

# The MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

*"Churches on Mission Together"*  
Celebrating 189 years, 1830 – 2019

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- Website: [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) Visit us on Facebook

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## Volume 9

## November/December, 2019

## Number 45

Please Pray for the Leadership of the  
Sweetwater Baptist Association as they serve.



(left to right)

Charles "Bud" Boring, 2018-2019 Outgoing Moderator (Pastor, Cedar Fork)  
Tony Rutherford (Director of Missions)  
Mitch Ingram, 2019-2020 Moderator (Pastor, Lakeside)  
Lewis Jones, 2019-2020 Vice-Moderator (Pastor, Island Creek)

Sweetwater Baptist Association

## 2020 Associational Evangelism Conference Monday and Tuesday, January 13 & 14, 6:45 p.m.

### Dr. David Evans, Conference Speaker

Senior Pastor, Springfield Baptist Church, Nashville  
Former Evangelism Specialist, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board



### SPECIAL MUSIC

Monday: Associational Choir, (under direction of Phillip Johnson)  
Tuesday: The Evans Family, (from Bethlehem Baptist Church)

Hosted by: **Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville**  
Theme: *The Pathway Home* --Proverbs 14:12

## EVERYONE INVITED

## Annual Meeting, 2019

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
Family of Churches Welcomes



**DELANO**  
as a member church  
of the Sweetwater  
Baptist Association.

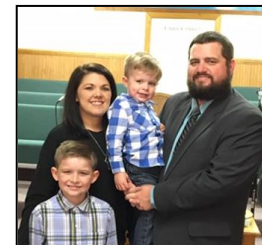
**Pastor  
Jamie Johnson**  
wife Melinda  
daughter Abigail  
(son Austin not in photo)



Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association  
Welcome New Pastors and their families...



**Pastor Lon Stamey**  
wife Misty, Ashton & Lexi  
**TELLICO (Ballplay)**



**Pastor Steven Stone**  
wife Lacey, Easton & Hudson  
**TOWEE FALLS**



**Pastor  
Lon Shoopman**  
and wife Pat  
**GLENLOCK**

## Director of Missions



"For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward." (Mark 9:41). The Sweetwater Baptist Association will be going beyond the second mile in cups of water because of the action taken in the 189<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held at Union-McMinn Baptist Church. The Association voted to set **Sunday, February 16, 2020** as a special day to collect an offering to drill water wells in Myanmar. The minimum goal of \$6,000.00 will provide 10 wells in a village that presently has no clean water. Any funds collected above the \$6,000.00 (and after an adequate number of water wells have been drilled) will be used to help the children in the local school and church in Myanmar.

Jesus realized that the simple act of a cup of water would open people up to receiving the Gospel. Something we in America take for granted is often a high-priced commodity in other parts of the world. The action taken has the potential to introduce an entire village to the love of Jesus Christ. Simply sharing His love by providing a cup of water is extremely rewarding.

A cup doesn't hold very much. However, we are reminded of the boy with two fishes and 5 loaves of bread (John 6:9) that Jesus used to feed 5,000 men plus the women and children. Just imagine what God can do with ten water wells! The woman at the well (John 4:4-42) shared the Good News to her village over a request from Jesus for a cup of water. The woman discovered love that literally changed her life. The reward in heaven may be that someone from a village in Myanmar will approach you and say, "thank you for giving so I could sip from a cup of clean, fresh water and there I found Christ that loved me so."

The spirit of fellowship and oneness that brought us to Union-McMinn Baptist Church filled the sanctuary and caused our cups to overflow. The business session was marked with unity as having all things in common. The music was heavenly as Jesus was lifted and our hearts produced tears flowing from our eyes. Together we worshipped and raised our hands to praise the Savior. Jesus drank from the bitter cup in the Garden of Gethsemane so we might drink out of the overflow of blessings. Brother Bud Boring poured his heart out as he shared in sermon concerning the Unity of God's Church. The singleness of the church was evident as the Spirit of God refreshed our souls.

