

The MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 192 years, 1830 – 2022

In This Issue:

- *Director of Missions
- *Who's Your 1
- *TN/KY DR Funds
- *Scholarship Recipients
- *WMU/Ladies Ministry
- *Guatemala Missions
- *Ukraine Ministry
- *Fall Bible Study
- *Lemonade Stands
- *Myanmar Update
- *CONNECT
- *Church News
- *Around the Association
- *Executive Board Meeting
- *Church Gifts
- *Upper Room Counseling
- *Vacation Bible School
- *Iowa Missions
- *Fort Sherman Training
- *Note from Svitlana
- *Thank You
- *Isaiah 117 Update
- *Youth Committee
- *Ordinations/Church Anniversaries
- *VBS Dates
- *Upcoming Events

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook.

TONY RUTHERFORD

Director of Missions
tonyrutherford@bellsouth.net

SHERI STEPHENS

Administrative Assistant
sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net
423-442-6604 (office)

BECKY JONES

Ministry Assistant
becky.jones@bellsouth.net
423-442-6605 (office)

SVITLANA SELF

Resident Interpreter Volunteer

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Volume 12

May/June/July 2022

Number 57

Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting
Old Sweetwater
Baptist Church
Sweetwater, TN
Monday, August 8
7:00 p.m.



Preacher: Dr. Lon Shoopman

Southern Baptist Convention
Pastor's Conference & Annual Meeting

Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, CA
sbcannualmeeting.net



June 12-15

Sweetwater Baptist Association welcomes...
NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH



as a Member of
our Fellowship
of Churches.

**Pastor
Brad Atkins**

Sweetwater Baptist Association
Pastor & Family Picnic
Notchey Creek Baptist Church
Pavilion Area, Madisonville
Monday, September 12
Meal at 6:30 p.m.



Sweetwater Baptist Association



Thursday, July 14, 7:00 p.m.
Notchey Creek Baptist Church

Sweetwater Baptist Association
**Pastors/Deacons & Wives...
Conference**

Monday, August 29, 6:30 pm

New Bethany Baptist Church, Sweetwater, TN
Meal will be provided (Registration Required)

Dr. Steve Holt (TBMB, Church Services Director)
Conference Leader for Pastors/Deacons

Mrs. Nancy Duggin (Murfreesboro, TN)
Conference Leader for Wives

Mark this date
on your calendars!
(Watch for further details!)

Called to

Serve

Sweetwater Baptist Association
**Welcomes
New Pastors**



GREGORY'S CHAPEL
Pastor T.J. Wattenbarger
wife Megan and family



NEW ZION
Pastor Brad Atkins
wife Tabatha



NOTCHEY CREEK
Pastor Shane Johnston
*wife Alison and family
Lily Beth, Hattie and Elias*

Our prayers are with
these pastors and
congregations as they
share Christ with their
communities.

Director of Missions

It was such a joy to welcome New Zion Baptist Church into the Sweetwater Baptist Association at the semi-annual



Executive Board Meeting held at Walnut Grove Baptist Church on April 25, 2022. New friends and eternal brothers and sisters joining together to share the Gospel and equipping the brotherhood is a gift from God. We look forward to serving together until the Lord returns. So again, let me say WELCOME!

The SBA family has a long partnership with the people of Ukraine. Our Association has invested money, prayers, and service to the people of Ukraine. Since the 1990's, mission teams from this Association have traveled to do missions in Ukraine. After they became an independent nation in 1991, Bethlehem Baptist Church funded one of the first Baptist seminaries there. Union McMinn Baptist Church funded a medical clinic. Both of these institutions are still in operation today. The Association's investment is still serving Ukrainians today. Those relationships will endure time, struggle, war, and Satan's attack. Please continue to pray for God's protection over these wonderful people. We also want to express gratitude to our churches for generously giving funds and supplies to aid the people in Ukraine and to the refugees that have fled to Poland, Moldova and Israel.

