

The MESSENGER
of the
Sweetwater Baptist Association



"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 187 years, 1830 – 2017

In This Issue:

- *Director of Missions
- *Guatemala Mission Project
- *Pastor Appreciation Month-October
- *Annual Meeting Choir to Sing
- *Church Growth/Development Conference
- *Dennis Swanberg
- *Ukraine
- *2017 YBS Reports Needed
- *WMU/Ladies Ministry
- *WMU Quarterly Meeting
- *Christian Sympathy
- *Youth News
- *Island Creek
- *Mt. Zion
- *Notchey Creek
- *Church Gifts thru 07.21.2017
- *2017-2018 Proposed Budget Changes
- *Checkout Website/facebook
- *Upcoming Events
- * Birthday Cake Schedule
- *The Summit, Tennessee Baptist Convention

- *Seminary Extension Classes
- *Pastor/Family Picnic
- *Food Box Give-Away-October 7th
- *ACP's for Church Clerks
- *Pastor & Wife Christmas Banquet
- *Dennis Swanberg Schedule
- *Macy Small - Upper Room Counseling
- *2018 YBS -- GAME ON!
- *2017 Golden Offering for State Missions
- *Shoes for Orphan Souls
- *See You at the Pole
- *Glenlock
- *Operation Christmas Child Drop-off
- *New Bethany
- *Union-McMinn
- *2017 Annual Meeting Program
- *Proposed Budget 2017-2018
- *News from Around the Association
- *2018 SBA Evangelism Conference
- *SBA Pastor's Conference
- *Info for Newsletter/SBA Office Hours

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Volume 7

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Number 34

Tennessee Baptist Convention and Sweetwater Baptist Association *presents*
Church Growth and Development Conference and
SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING CONFERENCES, 2017
Scorecard: Measuring the Success of Your
Sunday School and Small Group Ministry

Small Group Ministry Conferences for Pastors/Staff/Directors/Coordinators
Adult/Youth/Children and Preschool Teachers and Leaders
Including Training for Clerks and Treasurers

Hosted by **First Baptist Church, Madisonville**
Monday, August 28

6:30 p.m. Opening • 7:00 p.m. Breakouts
Free meal at 5:30 p.m. (must pre-register for meal)

Breakout Sessions and Breakout Leaders Include:

- Church Clerk/ACP Training Rebecca Jones
- Church Treasurers/Financial Training..... Deborah Taylor
- Pastors/Directors: Helping Teachers Reach Roc Collins/Steve Pearson
- Pastors/Directors: Helping Teachers Teach..... Wayne Etheridge
- Adults..... Mark Miller
- Youth..... Bruce Edwards
- Children..... Vicki Hulsey
- Preschool..... Donna Blaydes

- Free Conference - No pre-registration required.
Must pre-register for meal @ 5:30 p.m.
- Everyone invited! Please announce in your church!
- For more information, contact SBA Office at 423-442-6604.

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
2017 Annual Meeting

Theme: *In Christ Alone -- Acts 4:12*

● **Session 1: Monday, October 16, 2017, 6:45 p.m.**
411 Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville

Mission Message: Dr. Doug Sager, *Vonore Baptist Church, Vonore*
Video Message from Dr. Randy Davis, *Executive Director-Treasurer, TBC*
Director of Missions Report



● **Session 2: Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 6:45 p.m.**
Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Vonore

Moderator's Message: Carroll Hamilton, *Rural Vale Baptist Church, Tellico Plains*
Mission Committee Report/Recommendation
Presentation of Budget

Annual Church Profiles (ACP's) and Messenger Cards
must be completed and returned to the SBA Office by October 5th.

MEMBERS OF YOUR CHOIR ARE INVITED TO JOIN...

Associational Choir to provide special music at
First Session of Annual Meeting on October 16th at 6:45 p.m. at
411 Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville
Phillip Johnson (Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church) will serve as Music
Director. Listening cd's will be available at the SBA Office.