Witnessing the fellowship and excitement as people departed the building, there was an enthusiasm about facing the future. If God delays His return, we expect to accomplish great tasks in the coming days, weeks, months, and years. It is humbling to consider what God has in store for His children as they surrender to His divine will. God is only limited by our lack of trust and inward glance. I plead for your prayers and support as God does ministry in far greater terms than we can accomplish. May God's grace and mercy be upon us all.

Darnell and I pray you have a *Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.* --Tony

**REPORT FROM ANNUAL MEETING, 2019:** What a great time of worship, as Messengers gathered for the 189<sup>th</sup> Session of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. "The Pathway Home" was the theme for the 2019 Annual Meeting.



The Moderator's Message was presented by Charles "Bud" Boring, Pastor, Cedar Fork Baptist Church. He shared Scripture from Ephesians and encouraged Messengers to unite and walk worthy of the calling. A special thank you to our Moderator for his humble spirit and outstanding leadership this past year. Special music was provided by the Associational Choir and led by Phillip Johnson. Janice Carter shared a word of greetings from the Tennessee Baptist



Mission Board and presented a plaque to the Sweetwater Baptist Association on behalf of churches of the Association that participated in the Golden Mission Offering.

The Memorial Report included Dedication of the 2019 Minutes of the Association in memory of retired or former pastors, Samuel Boone, Charles Cassady, Randy Irons and Bruce Poplin. These men were dearly beloved and faithful servants to this Association and our Lord. They will be sadly missed.

Our Vice-Moderator, Mitch Ingram did an outstanding job in leading the Business Session. Items approved by Messengers included to replace the current *Constitution and Bylaws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*; churches to provide funds to drill water wells in Myanmar; and a proposed budget of \$181,616.00 was approved. Mitch Ingram (Pastor of Lakeside) will serve as Moderator for 2019-2020 and Lewis Jones (Pastor of Island Creek) was elected as Vice-Moderator for 2019-2020. Delano Baptist Church was accepted as a member church; Pastor Jamie Johnson and members of the congregation were in attendance and were recognized and welcomed.



Items presented by Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, included a recommendation that was approved for the churches to fund the drilling of 10 water wells in the country of Myanmar, with an approximate cost of \$600.00 for each well. Also, on behalf of the Constitution Committee, he presented the recommendation for the new proposed *Constitution and By-Laws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*. Among other various changes, three noticeable changes were made in the new *Constitution and By-Laws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*. They were:

- Number of voting Messengers allowed for each participating member church at the Annual Meeting;
- Voting requirements for participating member churches; and
- Procedures for new church admissions.

The 2019 Associational Minutes will include a copy of the complete, new *Constitution and Bylaws* that was adopted by Messengers at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

We want to thank 200+ Pastors, Messengers and visitors from churches represented that were in attendance for the sessions. We want to thank the host church, Union McMinn Baptist Church and Pastor Doug Alexander. We also want to thank the Program Committee, and everyone on the program that helped make this year's Annual Meeting a blessed time of worship. Please pray for the Program Committee as they plan and prepare for Annual Meeting, 2020.



**MYANMAR:** Myanmar (also known as Burma) is one of the poorest countries located in the western portion of Southeast Asia. In the country, over 9.7 million people have no clean water. Would your church please be part of providing fresh, clean water for the people in the country of Myanmar? We are asking that the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association receive a love offering for drilling water wells for Myanmar by **Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**. Please watch for further details or contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association if you are interested in further information regarding the mission work in Myanmar.



**HOLY LAND GROUP TOUR, 2020  
Sweetwater Baptist Association  
and Yael Adventure**

(Hosted by Tony Rutherford)  
Please pray for our Director of Missions as he leads a group of 75 participants to Israel, January 22-31.



**2020 ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM  
CONFERENCE:** We want to personally invite you and your church to attend the **2020 Sweetwater Baptist Association Evangelism Conference!**



The Evangelism Committee has planned a 2-night *Evangelism Conference* again for 2020! The meeting will be held on **Monday and Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**. Both nights will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church** in Madisonville. The meeting will begin at **6:45 p.m.** each evening

**CHANGE OF DATE FOR PASTOR AND  
WIFE CHRISTMAS BANQUET:** The *Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* will be held on **Thursday evening, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Please note this is a change of date!