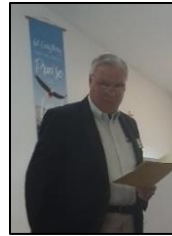
Our churches are knee-deep into Vacation Bible School planning. VBS is equivalent to a children's revival. Your church is given an opportunity to share Jesus with many unfamiliar faces. Loving these children opens the door to follow-up into their homes. What an excellent opportunity VBS provides for sharing God's Word and His Love with our community. Hopefully, VBS will be a week-long experience that leads many to profess faith in Christ. Please let the office know the dates of your VBS. I always enjoy visiting and rejoicing with the churches as they share the Gospel and teach little ones about Jesus. If our office staff can be of any assistance with your VBS, please let us know. We are praying for your children, teachers, workers, and helpers.

During the summer months the SBA will be "boots on the ground" in Guatemala and Iowa. Stretching beyond our local area, we become an Acts 1:8 church. The Holy Scriptures encourages us to share the Good News of Christ with others. I know everyone cannot take vacation time and travel to faraway places, however, praying for those whom God calls to make the journey is still being involved in the ministry. It is exciting to witness anyone praying to receive Christ into their heart. It is also uplifting to worship with our Christian brothers and sisters in a foreign land. One day we will worship together in a home not built with hands and singing in a language that praises and uplifts God.

We are continuing to plan our *Pastors/Deacons & Wives* workshop scheduled for August 29th at New Bethany Baptist Church. A light supper will be provided at the workshop, so we will need preregistrations. There will be a men's breakout session, and a separate breakout session for the wives. We look forward to walking with you as you develop a biblical structure of care through the Pastor and Deacon ministry. Each person God sends for you to provide ministry are important and valued as a child of God. If you trust us with your presence, we will honor your time.

I have just started my twelfth year of ministry as the Director of Missions of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. I am honored to be God's servant in this place. It is a joy to serve the seventy-four churches of this Association. Changes have taken place over the years, however, the Gospel we preach and teach remain the same. God continues to bless us far beyond what we deserve. I am grateful to each of you for this privilege. As we go forward, remember that our purpose is to evangelize the lost and equip the saints. May God bless and keep you in His will. --Tony

Associational News/Events/Information



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The Executive Board of the Sweetwater Baptist Association met on Monday evening, April 25th at Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Vonore. Vice-Moderator, Darrell Cardin did an outstanding job in presiding over the semi-annual business session.



We want to thank host Pastor Jonas Turpin and Walnut Grove for their gracious welcome. Thank you to all Executive Board Members who attended.

The agenda for the meeting included reports from the Director of Missions and Treasurer, as well as various associational reports. Here is an abbreviated version of reports and updates from the meeting.

Director of Missions Report:

- 30 water wells have been dug in Myanmar
- Foundation and framing are complete on *Isaiah 117 House*
- Ukraine relief is being received to assist refugees
- Churches have responded to TN/KY tornado areas
- Mission projects planned for Guatemala and Iowa, 2022
- **CONNECT** Youth Rally, July 14, Notchey Creek, 7:00 p.m.
- *Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting*, August 8, 7:00 p.m., Old Sweetwater
- *Pastor/Deacon/ Wives Conference*, August 29, 6:30 p.m. New Bethany
- *Pastor/Family Picnic*, September 12, Notchey Creek, 6:30 p.m.
- *Annual Meeting*, October 17, Bethlehem, 6:30 p.m.
- *Senior Adult/Christmas Celebration and Pastor & Wife Christmas Banquet*, Vonore, December 5

Financial Report October 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022:

- Church Gifts continue to be strong while operating expenses remain below budget; list of Church Gifts through April provided in this issue of The Messenger

Evangelism:

- Dr. Jeff LaBorg, Fairview Baptist Church, Coryton confirmed as guest preacher for *2023 Evangelism Rally*, January 9-10, at Notchey Creek

Missions:

- New Zion Baptist Church received for membership; welcome Pastor Brad Atkins and Congregation

We appreciate the great leadership provided by Moderator Michael McLemore, Vice Moderator Darrell Cardin, as well as the Associational Council/Officers and all Committees Members for serving the Churches of the Association.

WHO'S YOUR 1: We want to thank Pastor Chris Moore for leading our recent *Who's Your 1* training. We know this information was beneficial to the 34 representatives from the 11 churches attending.