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



Pastor Mitch Ingram
wife, Kathryn, and son, Johnny
Lakeside



Pastor Jeff Patton
wife, Leah and children, Eain, Orin and Elie
Lower Chilhowee



Pastor Taylor Duncan
Upper Shady Grove

Director of Missions



ECLIPSE: While sitting on the hood of a green 1948 Ford, I looked toward heaven as the moon slowly disappeared. A “total lunar eclipse” was a special event for a six-year old boy. As the shadow of the earth blocked the light of the moon, an eerie feeling slowly crept across a young heart. Something unique was happening. Somehow, by watching, a person becomes a part of the event. The sky seemed so clear and the stars appeared to be so close. Great wonders filled a young boy’s mind as his eyes searched the heavens.

Family, friends, and neighbors gathered to watch the eclipse. Watching this event was a time of education and experience. The old family members pointed out things to remember. Youngsters learned to recognize several star formations while watching these mysteries unfold. The location of the North Star as well as the Big Dipper, Little Dipper, and the Seven Sisters, were pointed out. While gazing into the starry night, it was as though a person could see into eternity. As darkness enveloped our small community, the twinkling lights were a message from above. There was something in the stillness that made a person feel good.

Several years later, our family had an occasion to visit New York City. The people were not as friendly as southerners. The usual smiles, nods, and hellos were not given in return. As night moved upon the city, the reason became obvious. No stars could be seen from the street. The city lights eclipsed the halo of God’s creations.

This August, our community will experience a “Total Solar Eclipse.” The moon will pass between the earth and the sun, totally blocking the sun’s rays from our county. For most this is a once in a life time experience. Darkness will move over our townships and will impact birds and animals alike. Even the stars are to be visible during this time. The last total solar eclipse in North America was in 1979 and the next one will occur in 2024. However, the 1979 eclipse was not fully visible in East Tennessee; and neither will the eclipse of 2024 be totally visible in our area. Therefore, this year’s event has caused much excitement locally. Schools have dismissed and towns are planning festivals of celebration and churches are using the opportunity to minister to the many visitors that are expected. Some estimate that as many as 30,000 sight-seers will flock to this area.

As Christians, we do not celebrate signs in the sky. We worship the Creator of the universe and are in awe of the mysteries and wonders of His creation. We do believe the heavens are called God’s handiwork. Through His creative beauty He speaks to the hearts of all ages. God has gone to the trouble of allowing us to see Him at work. Let us not eclipse the wonder of His creation with our earthly celebrations. Let us delight once again in the magnitude of His heavens.

---Tony Rutherford



SEMINARY EXTENSION CLASSES: The 2017 fall session for *Seminary Extension* classes at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office will begin on September 5th at 6:30 p.m. The 12-week study will be **New Testament**

Survey Part I. Classes meet on Tuesday evening at the associational office.

Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 423-442-6604 for additional information, fees and to pre-register by August 22nd. You can also register at the first class.

GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT: During the past few months, numerous short term mission volunteers have travelled to Guatemala as part of the on-going TBC mission partnership with Guatemala. Recently Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford and a team from our Association met with Pastor Otto Echeverria, President of Guatemala Baptist Convention. They visited several areas in Guatemala where little or no ministry work is being done. With this in mind, the Sweetwater Baptist Association plans to participate in an evangelistic/music type project in **2018**. In addition, we are enlisting medical and dentistry teams to serve in areas at the various churches. We are also looking to put together an Associational Choir to provide special music for nightly crusades and revivals. We are also hopeful that teams will return in 2018 to continue ministry projects and/or do further work in areas where ministry focus has already been established.



These evangelistic mission projects will be similar to the original vision planning trip in 2018. We would like to have 3-6 mission teams. Each team should consist of one pastor/preacher, with three to five additional members on each team to do work in the new locations.

Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association immediately if you are interested in serving on a mission team in Guatemala. Applications and additional information are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office.