**Christian comedian, Tim Lovelace will be our guest entertainer for the Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet.** The catered meal/banquet will be held at Vonore Baptist Church, Family Life Center in Vonore. In addition to pastors and their wives, our invitation includes retired pastors, associational officers and leadership, as well as their spouses. **Due to limited space and to help plan the meal, reservations are required.**

Pastors, this is just a reminder you still have time to send in your reservations for the *Banquet*. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email [becky.jones@bellsouth.net](mailto:becky.jones@bellsouth.net) or [sweetwaterassoc@bellsouth.net](mailto:sweetwaterassoc@bellsouth.net) the number attending the *Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* to be held on **Thursday evening, December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

**NEW DATE FOR SENIOR ADULT  
CHRISTMAS SHOW:**

The *Senior Adult Christmas Show* will be held on **Thursday, morning, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.** Please note that this is a change of date! This is a **FREE** event; open to everyone, and all ages are invited. It will be held at Vonore Baptist Church.



**Tim Lovelace** will be the special guest performer! This will give our churches an opportunity to see and hear, Christian comedian, Tim Lovelace while he is in our area. Tim is a nationally sought-after storyteller, musician, and versatile comedian. He is a Grammy and Dove nominated artist; and his award-winning musical talents, coupled with his clean humor has developed his concerts into more than just a great show. He uses humor to motivate and inspire, by telling of life lessons, as he displays musical abilities on piano, guitar and harmonica. He is a seasoned communicator, musician, writer, publisher and comedian.

Our conference speaker for both nights is **Dr. David Evans**. Dr. Evans currently serves as Senior Pastor of Springfield Baptist Church, Nashville, and is the former Evangelism Specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. Dr. Evans loves God and loves to do Kingdom work. He has a strong commitment to the local church, a love for the Word of God, and a heart for lost souls.

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

Phillip is already working on the special music for the conference. Listening cd's will be available the first of January at the Association office. Please stop by the SBA Office to pick up a copy of the music "cd" and feel free to make additional copies.

**Then we know you will receive an added blessing as The Evans Family from Bethlehem Baptist Church will provide special music on Tuesday evening.**

This *Evangelism Conference* will encourage you as a pastor and/or leader in your church and help us keep our focus on what Jesus has called us to do. No matter what we do, there is nothing more important than evangelism. Please encourage your church leaders and members to attend the Evangelism Conference. You will not want to miss this great event! Mark your calendars for **Monday and Tuesday evening, January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at Notchey Creek Baptist Church!**



*Senior Adult Christmas Show*

*Tim Lovelace — in Person*

*Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>*

*10:30 a.m.*

*Vonore Baptist Church*

*Everyone Invited*

*New Date*

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents

**Bivocational Ministers and Wives Retreat**

**CELEBRATION! Revelation 7:9-17**

**January 23-25**

Music Road Hotel and Convention Center

Cost \$225.00 per couple  
*(Covers hotel, meals and breaks)*

For more information or to register online, please visit website at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)

### GUATEMALA MISSION MINISTRY:

During the past year, numerous short-term mission volunteers traveled to Guatemala as part of the on-going Tennessee Baptist Mission Board partnership in Guatemala. The June team from Bethlehem reported 10 professions of faith, with approximately 200 people being provided free medical assistance. The September team from Union McMinn reported 267 professions of faith, and 292 receiving free medical assistance.

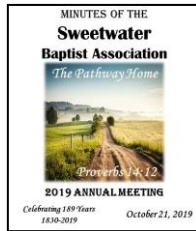


Would you like to be part of the mission ministry in Guatemala? Volunteers are needed in 2020 to serve as preachers at revivals and crusades, as well as laypersons to serve on medical and dental teams.