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. It was reported to the *Executive Board* that total Church Gifts, October-March were \$105,489.35, with total budget expenses of \$88,801.92. Please note, the following report also includes church gifts received as of April 25, 2022. 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, 2021 – April, 2022

Church/Mission	Oct-March	April	May	June	July	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Antioch	150.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	7,157.70	1,057.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,215.20
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary	566.93	102.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	669.56
Cane Creek	1,200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00
Cedar Fork	2,668.76	458.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,127.56
Cedar Valley	4,893.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,893.89
Christianburg	645.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	645.57
Citico	516.90	82.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	599.80
Clifton	150.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
Community	485.56	66.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	552.25
Compromise	300.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
Conasauga	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Concord	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delano	2,010.17	317.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,327.71
Druid Hills	600.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00
Ebenezer	432.50	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	482.50
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview						
Tabernacle	9,000.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,500.00
Fellowship	925.59	153.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,079.33
Glenlock	2,672.00	334.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,006.00
Gregory's Chapel	600.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00
Hopewell Springs	734.00	122.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	856.00
Howards Chapel	171.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	171.07
Island Creek	2,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,100.00
Lakeside	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	300.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
Macedonia	240.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	240.00
Madisonville, First	2,500.02	416.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,916.69
Maple Springs	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Miller's Chapel	600.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00
Mt. Calvary	628.50	119.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	747.54
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	3,140.74	586.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,727.54
Murray's	1,778.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,778.00
New Bethany	2,416.35	347.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,763.65
New Macedonia	700.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	840.00
New Providence	3,883.82	937.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,821.04
New Zion	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
North Sweetwater	630.74	104.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	735.19

Notchey Creek	2,949.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,949.12
Oak Grove	2,771.38	685.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,456.77
Oakland	200.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Old Pond Hill	175.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
Old Sweetwater	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Paint Rock	660.00	110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	770.00
Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poplar Bluff	1,690.47	268.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,959.36
Reed Springs	3,448.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,448.00
Rocky Springs	2,400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,800.00
Rural Vale	2,889.06	425.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,314.17
Shady Grove	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Shelton Grove	1,514.54	188.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,703.23
Shoal Creek	551.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551.00
South						
Madisonville	600.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00
Sweetwater, First	2,100.00	350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,450.00
Tellico	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Tellico, First	3,097.00	597.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,694.00
Tevis Springs	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Towee Falls	900.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,050.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	720.00	120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	840.00
Union Hall	292.00	76.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	368.00
Union McMinn	2,400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,800.00
Unity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Upper Shady Grove	300.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
Vonore	10,578.41	1,523.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,102.25
Walnut Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watson Chapel	1,036.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,036.67
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	250.80	32.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	283.50
TBC	3,910.00	782.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,692.00
Misc AM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc Interest	157.09	18.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.74
Total Income	105,489.35	13,925.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	119,414.90

2022 Disaster Relief Funds for Tennessee/Kentucky Tornado Victims	
Long Ridge	4110.00
Notchey Creek	1824.00
Oak Grove	1100.62
South Madisonville	671.00
Tellico (Ballplay)	2500.00
Anonymous	4000.00
Ollie Lankford	100.00



Macy Small, M.A.
865.414.3269
www.fairviewfamily.org

- Services Include:**
- ❖ Premarital & Marriage Counseling
 - ❖ Children, Teens, & Family Counseling
 - ❖ Divorce & Grief Recovery
 - ❖ Individual counseling for anxiety, stress, addictions, anger, self-worth, & coping skills
 - ❖ Classes, Retreats, & Conferences

UPPER Room Christian Counseling Center seeks to give counsel, helps, guidance, support, and encouragement, for individuals, marriages and families. To speak to a counselor or to get more information, call 865-414-3269 or visit the link at www.fairviewfamily.org.