Mission volunteers must have a valid passport and routine vaccinations are required. Background screening is required for all participants. The Tennessee Baptist Convention requires all participants to attend an orientation meeting, as well as *More Life*, cross-cultural, security, safe travel, and child protection training. Training is available on-line and at the SBA Office.

PASTOR AND FAMILY PICNIC:

Pastors and their families are invited to join us for the Sweetwater Baptist Association Pastor and Family Picnic on Monday evening, September 11, 6:30 p.m. It will be held at Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Outside Pavilion Picnic Area. Reservations are required for the meal. Please contact SBA Office at 442-6604 to confirm a number in your family for the meal or for additional information.



October - Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor Appreciation Day is an excellent opportunity for churches to affirm love and appreciation to those who are called by God and serving as Shepherds of the Church. Suggestions for celebrating **Pastor Appreciation Day** include presentation of appreciation certificate or plaque, gift certificate or monetary gift, reception following service, special prayer time for family, spiritual guidance and encouragement.

**Sweetwater Baptist Association
Local Mission Outreach
Food Box Give-Away
Saturday, October 7, 2017**

How can Churches & Individuals Help...

1. Call SBA to reserve # of boxes needed
2. Come by SBA and pick-up empty boxes
3. Fill boxes with requested items
4. Close box top and tape closed
5. Return completed boxes to SBA in September



Please include in each box:
4 Cans - Soup
4 Cans - Chili
1 Box - Saltine Crackers
*Can include additional items, as long as they fit in the box and it will tape closed.

Call SBA for more information
or to reserve your boxes
423-442-6604

ASSOCIATIONAL CHOIR TO SING AT ANNUAL MEETING:

Members of your church choir are invited to be part of the Associational Choir that will provide special music at the First Session of the 2017 Annual Meeting. The first session will be held on Monday evening, October 16th at 411 Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville. The session will begin at 6:45 p.m. and the choir will need to meet at the church on the 16th of October by 6:30 p.m. in order to prepare for worship. Phillip Johnson from Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church, and Associational Music Director, will serve as the Music Director. Listening cd's will be available at the Associational Office. Please stop by the SBA Office at your convenience to pick up a copy of the cd and feel free to make additional copies.



ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS: You should have already picked up your Annual Church Profile (ACP) packet and Messenger cards for the 2017 Annual Meeting. The ACP and Messenger cards must be completed and returned to the SBA Office by October 5th. Please remember that in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, each church is entitled to ten (10) Messengers and two (2) alternates. **A Messenger card must be completed for all pastors, as well as Officers and Committee Chairman of the Association** in order for them to participate in the business of the Association.



If you need help completing your Messenger cards or ACP, please contact the Associational Office at 442-442-6604 and we will be happy to assist you in this process.

CHURCH GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: The Church Growth and Development Conference will be held on Monday evening, August 28, and will be hosted by First Baptist Church in Madisonville. The opening session begins at 6:30 p.m.

**August 28, 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Madisonville**

2017 SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCES

SCORECARD: MEASURING THE SUCCESS OF YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

The purpose of this conference is to equip, train and strengthen our church leadership. This year, we have a total of 8 breakout sessions scheduled. As always, training is being made available for Clerks and Treasurers. In addition, our main focus will be on Sunday School training, with breakout sessions offered for Adults, Youth, Children and Preschool Leaders. Breakout sessions will also be available for Sunday School Directors, Pastors, Outreach Directors and Visitation Directors.

Since we cannot personally reach everyone that might benefit from attending this conference, **we would appreciate your sharing this**

information with teachers, officers and leadership in your church. We have often been told this is one of the best training conferences offered each year by our Association. We feel we have a breakout session for everyone that attends.

We look forward to seeing you and others from your church on the 28th of August at the First Baptist Church in Madisonville. Everyone is invited.