We are also hopeful teams will return in 2020 to continue ministry projects and/or do further work in areas where ministry focus has already been established. Additional teams are needed to do work in the new ministry locations of Guatemala. Teams participate in door-to-door evangelism, crusades, revivals, medical clinics, Vacation Bible Schools, etc. **Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association immediately for further details or if you are interested in serving on a mission team in Guatemala.**

**ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:** The 2019 Minutes of the 189<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association are now at the printers and will be available for pickup in the SBA office very soon. If your church ordered Minutes of the Annual Meeting, please stop by the Association Office at your convenience to pick up your copies. This year the 2019 Minutes were dedicated in memory of Sam Boone, Charles Cassady, Randy Irons and Bruce Poplin. Extra copies of the Minutes are available at \$7.00 per printed copy on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Minutes of the 189<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting are also available on our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com).



**2020 SBA CALENDARS** will soon be available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. We have asked that 2020 Associational Calendars be picked up, if possible.



We hope Pastors and Church Leadership will use the calendar in planning church events for 2020, and anything we have scheduled would not hinder any of the events at one of the churches. This allows each of us the opportunity to support the ministries that are offered by both the Association and each of our churches.

**DISASTER RELIEF:** What is the purpose of Disaster Relief? It is to bring HELP, HOPE and HEALING to those affected by disaster. This is possible only through volunteers from local churches within the Association. As you bring HELP to meet physical needs, you open doors to offer HOPE that is found in a personal relationship with Christ, that will lead to their HEALING physically, emotionally and spiritually. If your church or any members are interested in learning more about disaster relief, please contact me: Jim Jollay, Associational DR Director at 706-575-6137 or [jollay@aol.com](mailto:jollay@aol.com)



### 2020 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Pastors and youth leaders for each of our churches will soon receive a packet of information regarding the Sweetwater Baptist Association, High School Scholarship program. Scholarship applications must be completed and returned to the Association Office by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**.



Please help us get this word out to our students by announcing this to your church. Additional copies of the applications are available at the Associational Office. For a limited time, the application is available on our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)



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

The UPPER Room Christian Counseling Center provides pastoral counseling combining counseling and pastoral guidance from a Bible-based, Christian



perspective. It helps individuals address the struggles and issues of life in both a clinical and spiritual way. The counseling ministry helps individuals discover their identity in Christ, and find healing and purpose in their relationships with God, themselves and others. Sessions available for individuals, couples, and families. For more information, call 865.414.3269 or check the counseling link at [www.fairviewfamily.org](http://www.fairviewfamily.org)  
**Macy Small, M.A., The Upper Room Christian Counseling.**

### LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS:

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering has been supporting missionaries among the unreached since 1888. Your giving makes this work possible and enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God.



The suggested date for the Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is December 1-8. Plan now to be part in the Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The theme for this year is *I Saw a Great Multitude from Every Nation and All Tribes*, based on Revelation 7:9.

100% of gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering fund IMB missionaries who are making disciples and multiplying churches among unreached people and places. Here are examples of how your church is making an impact through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering:

- We are sending more missionaries to the nations
- We are reaching more people groups with the Gospel

Yet billions remain lost! We still have much work to be done. It will take all of us to share the Great Commission, to **every church, every nation**, among unreached people and places. (Information taken from [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org).)



**MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER & CONNECTION:**

Get ready! Registration opens January 3rd online for *Missions Get-together and Connection*. The conference is held at the Gatlinburg Convention Center, March 20-22, 2020. Additional information available at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)



have not used LifeWay Vacation Bible School materials and supplies in the past, we encourage you to look at and consider the 2020 *Jump-Start Kits*.

The **2020 Associational VBS Clinic** will be held on **Monday evening, April 20<sup>th</sup>** at **Rocky Springs Baptist Church** at 7:00 p.m. Please mark this date on your calendar! We look forward to seeing you there!

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.

Watch for additional information about Vacation Bible School and the VBS Clinic. We pray you have a blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year! **Bryan and Kim Williamson, Associational VBS Directors**

**RESUMES BEING ACCEPTED:** Tennessee Valley Baptist Association, Dayton, Tennessee is accepting resumes for the position of "Part Time" **Director of Missions**. Resumes should be submitted to the Chairman of the Search Committee, Paul Mitchell, 13658 Tonja Lane, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379. Please call or text 423-802-8221 or email [paulmitchell@epbfi.com](mailto:paulmitchell@epbfi.com) to Rev. Paul Mitchell regarding any inquiries about the position. The current DOM at Tennessee Valley is resigning on December 31, 2019.