2022 SBA HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIPS: Several years ago, the Sweetwater Baptist Association began a high school scholarship program. We feel the scholarship is a way to say that we believe in our young people, and would like to be part of their lives as they prepare for the future. The Scholarship Committee is always faced with a challenging task of making the selections each year, since all applicants are well deserving. The 2022 SBA High School Scholarship recipients are:



Macy Miner

Poplar Bluff Baptist Church
Sequoyah High School



Isaac Croft

Old Sweetwater Baptist Church
Sweetwater High School



Lydia Self

Oak Grove Baptist Church
Abeka Academy



Tori McEmore

Druid Hills Baptist Church
Tellico Plains High School

Each of these students were awarded \$500.00 cash scholarships on behalf of the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. We want to say congratulations to these, as well as to all of the high school seniors that will be graduating from the churches across our Association. Thank you also to the churches for providing this scholarship for our young people.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

NEWS: We want to thank Pastor Greg McCosh and Rocky Springs Baptist Church for hosting our 2022 Vacation Bible School Clinic. We had a great number in attendance! We also want to thank all that attended in-person or watched on-line!



LifeWay's 2022 VBS **SPARK STUDIOS: Created in Christ, Designed for God's Purpose!** will inspire imagination and kick creativity into high gear. Kids will see the truth that they are God's workmanship, as they learn to use their talents to bring glory and honor to Him. The motto is *Created! Designed! Empowered!* and the theme verse is from Ephesians 2:10, *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

The daily content and story for each session is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Day 1 God, the Creator | God is the marvelous Creator |
| Day 2 God, the Designer | God uniquely designed us for His purpose |
| Day 3 Jesus, the King | Jesus is the King that God promised to save us |
| Day 4 Jesus, the Redeemer | Jesus fulfilled God's plan to save us |
| Day 5 Holy Spirit, the Helper | The Holy Spirit gives us the power to follow God's plan |

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



Lifeway's VBS materials should be ordered online at lifeway.com.

Please contact the SBA Office

at 423-442-6604 for more information or if we can be of assistance regarding 2022 VBS materials or supplies. The Associational staff and VBS team are available and happy to help you with 2022 Vacation Bible School materials, workers and resources. --Bryan and Kim Williamson, Associational VBS Directors

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

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

WMU/LADIES MINISTRY:

The May meeting was wonderful. It was a beautiful evening with plenty of great fellowship and ministry. Union Grove Baptist Church were amazing hosts, proving special touches to the meeting (a great meal, and a



Silent Auction to benefit Isaiah 117). Jennifer Collins with Isaiah 117 was the guest speaker and shared about the ministry that Isaiah 117 is doing here in Monroe/McMinn Counties. A great offering was collected and given to Isaiah 117; and the ladies brought cleaning supplies to help stock the Monroe/McMinn Isaiah 117

House. The Lingerfelt Ladies from Island Creek Baptist Church did a beautiful job providing our special music. And finally...the attendance! There were 11 churches represented and approximately 70 people in attendance.



Everyone is happy to be meeting again and excited to be able to do missions and ministry together. We are now looking forward to November, so mark your calendar for **November 7**. We will be meeting at South Madisonville Baptist Church

in Madisonville for this meeting. Hope to see you there! --Rachel Thompson, Associational WMU/Ladies Director

IOWA MISSIONS: Several of our churches will be participating in mission opportunities in our communities, across our state and country during the next few weeks.



A partnership mission team from the Sweetwater Baptist Association will be traveling to **Iowa, July 16-23**. These volunteers will work with local pastors and churches in a community near Iowa City called Downey. The team will join in Vacation Bible School, revivals and door-to-door witnessing.

Please remember this mission team, as well as all other mission teams from our churches, as they share the love of Christ in our communities, across our state, country, and world.

GUATEMALA: The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB) and Guatemala Baptist Convention have confirmed plans for the Sweetwater Baptist Association mission project in *Guatemala for 2022*. A team from Bethlehem and Birchfield (Blount County) will be returning to continue on-going mission work with pastors and people of Guatemala. The project dates are **June 21-28**.



New COVID-related entry requirements have just been announced by the US Embassy for Guatemala! All travelers must present one of the following: (a) Evidence of receiving a complete 2-dose COVID vaccination course (or 1 dose Johnson & Johnson), with the final dose being administered at least 2 weeks before beginning the trip to Guatemala or (b) Proof of negative COVID PCR or antigen test from a certified lab conducted no more than 3 days prior to check-in at the airport.