PASTOR AND WIFE CHRISTMAS BANQUET: The Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet will be held on **Monday evening, December 4th at 6:30 p.m.** 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 seminary extension students, retired pastors, associational officers and leadership, as well as their spouses.



Dr. Dennis Swanberg...“The SWAN” will be our guest for the Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet. Due to limited space and to help plan the meal, reservations are required. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email the number attending to becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net.

All of our churches will have opportunities to see Dr. Swanberg while he is in our area. Dr. Swanberg will be the guest speaker on **Sunday evening, December 3rd at First Baptist Church, Madisonville.** The service begins at 6:00 p.m. A love offering will be received during the service for Dr. Swanberg. Everyone is invited.

In addition, Dr. Swanberg will be hosting a Senior Adult Christmas Celebration at **Vonore Baptist Church on Monday, December 4th at 10:30 a.m.** This is a free event; and all ages are invited.



Dr. Dennis Swanberg...“The SWAN” is considered by many as America’s Minister of Encouragement. He uses laughter to promote faith and family values in a lighthearted and humorous way. He has the reputation for revealing and instilling hope and motivating people from all walks of life. His sidesplitting stories of growing up and the funny side of life entertain his audience even as he implants a strong and encouraging message. Turning 40 years of wit into a lifetime of wisdom, Dr. Swanberg is a seasoned communicator, teacher, author, humorist and motivator.

free **Dennis Swanberg – in Person**

◆ **Sunday, December 3, 6:00 p.m.**
First Baptist Church, Madisonville
(love offering will be received)

◆ **Monday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.**
Vonore Baptist Church, Vonore
Everyone Invited

UKRAINE: Please pray from groups from Bethlehem, Oak Grove, and Union-McMinn that are traveling to Ukraine to do ministry, visit family and friends during the next few months. For many years, churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association participated in partnership Kingdom work in Ukraine. Our prayers continue for the people of Ukraine, as well as the many pastors, churches and friends that were formed during our time of work in Ukraine.



Macy Small, M.A.
 112 Key Kile Road
 Sweetwater, TN 37874
 865.414.3269
www.fairviewfamily.org



Many individuals and families have greatly benefited from sharing their struggle with a counselor. Here is a list of some of the most common issues where you may benefit from talking to a Counselor:

1. Major life events such as separation or divorce, death, a financial crisis, health issues, or addiction.
2. Stress, Worry, Anxiety, or Depression
3. Anger Management
5. Blended Family Issues
6. Marriage & Parenting Concerns
7. Lack of Self-esteem & Confidence

Services include....

- Children, Teen, & Family Counseling
- Premarital & Marriage Counseling
- Divorce & Grief Recovery
- Individual sessions for stress, addictions, anger, self-esteem, & other personal struggles
- Classes & workshops

Whatever your struggle, reach out for hope and help.

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

2017 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL STATISTICS:

We need to receive Vacation Bible School reports for 2017 from all our churches. This information should include total enrollment, average attendance and number of decisions for Christ.



If your church has not sent in your VBS report, please call the SBA office at 442-6604 or email becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net with your VBS numbers immediately. This information will appear in the 2017 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.



2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Lifeway's Vacation Bible School Jump-Start Kits for 2018 will soon be released and will be available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office in December. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 to reserve a kit for your church.

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

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

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

All 2018 VBS materials will be at the SBA Office in January, and of course, the VBS Clinic will be in early spring and then VBS Link-up in the summer, 2018!

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



**WMU/
LADIES
MINISTRY
NEWS:**

**SBA
WMU/Ladies
Ministry News
Charlotte Hollinghead**

The Week of Prayer for State Missions and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions supports missions and ministries in Tennessee. In 1902, W.C. and Mildred Golden challenged Tennessee Baptists to pray for and give to missions within the state. They initiated the offering that was later named after them. Today, churches are still encouraged to learn about Tennessee missions and ministry as they participate in the Week of Prayer for Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions. Please pray for, give to and serve in missions and ministries in Tennessee.