**WMU and LADIES MINISTRY:**

We want to thank Pastor Greg McCosh and ladies of Rocky Springs Baptist Church, for graciously hosting the *November WMU Meeting* and fellowship meal! The guest speaker for the evening was Beth Moore, TBMB WMU & Collegiate Ministries; we know you were blessed by her coming to share.

**SBA WMU and Ladies Ministry News**



We appreciate the WMU and Ladies Groups that provide birthday cakes at the East Tennessee Healthcare. For additional information or if you have any questions about the birthday cakes, please contact the Activities Director at East Tennessee Healthcare at 442-3990. Here is the list for the next few months:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| November....Bethlehem     | December....New Bethany  |
| January .....Vonore       | February...Rocky Springs |
| March .....New Providence | April .....Oak Grove     |

Prayers for a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year, *Charlotte Hollinghead, Associational WMU Director*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS:**

By now, you may have heard that LifeWay Christian Bookstores across the country are closing. With that in mind, we are not sure if Vacation Bible School materials will be available for purchase at the associational office in 2020. We will keep you



updated as information becomes available to us. We do know that the Associational staff and VBS team will be available and happy to help you with 2020 Vacation Bible School workers and resources.

Lifeway's Vacation Bible School Jump-Start Kits for 2020 will soon be released! Next summer, kids will learn of the foundation that lasts! The VBS theme is *Concrete & Cranes: Building on the Love of Jesus!* So, grab your hard hat and a tool belt! As kids explore a world of concrete and cranes, rivets and rebar, bulldozers and backhoes, they will learn to build their faith on Jesus, as they uncover the truth that He who began a good work will be faithful to carry it on to completion.

The 2020 VBS Motto is *Jesus! Our Strong Foundation!* with Scripture focus from Philipians 1:6. The daily content for each session is as follows:

- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Day 1 Foundation of Love  | Day 2 Foundation of Forgiveness |
| Day 3 Foundation of Worth | Day 4 Foundation of Promise     |
| Day 5 Foundation of Life  |                                 |

Please contact the Associational Office at 442-6604, for help with your VBS materials and supplies, or even a team of VBS workers. If you

**YOUTH COMMITTEE:** In the last newsletter, I told you that we were planning something great for *Youth Reach 2020*. We now can let you know there will be some big changes next year. The first being, location, location, location! *Youth Reach 2020* will be held at the **BIBLICAL TIMES THEATER** in Pigeon Forge. This is a beautiful, state of the art dinner theater, with a huge stage, and professional multi-media sound and lighting. Another change for next year is that meals will be included with your reservation. Everyone will get a

barbeque meal, served at the theater, just before the conference on Friday evening. Then, on Saturday morning, everyone will have a voucher for a full breakfast buffet, at the *Wood Grill Buffet*, which is located beside the theater.



We are also happy to announce that **Roger Williams and the AMUQ** will be providing music next year, and in addition, Roger will also serve as the conference speaker. We are still working on a few more details, but are already looking forward to a great conference and a great time worshipping together with our students.

Pastors and Youth Leaders, please go ahead and mark your calendar for **July 17-18, 2020**, and plan to bring your students to Youth Reach!

--Bud Boring, Chairman

**OLD SWEETWATER:** The Annual Live Drive thru Nativity at Old Sweetwater Baptist Church will be held on Dec 6th and 7th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm each evening. Everyone is invited. --Lesa Shultz



**CHURCH GIFTS:** We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have shared with the Sweetwater Baptist Association. These gifts support the various budget ministries of the Association.



We wanted to share a *Yearly Report* of our *Church Gifts* for **October 2018 through September 2019** which totaled \$187,336.49, as reported at *Annual Meeting, 2019*. You will note the second column of the following list shows total gifts for each church for 2018-2019. In addition, we have included church gifts for the new Associational year beginning October 1, 2019. Church gifts received for the month of October 2019 totaled \$18,789.86 and appear in the last column.