This means there is no longer a vaccination requirement. And if you are vaccinated, you will not need an additional COVID-19 test. You only need one or the other.

Mission volunteers must have a valid passport, as well as any required vaccinations from their doctor or health department. Teams must be held to a maximum of 15 mission volunteers.

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.



UKRAINE RELIEF: Many of our churches and individuals have responded directly to the needs of family and friends of the people of



Ukraine. In addition, funds brought to our office have been sent to the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, Disaster

2022 TBMB Disaster Relief Funds for Ukraine for <i>Send Relief International</i>	
Union Hall.....	250.00
Notchey Creek.....	40.00



transportation and clothing for refugees coming into Poland from Ukraine. We understand they minister to those displaced and impacted by the crisis in Ukraine.

Relief who is partnering with *Send Relief International*. According to the TBMB, *Send Relief International* works to provide food, shelter,



Recently many of our churches responded to the call to help fill the Sweetwater Baptist Association disaster relief trailer with items to aid Ukrainian refugees. These items were delivered to the distribution center in Chattanooga, as part of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board Disaster Relief for Ukraine to assist refugees in two (2) projects. One was to help fill a container for the country of Moldova, which is a small country of 1.5 million people and has taken in over 300,000 refugees. The second project was to assist pregnant mothers and mothers with children (up to 5 years of age) fleeing to Israel from Ukraine. Many of these young mothers with children escaped Ukraine with only the clothes they were wearing. A vast number of these refugees are being relocated in Israel.

Thank you churches for always being generous supporters of missions. Please continue to pray for the Ukraine nation and the people of Ukraine.

JUST A NOTE: I have been blessed to have two homelands. Ukraine was the place of my birth, as well as where I learned of Christ, and accepted Him as my Lord and Savior. Now, the United States of America (and Tennessee) is my home where I reside with my loving family and friends.



Still, Ukraine is not forgotten. I want to ask you to please pray that the Word of God will continue to be shared with the people of Ukraine. Pray that seeds will be sown, and souls will be saved. Please pray for my family and friends, in addition to the many churches that remain in Ukraine that are helping others.

I also want to thank the numerous people from the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association that have supported the ongoing relief to Ukraine. If I can be of assistance in any way to you or your church, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association office at 423-442-6604 or contact me at 423-420-9253. --*Svitlana Self, Resident Interpreter*

Fall Biblical Studies
2 weeks: *A Tour of Israel*
6 weeks: *The Lord's Prayer*
(Total 8-week study)

Begins September 6
 Sweetwater Baptist Association Office
 Cost: \$20.00 per person (*non-credit*)
 Contact: SBA Office at 423-442-6604 for more information





THANK YOU: In April, the office staff was treated to lunch on the river for Administrative Professionals' Day. We are blessed to serve the churches in the Sweetwater Baptist Association. ---**Sheri and Becky**

If your church wants to help Isaiah 117 by doing a Lemonade Stand, please contact Christie at 865-771-1538. Also visit the Isaiah 117 House Monroe-McMinn Facebook Page for more information.

YOUTH COMMITTEE: 2 MONTHS UNTIL CONNECT!! Youth Leaders, please schedule this Thursday Night Youth Worship Rally on your calendar! This is a great, local event with quality speakers, music, and entertainment. And it doesn't cost your church or your students anything to attend! Please announce, promote, post, share, text...however you communicate with your students...make sure they know about CONNECT!! **Josh Croft, Youth Committee Chairman**



JUST AN UPDATE: The roof and electrical work for the Monroe/McMinn County, Isaiah 117 house is complete. Plumbing and installation of the HVAC has started; and insulation and drywall will begin soon on the dwelling. The

house is located at the intersection of County Road 517 and 519 in Englewood. If you would like more information about this project, please call Monroe County Expansion Coordinator, Jennifer Collins at 423-518-3760 EXT 617 or email jennifer.collins@isaiah117house.com.