The suggested date for the 2017 Week of Prayer for Golden Offering and Tennessee Missions is September 10-17. However, your church leaders may choose to observe the season of prayer and offering at any time. The theme for 2017 is, "At All Costs, OBEY! Tennessee: My Mission Field."



Thank you to all of the churches who participate in the Birthday Cake Ministry at East Tennessee Healthcare. For additional information or if you have any questions about the birthday cakes, please contact Janice Snyder, Activities Director at East Tennessee Healthcare at 442-3990. Remember when it's your time to provide the birthday cakes... **August:** 411 Chapel; **September:** Mt. Zion; **October:** Notchey Creek and **November:** Bethlehem.

May God bless you as you go out into the mission field. Love in Christ, *Charlotte Hollinghead*, Associational WMU Director

Sweetwater Baptist Association.
WMU Quarterly Meeting
 Hosted by **First Baptist Church, Tellico Plains TN**
Monday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.
 Watch for further information.



information, call 423-442-2700.

SHOES FOR ORPHAN SOULS serves children in need all over the world. Since 1999, more than 3 million pairs of new shoes and socks have been given to children in over 80 countries; with 30% of these going to children in the United States. You can help by donating NEW Sneakers and Socks during the month of August. For more

- **Needed:** New Sneakers/Athletic Shoes & Socks
- **Sizes:** Youth 1 through Adult 7
- **Drop-Off Dates:** August 1-31
- **Drop-Off Location:** Mac's Auto Care
819 Englewood Rd, Madisonville

Christian Sympathy: The Sweetwater Baptist Association was deeply saddened by the passing of retired pastors, John Kiser, and Bill Roberts. Our hearts were also grief-stricken in the loss of Pastor Kevin Kiser, and sympathy was extended to Shady Grove Baptist Church in the loss of their pastor. All of these were great men of God, and preachers of the Word. Our deepest sympathy is extended to all of these dear families. The legacy of these men will remain in our hearts and they will be sadly missed.



SEE YOU AT THE POLE: See You at the Pole will be observed on Wednesday, September 27th. SYATP Armbands will be available at the Associational Office for our churches and area schools. Youth Leaders or FCA members, please feel free to stop by and pick up armbands for your group or school.



YOUTH COMMITTEE: Youth Reach 2017 is now in the record books. We had an amazing conference with some awesome speakers this year. Students were truly challenged and many, many grew in their spiritual walk and several others accepted Him as Savior. For those who did not

attend this year, your students really missed out on a great event. All three guys on the program did a great job. Testimonies were given by Aaron Small and T.J. Jordan, Jr. The message for both sessions was presented by Andrew Osakue. All of these men are fairly local, and if your church is ever looking for a speaker for a youth revival or other youth event, I would recommend any of these three. Aaron serves right here in our own association as the Youth Pastor at Fairview Tabernacle, and the students really enjoyed hearing about his baseball career and how God worked in his life. T.J. Jordan is from Chattanooga and has a miraculous testimony of God's mercy and healing. And, Andrew Osakue is on staff at Concord, First Baptist Church in Farragut. The students really enjoyed his passionate and energetic preaching and he presented great messages focused directly to students and their walk with Christ.



We hope to see many more of



you for next year's conference. First and foremost, because we want to help all of our students in their walk with Christ and to see lost souls saved. But secondly, if attendance doesn't pick up, it will become harder to financially support this conference. So, please help us keep Youth Reach for all our students, and plan to bring your group next year. Not only will you be helping your students, but also students across the association.

We want your youth ministry to be successful and for your students to have a close relationship with Jesus ...and if we can help, we would love to do so. If there is ever a time the Youth Committee or the Association can help with your church's youth ministry, please let us know.

--Casey King, Chairman

2017 Youth Reach T-Shirts - \$6.00

There are a few t-shirts leftover. They are available at the Associational office, while supplies last.