Again, we thank you for your giving for Kingdom work. Please review this information and contact our office if you should have any questions.

**SBA Church Gifts  
Yearly Report for 2018-2019 and  
Church Gifts for Month of October 2019**

Church/Mission	2018-2019 Totals	October, 2019
411 Chapel	2250.00	0.00
Altoona	0.00	0.00
Antioch	300.00	25.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	11,311.00	1352.00
Big Creek	500.00	0.00
Calvary	1065.35	100.00
Cane Creek	2600.00	200.00
Cedar Fork	5695.97	547.26
Cedar Valley	9188.90	793.01
Christianburg	1108.53	0.00
Citico	903.64	77.95
Clifton	300.00	0.00
Community	561.22	63.30
Compromise	600.00	50.00
Conasauga	1200.00	100.00
Concord	1348.62	824.53
Delano	4279.32	380.08
Druid Hills	60.00	0.00
Ebenezer	870.50	91.00
Fairview	120.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	15,447.63	1251.20
Fellowship	1568.00	0.00
Glenlock	1500.00	250.00
Gregory's Chapel	1200.00	100.00
Hopewell Springs	1174.00	82.00
Howards Chapel	1146.31	0.00
Island Creek	3600.00	0.00
Lakeside	900.00	300.00
Long Ridge	1000.00	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	200.00	0.00
Madisonville, First	5000.04	416.67
Maple Springs	500.00	500.00
Miller's Chapel	1200.00	100.00
Mt. Calvary	1362.11	114.18
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	5911.44	503.09
Murray's	2246.00	1727.13
New Bethany	4214.94	369.64
New Macedonia	1680.00	140.00
New Providence	6291.00	415.00
North Sweetwater	1376.04	0.00
Notchey Creek	5397.72	449.81
Oak Grove	4078.79	348.75
Oakland	400.00	0.00

Old Pond Hill	700.00	0.00
Old Sweetwater	1000.00	0.00
Paint Rock	1320.00	110.00
Piney Grove	900.00	0.00
Poplar Bluff	2326.69	201.27
Reed Springs	1666.20	0.00
Rocky Springs	5000.00	0.00
Rural Vale	4602.06	320.15
Shady Grove	400.00	100.00
Shelton Grove	1911.66	0.00
Shoal Creek	846.81	0.00
South Madisonville	1200.00	100.00
Sweetwater, First	4200.00	350.00
Tellico	1200.00	0.00
Tellico Plains, First	5572.00	574.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00
Towee Falls	1800.00	150.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	1440.00	120.00
Union Hall	722.00	70.00
Union McMinn	4800.00	400.00
Unity	400.00	0.00
Upper Shady Grove	550.00	50.00
Vonore	21,341.11	2671.45
Walnut Grove	703.95	0.00
Watson Chapel	0.00	0.00
Westside	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	970.47	56.64
Miscellaneous/TBC	9384.00	782.00
Misc AM	120.00	0.00
Misc Interest	602.47	62.75
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>187,336.49</b>	<b>18,789.86</b>

**UNION MCMINN:** Everyone is invited to join us for the following events.

- Nov 23 - Community Thanksgiving Dinner, 6:00 pm
- Nov 18-24 - Shoebox Drop-Off Location
- Dec 1 - Celebration of Blessings, 6:30 pm
- Dec 13-14 - Drive-Thru Nativity
- Dec 22 - Redeemed Performance, 6:30 pm
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Program, 6:30 pm

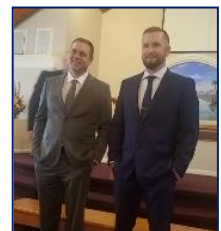


**LAKESIDE:** Our Christmas Program is December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**RURAL VALE:** On November 10, *Journey Home* will be singing during our 11:00 am service. Our Holiday meal will follow the service. On December 15, at 6:00 pm we will be presenting our Christmas play "*Why Christmas?*".



**REED SPRINGS:** We recently ordained 2 new Deacons, Stephen Wolfe and Andrew Eubanks. Please join us in prayer for these men and their ministry in the church.