Guest Speaker
Ryan Keaton

Music
Scott & Becky Parker

Comedy
Jonnie W

CONNECT

Thursday, July 14, 2022
Notchey Creek Baptist Church
7:00 pm

Ordinations & Anniversaries

MYANMAR UPDATE: We wanted to share this email from missionaries with Care Ministries, Inc. (who we partner with to do ministry in Myanmar).



Praise God for His wonderful works in Myanmar. There have been 30 wells dug since January! For many of the slum residents, this is the first clean water they have ever had. These wells and other ministries have opened



the door to share the good news of Living Water. In the midst of difficult times, the gospel is

being shared and accepted! If you have prayed or donated to Care Ministries- Myanmar, YOU had a part in the harvest. All glory goes to God! (Pictured: Christian Seminar with over 100 in attendance. 47 unbelievers attended and heard the gospel message; 10 accepted Christ.)

On March 20th, Tony presented a 75-Year Certificate to **TOWEE FALLS BAPTIST CHURCH**. This certificate was issued by the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board in recognition of this milestone. (Pictured: Tony Rutherford and Pastor Steven Stone)



On April 3rd, **GREGORY'S CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH** ordained T.J. Wattenbarger as their Pastor.

Church
News/Events/Information

BIG CREEK

Homecoming will be May 22 at 10:00 am, with Ron Wright from Philadelphia, PA, speaking and Vernon Greeson will be singing. Lunch to follow the service. No evening service.



MADISONVILLE, FIRST



VBS will be June 5-9, 6:00-8:45 pm. Registrations can be completed online by scanning the QR Code, then completing the form.

“The Sound” will be singing in concert during morning worship on May 22, 10:30 am.

“The Gathering” Ladies Ministry meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8:00 at the Tribe Building. Visit us on Facebook for more information at “The Gathering FBCM.”

Homecoming will be May 22 at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited. Our regular worship service schedule is Sunday Morning: 8:45 am & 11:00 am; Sunday School: 10:00 am; Evening Worship: 6:00 pm

MT. ZION

Revival starts on Sunday night July 10. Rev. Joey Bivens will be preaching.

This year Mt. Zion is celebrating 200 years! As part of this special year, each Sunday morning a “remembrance” is being read from the 175-Year Time Capsule (1997). We have a special celebration day planned along with our homecoming on Sunday, August 21st. On Saturday August 20th the fellowship hall will be open from 1:00-4:00 with displays of church history set up for everyone to enjoy. Plans are in the works to have a singing that evening. We would like to invite everyone, especially all members and former members to join us for these special days, celebrating our 200-year anniversary.

NOTCHEY CREEK

Welcome to our new Pastor, Dr. Shane Johnston, wife Alison, children Lily Beth, Hattie, and Elias.

We are having a free *Community Fish Fry* on Friday, May 20th at 5:00 pm at the outdoor pavilion. Everyone is invited to join us.



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 3rd 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!

SWEETWATER, FIRST

Visit us on Facebook to pre-register for our Summer Camps. Spots are going fast!!

- **Children’s Sports Camp**
June 6-10, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Finished Kindergarten-Finished 6th grade
- **Fine Arts Camp**
June 27-July 1
Finished K-1st Grade: 9:00 am - Noon
Finished 2nd - 6th Grade: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.



We also offer JOY Choir at 10:00 am & Community Bible Study at 11:00 am every Wednesday. Everyone welcome!



TRINITY

We will be holding a community/church day for the *Without Limits* baseball game on Wednesday, May 18th at 6:00 pm, at the Tellico Plains Community Ballfield. We would love for churches to come out to support these special players.