GLENLOCK: During the recent Back-to-school, Backpack Give-Away at Glenlock, it was reported that over 400 backpacks were distributed; but more importantly, 93 professions of faith were made! 89 souls were saved at the give-away, and 4 more on Sunday. What a mighty God we serve!



ISLAND CREEK: Island Creek will serve as a Relay Center for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes again this year. Drop-off dates are **November 13-20**. Last year, nearly 3,200 shoe boxes were dropped off, and we hope to have more this year. If your church is interested in sending shoebox gifts this Christmas, visit www.samaritanspurse.org, for more information.



Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Drop-Off Location & Hours
Island Creek Baptist Church

- Nov. 13 – Nov. 17: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Nov 18: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Nov 19: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Nov 20: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

MT ZION: We had four saved in V.B.S. and another 4 saved on our youth mission trip to Florida. Also, four recently joined the church. Brother Rick Harris preached our Revival in July with great success. Thank you Rick for sharing the Good News. We praise God for all He is doing.



NEW BETHANY: Our church is hosting a "Revive Marriage Conference" on September 22-23, 2017. The conference leaders are Dr. Ronnie Owens and Aaron and Macy Small. Please call Pastor Matthew Johnson for more information or to register (423-519-0662).



NOTCHEY CREEK: Pastor Gale Miller invites everyone to attend *Homecoming Services* at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 10th.

Revival Services will be held September 24-27. Guest Evangelist will be Kenny Evans. In addition to

preaching the Gospel, Kenny is a well-known musician and sportsman from the Pigeon Forge area. Sunday morning service will begin at 10:30 a.m. The nightly services will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Hallelujah Night will be held on Sunday, October 29th from 4:00 until 7:00 pm in the church outdoor pavilion area. Free food, fun, cake walk, inflatables, and of course - CANDY! This is our annual fall celebration for the church and community. Everyone is invited.

UNION-McMINN: In June, a team of 57 volunteers from Union McMinn Baptist Church traveled to Gulfport, MS, to *The Church at Windance*, for a week of summer missions. The mission project included: VBS (Mon-Thurs), visitation/canvassing the community for VBS, and small building/maintenance projects at the church. By the end of the week, 4 souls had accepted Christ as their Savior.



CHURCH GIFTS: We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have shared with the Sweetwater Baptist Association. The church gifts support the various budget opportunities provided by the SBA. Please review the following information, and contact our office if you should have any questions. We thank you again for your support of the budget ministries of the Association.



SBA Church Gifts through July 21, 2017

Church/Mission	Total
411 Chapel	750.00
Altoona	100.00
Antioch	200.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00
Bethlehem	10,006.00
Big Creek	0.00
Calvary	901.27
Cane Creek	2000.00
Cedar Fork	4593.11
Cedar Valley	7076.00

Chestua	900.00
Christianburg	932.42
Citico	761.25
Clifton	250.00
Community	588.25
Compromise	500.00
Conasauga	1000.00
Concord	1046.54
Druid Hills	0.00
Ebenezer	694.00
Fairview	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	12,609.81
Fellowship	992.16
Glenlock	1400.00
Gregory's Chapel	1000.00
Hilltop	225.00
Hopewell Springs	1632.00
Howards Chapel	632.11
Island Creek	3300.00
Lakeside	1200.00
Long Ridge	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00
Macedonia	200.00
Madisonville, First	4166.70
Maple Springs	500.00
Miller's Chapel	1000.00
Mt. Calvary	1046.00
Mt. Isabella	100.00
Mt. Zion	6019.11
Murray's	2608.00
New Bethany	3466.52
New Macedonia	90.00
New Providence	4646.00
North Sweetwater	960.24
Notchey Creek	4239.90
Oakland	300.00
Oak Grove	2710.97
Old Pond Hill	278.00
Old Sweetwater	1000.00
Paint Rock	1100.00
Piney Grove	1000.00
Poplar Bluff	2333.14
Reed Springs	1428.26
Rocky Springs	4500.00
Rural Vale	2666.16
Shady Grove	200.00
Shelton Grove	444.75
Shoal Creek	560.00
South Madisonville	1000.00
Sweetwater, First	3500.00
Tellico	1100.00
Tellico Plains, First	4901.00
Tevis Springs	0.00
Towee Falls	1500.00
Trinity	500.00
Union Grove - Niota	1200.00
Union Hall	361.00
Union McMinn-Niota	4000.00
Unity	200.00
Upper Shady Grove	500.00
Vonore	20,516.03
Walnut Grove	576.08
Watson Chapel	0.00
Westside	0.00
Williamsburg	423.47
TBC	7820.00
Miscellaneous/AM	225.00
Miscellaneous/Interest	260.32
Total Income	\$152,436.57