**FAIRVIEW TABERNACLE:** We recently ordained Steve Gamble into the gospel ministry. Brother Steve has been called to pastor at Lakeview Baptist Church in Athens.





**MT. ZION:** On Sunday, November 10, we will have a special Veteran's Service recognizing our Veteran's past and present. This will be followed by our Harvest Dinner.

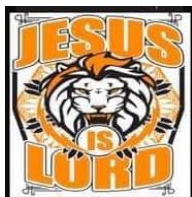
On Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 p.m. we will host our annual "Hallelujah Celebration" with other local churches. Those joining us this year will be Mt. Pleasant, Citico, Ebenezer, and Howard's Chapel. Pastor Kenneth Johnson, from Howard's Chapel will bring the message for this special service.

On Sunday, December 22, we will have our Christmas programs. The children's program will be during the morning service at 11:00 am; and the adult play will be during the evening service at 6:00 pm. A time of fellowship and finger foods will be held after the adult play. We invite everyone to join us.

Our WMU is continuing to do a wonderful job with their "Pillowcase Ministry". Many children in the Monroe Co. foster system are removed from their homes with nothing more than a few items in a trash bag. This ministry provides them with a pillowcase filled with needed items. To date 61 pillowcases have been supplied.

**VONORE: CHRISTMAS AT VONORE 2019**

- Saturday, December 14th – 6:00 pm
- Sunday, December 15th – 6:00 pm



"JESUS IS LORD BASKETBALL" - SEASON 4  
Cost is free and open to students of all grades.  
Sign-up now at: <http://scheduler.leagueobster.com/registristion/634385/>. You can also sign-up in person at Vonore Baptist Church, 714 Church Street; or by phone at 423-884-6230.

**DELANO:** We are seeking a bivocational Music/Choir Director. This is a part-time, paid position. Interested candidates should contact the Personnel Committee at 423-506-0059.



**CALVARY:** We celebrated our 75 Anniversary this year. Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford presented the church with a certificate from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, recognizing this milestone.

**LONG RIDGE:** We recently ordained 3 new Deacons. Please join us in prayer for these men and their ministry in the church. (Barry West, Jamie Rose, & Clifford Holder)



**CEDAR FORK:** Our Christmas Play will be Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 pm, and our Christmas Cantata will be Sunday, December 22 at 11:00 am. Everyone invited to join us as we celebrate the Christmas season.



**ISLAND CREEK:** Our church will again serve as an Operation Christmas Child Drop-off Location this year. The drop-off week is November 18-25. On Sunday, November 24, we will have "Old Timer's Day" with special music from our Senior Adult Choir. An old-fashioned fellowship meal of beans, cornbread, potatoes and coleslaw will be served after the morning service. Our Christmas Program will be presented on Sunday night, December 22 at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Drop-Off Locations:**

**Island Creek Baptist Church**

2505 Hwy 411 N, Madisonville  
Nov 18-22: 11 am – 6 pm  
Nov 23: 11 am – 2 pm  
Nov 24: 1 pm – 5 pm  
Nov 25: 11 am – 1 pm

**Union McMinn Baptist Church**

314 CR 316, Niota  
Nov 18-22: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm  
Nov 23: 9 am – 11 am  
Nov 24: 2 pm – 4 pm  
Nov 25: 9 am – 11 am



**NOTCHEY CREEK:** We invite you to please join us for special services in December. They include:

- Adult Christmas Program, *You Did It For Me*, Sunday evening, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m.
- Community Christmas Caroling, Sunday afternoon, December 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00 p.m.
- Children Christmas Program, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, Sunday evening, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.
- Christmas Candlelight Service, Sunday evening, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 p.m.



Everyone is invited. Please check our website at [www.notcheycreek.org](http://www.notcheycreek.org) for additional times, not currently listed.



**BETHLEHEM:** Our Annual Thanksgiving Eve Singing will be held on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. This year's special guest singers will be Karen Peck & New River. There is no charge (a love offering will be taken). A light meal will follow the service.

