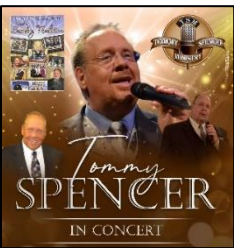
We are still rejoicing over the great turnout for this year's **CONNECT YOUTH RALLY** (approx. 500!!). Most of all, we are rejoicing over the Holy Spirit showing up and for souls that were saved and lives that were changed. Please pray for our students as they seek to walk with Christ and serve Him. We are working on plans for next year, so keep watch for that information in a future newsletter and on the associational Facebook page.



Church
News/Events/Information



411 CHAPEL: We will celebrate our **50th Anniversary** on Sunday, May 19, 2024, with a special service. A meal will be served immediately following the morning service. We invite all members, former members, and the community to celebrate with us. We praise God for this milestone!



CLIFTON: Special Singing on June 8. **Tommy Spencer** will be singing during the morning service beginning at 11:00. Sunday School will be at 10:00 am. Dinner will follow the morning service. Sunday Night Worship Service is at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited!

CONCORD: We will celebrate our **200th Anniversary** on July 14, 2024. Service will begin at 10:00 am and will include several recognitions. Bring a covered dish and join us for a Fellowship Meal following the Service.

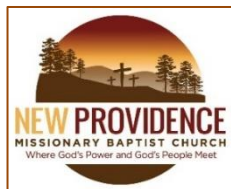


HOWARD'S CHAPEL: **Homecoming Day** is May 5th, beginning at 10:30 am. Special Singers will be the "Foothills Quartet". Everyone is invited!



LAKESIDE: **Decoration Day** is May 5th. Service begins at 10:30 am. Special singers will be "His by Grace." On June 30th, "The Carters" will be singing during our pm service at 6:00.

NEW PROVIDENCE: **The New Providence Mission Center** located at 451 New Providence Rd in Tellico Plains is in our old church building. It provides clothing, food, hygiene items, health and beauty items, household goods, children's items and supplies along with children's clothing and toys. We are accepting donations of these items and monetary donations. We invite our sister churches to join us in this ministry. If you would like to volunteer or take a tour of the center, please contact 423-519-6899, 423-337-1697 or 423-295-4873. Our **VBS** will be June 16-21 from 6:30-9:00. A meal will be served from 6:00-6:30. For more information, contact Becky Peels at 423-337-1697.



NEW ZION: Revival will be April 21-27, 7 pm nightly. The church address is 393 County Road 616, Athens.

Everyone invited!



NOTCHEY CREEK: We are having **Revival Services**, August 4-7. Evangelist will be Dr. Bob Pitman.



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.



ROCKY SPRINGS: Our **VBS** will be June 2-6, beginning on Sunday Morning from 10:00-12:30; then Nightly from 6:00-8:30. We are using the *Breaker Rock Beach* theme.

RURAL VALE: We are having a **Community Cookout** on April 27th from Noon until 4 pm. We will have brisket, pulled pork, hotdogs, burgers, etc. There will be bounce houses for the kids and a corn hole tournament. Everyone is invited! **Homecoming Day** is May 26, beginning at 10:30 am.

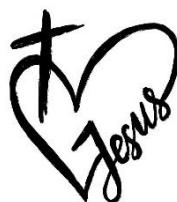


SOUTH MADISONVILLE: Chris Shaw will be Ordained on Sunday, April 21st at 2:00 pm. Chris is being called as Pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church in Athens. All ordained men are invited to join the presbytery.



TELLICO PLAINS, FIRST: Our **VBS** will be July 19-24 from 6:00-8:30, with a meal being served from 5:00-5:45.

UNION MCMINN: Our **VBS Outreach** will be on Wednesday night, May 29th, with ice cream and food! VBS will be June 3-7 and our theme is *Breaker Rock Beach*. Our **4th of July Celebration** will be on Sunday, June 30th.



WALNUT GROVE: **Ladies' Tea** (May 4, 1 pm); **Fellowship Meal** after Morning Service (May 5, June 2 & July 7); **Singing "For Him"** Trio, During Morning Service (July 14)

Sweetwater Baptist Association
 696 Anderson Street
 Madisonville, TN 37354

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 37354

ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS

MODERATOR DAVID LANE	VICE MODERATOR JAMIE JOHNSON	Associational Council Officers & Committee Chairmen
Committee on Nominations Joel Tilson, Chairman	Budget/Finance Committee Richard Parker, Chairman	Mission Committee Rick Harris Chairman
Personnel Committee Janet Lynn, Chairperson	Scholarship Committee Christy McCosh, Chairperson	Trustees Darrell Atkins, Chairman
Music Director Phillip Johnson	Youth Council Kevin Manis, Chairman	WMU/Ladies Director Rachel Thompson

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Welcome New Pastors

Mike Blair.....Unity

Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:

Union McMinn; Tevis Springs; Oakland; New Bethany; Notchey Creek; New Macedonia;
 Friendship (Revival); North Sweetwater; Union Grove; Reed Springs; Paint Rock; East Tennessee Evangelism
 Rally/Pastor's Conference, Notchey Creek; Old Pond Hill; Tellico First; Madisonville First (Revival); Miller's Chapel;
 Maple Springs; Fairview Tabernacle (Youth CONNECT); Christianburg (Preach); Old Sweetwater; New Zion;
 Rocky Springs (Scholarship); Shoal Creek (Scholarship); Rural Vale; Glenlock; Trinity; Sweetwater First (Easter);

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

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



Upcoming

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” -- John 3:16

May 2.....National Day of Prayer
 May 6.....WMU/Ladies Meeting, *Reed Springs*, 7:00 p.m.
 May 12.....Mother's Day
 May 27.....Memorial Day, Office Closed, Holiday
 June 9-12.SBA Annual Meeting & Pastor's Conference, *Indianapolis*
 June 16.....Father's Day
 June 18-25.....Guatemala Mission Project, *Poplar Bluff*
 June 25-July 2...Guatemala Mission Project, *Bethlehem*
 July 3-4 ..Office Closed, Independence Day
 July 8.....Nominating Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., *SBA Office*
 July 9.....Budget Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., *SBA Office*
 July 12-20 Iowa Mission Project, *Notchey Creek*
 August 5 ..Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m., *Delano*
 August 26...Guidestone Retirement Conference 6:30 p.m., SBA Office



Pastor's Conference does not meet in June!
 Pastor's Conference continues...July 8th, 10:00 a.m.
 SBA Office in Madisonville

Mother's Day Offering for...



Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes

Father's Day Offering for...



Honor Your Father with a Timely Gift
 "It is more blessed to give than to receive." -- Acts 20:35

WMU/Ladies Group

Please check the Activities Director at 442-3990 regarding entrance at facility.
 Madisonville Health & Rehab - Nursing Home Birthday Cake Schedule

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



The Upper Room Christian Counseling
Macy Small, M.A.

112 Key Kile Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874 **865.414.3269**

Next newsletter will be the July/August issue
 and should be mailed the end of June.

Please Note: Photographs are taken at all associational meetings and events, and will be used by the Association in newsletters, on website or social media sites.