**Sweetwater Baptist Association
2017 Annual Meeting Program**
Theme: *In Christ Alone* – Acts 4:12

Session I: Monday Evening, October 16, 2017, 6:45 p.m., 411 Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville

Session II: Tuesday Evening, October 17, 2017, 6:45 p.m., Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Vonore

Program Committee

Dwight Torbett, Dennis Robinson, Frank Crawford, Ronnie Dalton, Vernon Webb

Director of Missions

Vice-Moderator

Moderator

Tony Rutherford

Greg McCosh

Carroll Hamilton

Celebrating 187 Years... 1830-2017

Monday Evening Program

Session I, October 16, 2017, 6:45 p.m.

411 Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville

6:45	<i>Prelude</i>	<i>Associational Choir</i>
	<i>Welcome and Prayer</i>	<i>Michael McLemore</i>
	<i>Presentation of Gavel</i>	<i>Tony Rutherford</i>
	<i>Call to Order</i>	<i>Moderator</i>
	<i>Video Message from Executive Director-Treasurer, TBC</i>	<i>Dr. Randy Davis</i>
	<i>Constitution of Body</i>	<i>Sheri Stephens</i>
	<i>Report of Program Committee</i>	<i>Dwight Torbett</i>
	<i>Report of Missions Committee</i>	<i>Carl Croft</i>
7:00	<i>Director of Missions Report</i>	<i>Tony Rutherford</i>
	<i>Offering</i>	<i>Associational Choir</i>
7:40	<i>Message</i>	<i>Dr. Doug Sager</i>

All offerings to be used for the SBA Mission Ministries.

The 2017 Associational Council Report includes Recognition of New Pastors.
All written reports for the Ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and
the Reports for the Ministries of the TBC are included in the
2017 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

Tuesday Evening Program

Session II, October 17, 2017, 6:45 p.m.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Vonore

6:30	<i>Memorial Report</i>	<i>Video Presentation</i>
6:45	<i>Welcome and Prayer</i>	<i>Dennis Robinson</i>
	<i>Presentation of Gavel</i>	<i>Director of Missions</i>
	<i>Call to Order</i>	<i>Moderator</i>
7:00	<i>Business Session</i>	<i>Moderator</i>
	<i>Appointment of Committee on Nominations</i>	<i>Moderator</i>
	<i>Presentation of Missions Committee Recommendations</i>	<i>Carl Croft</i>
	<i>Election of Officers</i>	<i>Vice-Moderator</i>
	<i>Committee on Nominations</i>	<i>Josi Croft</i>
	<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	<i>Sheri Stephens</i>
	<i>Presentation of Budget</i>	<i>Barry Self</i>
	<i>Presentation of 2018 Calendar</i>	<i>Director of Missions</i>
	<i>Offering</i>	<i>Congregational Hymn</i>
	<i>Special Music</i>	
7:40	<i>Moderator's Message</i>	<i>Carroll Hamilton</i>
	<i>Adjourn/Benediction</i>	<i>Incoming Moderator</i>

**Sweetwater Baptist Association
Proposed Budget for 2017-2018**

The Budget Committee recommends the Proposed Budget for 2017-2018 be adopted with the proposed changes, as follows.