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a great night of gospel singing.

**ROCKY SPRINGS:** Rocky Springs is looking forward to a blessed holiday season. On Sunday evening, November 24, at 5:00 pm, we will have our harvest supper and singing. Please join us for this time of worship and fellowship. Our children's Christmas play, *Follow the Star*, will be December 8, at 6:00 pm. The following Sunday evening, December 15 at 6:00 pm, the adult program, *The Guiding Star*, will be presented. Join us in the celebration of the true meaning of Christmas. We are praying to see you here!



## Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street  
Madisonville, TN 37354

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### ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2019-2020

<b>MODERATOR</b> MITCH INGRAM	<b>VICE MODERATOR</b> LEWIS JONES	<b>Associational Council</b> Officers & Committee Chairmen
<b>Committee on Nominations</b> Richard Lane, Chairman	<b>Children's Director</b> Kendra McDonald	<b>Constitution Committee</b> Charles Ridenour, Chairman
<b>Finance Committee</b> Trey Ferguson, Chairman	<b>Disaster Relief Director</b> Jim Jollay	<b>Evangelism Committee</b> Gerald Atkins, Chairman
<b>Mission Committee</b> Steve Moore, Chairman	<b>Men's Ministry Director</b> Bryan Coffey	<b>Program Committee</b> Vernon Webb, Chairman
<b>Personnel Committee</b> Deborah Dalton, Chairperson	<b>Music Director</b> Phillip Johnson	<b>Scholarship Committee</b> Greg Allen, Chairman
<b>Trustees</b> Frank Hicks, Chairman	<b>Pastor Adviser</b> Frank Hicks	<b>Youth Council</b> Charles "Bud" Boring, Chairman
<b>WMU/Ladies Director</b> Charlotte Hollinghead	<b>Vacation Bible School Directors</b> Bryan & Kim Williamson	

### NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

#### Welcome New Pastors

Glenlock ..... Lon Shoopman    Tellico (Ballplay) ..... Lon Stamey  
Towee Falls ..... Steven Stone

#### Director of Mission Visits:

Gregory's Chapel, Reed Springs, Christianburg, Oak Grove, 411 Chapel, Calvary, Druid Hills, Guatemala, North Sweetwater, Delano, Conasauga, Citico, Howards Chapel, Lower Chilhowee, Fairview Tabernacle, Glenlock, Altoona Long Ridge, Big Creek, Community

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

Gregory's Chapel, Lower Chilhowee Murrays, Sweetwater First



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Sweetwater Baptist Association

*Tony Rutherford,  
Becky Jones and Sheri Stephens*

## Upcoming Events/News

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

—Luke 2:14

- November 17-20.. *The Summit*, First Concord, Knoxville
- November 28 ..... Thanksgiving Day
- December 1-8 ..... *Week of Prayer* for International Missions  
and *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering*
- December 12..... *Senior Adult Christmas Show* with  
Tim Lovelace at Vonore, 10:30 a.m. **(CHANGE OF DATE)**
- December 12..... *SBA Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet*, Vonore, 6:30 p.m. *(reservation required)*
- December 25..... Christmas Day
- January 1 ..... New Year's Day
- January 7 ..... *Biblical Studies* Classes Begins
- January 13 & 14. *Evangelism Conference*, Notchey Creek, 6:45 p.m
- January 23-25..... *TBMB Bivocational Pastor/Wife Retreat*, Pigeon Forge



### The Summit

*Tennessee Baptist Mission Board*  
**November 17-20**  
First Baptist Concord, Knoxville  
*Annual Gathering of Tennessee Baptists*



### SBA Pastor's Conference

**Monday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.**  
No Pastor's Conference in Month of December  
Pastors Conference will resume on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Information for the next newsletter must be received by the first of January.

*The Association Office will be closed December 20<sup>th</sup>-January 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of the holidays. We are thankful to the Association for allowing us this time to spend with family and friends. – The Associational Staff*

### WMU/Ladies Group Birthday Cakes for East TN Healthcare, Madisonville

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



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

**SBA Office Hours**  
Monday-Thursday  
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.