VONORE

Homecoming will be May 22 at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited. Our regular worship service schedule is Sunday Morning: 8:45 am & 11:00 am; Sunday School: 10:00 am; Evening Worship: 6:00 pm



VBS Dates <i>(as reported by the churches)</i>		
Church	Date	Time
Bethlehem	June 5-10	6:30-9:00
Big Creek	June 5-10	6:30-8:30
Citico	June 18	
Conasauga	June 13-17	
Concord	June 17-18	6:00/10-2
Fairview Tabernacle	June 5-9	6:00-8:00
Fairview (Tellico)	June 9-11	
Island Creek	June 12-17	
Long Ridge	June 19-23	6:30-8:30
Madisonville, FBC	June 5-9	6:00-8:45
Miller’s Chapel	June 13-17	
Mt. Zion	June 5-10	
New Bethany	June 19-24	6:00-8:30
New Providence	June 19-24	6:00-9:00
Notchey Creek	July 29-30	
Old Sweetwater	June 27-July 1	
Poplar Bluff	May 31-June 3	
Rocky Springs	June 5-9	
Rural Vale	June 13-17	6:30-8:30
Shelton Grove	May 29-June 3	6:00-8:30
South Madisonville	June 5-10	6:30-8:30
Towee Falls	June 11	10:00 am
Union Grove	July 24-29	6:30
Union McMinn	June 5-10	6:00-8:30
Vonore	June 12-17	6:00-8:30
Walnut Grove	July 17-21	

Return Service Requested

PRST STD
US Postage
PAID
Permit 11 NP
Madisonville, TN
37354

Sweetwater Baptist Association
696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2021-2022

MODERATOR MICHAEL McLEMORE	VICE MODERATOR DARRELL CARDIN	Associational Council Officers & Committee Chairmen
Committee on Nominations Carroll Hamilton, Chairman	Children's Director Kendra McDonald	Constitution Committee Roman Hamilton, Chairman
Finance Committee Jonas Turpin, Chairman	Disaster Relief Director Jim Jollay	Evangelism Committee Doug Alexander, Chairman
Mission Committee Ronnie Best, Chairman	Men's Ministry Director Bryan Coffey	Personnel Committee Shannon Croft, Chairperson
Music Director Phillip Johnson	Scholarship Committee Mitch Ingram, Chairman	Trustees Pat McGinnis, Chairman
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

Gregory's Chapel.....T.J. Wattenbarger New Zion.....Brad Atkins
Notchey Creek.....Dr. Shane Johnston



Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:

411 Chapel; Long Ridge; Citico; Conasauga (*Revival*); Mt. Zion; Fairview Tabernacle; Howards Chapel; Murray's; Notchey Creek; Delano; New Bethany; Lower Chilhowee; Mt. Calvary (*Deacon Ordination*); Old Pond Hill; Madisonville First (*Revival*); New Macedonia; Oak Grove; Oakland; Shady Grove; Hopewell Springs; Tellico (*Ballplay*); New Zion; Towee Falls; Piney Grove; Community; Oak Grove (*Scholarship Presentation*); Old Sweetwater (*Scholarship Presentation*); Upper Shady Grove; Reed Springs

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Lakeside, Lower Chilhowee, Union McMinn, Vonore (*Interim*)

Sweetwater Baptist Association
Check Out Our Website

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook

SBA Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-4:00 pm

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 30..... Memorial Day, Office Closed, Holiday
June 12-15 . SBA Annual Meeting & Pastor's Conference, *Anaheim, CA*
June 19 Father's Day
June 21-28Guatemala Mission Project
July 4-5 Office Closed, Independence Day
July 11..... Nominating Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., *SBA Office*
July 14..... CONNECT, *Notchey Creek*, 7:00 p.m.
July 16-23. Iowa Mission Trip
Aug 1..... Budget Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., *SBA Office*
Aug 2..... Youth Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., *SBA Office*
August 8... Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m., *Old Sweetwater*
August 29.. Pastors/Deacons/Wives Conference 6:30 p.m., *New Bethany*



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



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

Sweetwater Baptist Association
Monday Pastor's Conference, 10:00 a.m.



SBA Office, Madisonville

May 16 Dr. Lon Shoopman
May 23 Tony Rutherford
May 30 No Pastors Conference
Month of June No Pastors Conference
July 4 No Pastors Conference

Pastor's Conference Continues...
July 11th 10:00 a.m.
SBA Office in Madisonville

2022 MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Guatemala June 21-28 Iowa July 16-23
Tentative dates, pending travel restrictions, mandates and requirements.

Next newsletter will be the July/August/September issue.

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.