- DOM has not received a salary increase in 6 years. The following is recommended: Increase DOM Salary/Housing by \$1076.00 (2% increase)
- If funds are available, the Working Agreements for Ministry Assistants authorize yearly salary increases. The following are recommended:
 - Increase Administrative Assistant Salary by \$492.00 (2% increase)
 - Increase Receptionist Salary by \$437.00 (2% increase)
 - Increase Staff Social Security by \$71.00 (to reflect staff salary increases)
- Section I. Associational Administration, Increase line items by 10% as follows:
 - Increase New Equipment by \$90.00 (purchase, update and maintain computer equipment and software)
 - Increase Associational Calendars by \$70.00 (printing and distribution of yearly calendar)
 - Increase Messengers by \$210.00 (newsletter from Association)
- Section II. Associational Organizations, Increase line items by 10% as follows:
 - Increase Church Growth and Development by \$90.00 (Training, speakers for Church Growth)
 - Increase Vacation Bible School by \$150.00 (VBS Training, Clinic supplies)
 - Increase Womens (WMU) Ministry by \$30.00 (Ladies conference, speakers)
 - Increase Baptist Young Women by \$10.00 (Ladies conference, speakers)
 - Increase Acteens by \$10.00 (Girls conference, speakers)
 - Increase Girls in Action by \$10.00 (Girls conference, speakers)
 - Increase Mission Friends by \$10.00 (Girls conference, speakers)
 - Increase Evangelism by \$150.00 (Conference speaker, promotionals)
 - Increase Local Evangelism/Outreach Trailer by \$150.00 (Local ministry, upkeep on trailer)

- Increase High School Student Scholarship Fund by \$200.00 (Scholarships, award books for recipients)
- Section III. Associational Meeting, Increase line items by 10% as follows:
 - Increase Annual Meeting by \$80.00 (Annual Meeting Expenses)
 - Increase Student/Youth Ministry by \$90.00 (Youth events, speakers)
 - Section IV. Associational Office Maintenance,
 - Add \$3,000.00 for Building Maintenance (This would be new line item for repairs and upkeep of present building.)
 - Increase Insurance (Office) by \$300.00 (Office Building, Disaster Relief Building, Workers Compensation Insurance)
 - Section V. Miscellaneous:
 - Increase DOM Christmas Gift by \$50.00
 - Increase Administrative Assistant Christmas Gift by \$100.00
 - Increase Receptionist Christmas Gift by \$100.00

Sweetwater Baptist Association—Proposed Budget for 2017-2018

I. ASSOCIATIONAL ADMINISTRATION	Budget for 2016-2017	Proposed Budget for 2017-2018	Increase/Decrease
DOM Package:			
DOM Salary/Housing 2%	53,812.00	54,888.00	+ 1,076.00
DOM Benefits	7,966.00	7,966.00	
DOM Business Expenses	11,240.00	11,240.00	
Administrative Assistant 2%	24,600.00	25,092.00	+ 492.00
Adm. Asst Retirement Allowance	2,300.00	2,300.00	
Adm. Asst Travel Allowance	300.00	300.00	
Receptionist 2%	21,830.00	22,267.00	+ 437.00
Receptionist Retirement Allowance	1,260.00	1,260.00	
Receptionist Travel Allowance	300.00	300.00	
Staff Social Security	4,302.00	4,373.00	+ 71.00
Postal Expenses	2,100.00	2,100.00	
Office Supplies	1,980.00	1,980.00	
Office Equipment/Copier Maintenance	1,800.00	1,800.00	
New Equipment	900.00	990.00	+ 90.00
Associational Calendars	700.00	770.00	+ 70.00
Messengers	2,100.00	2,310.00	+ 210.00
II. ASSOCIATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS			
Church Growth and Development	900.00	990.00	+ 90.00
Vacation Bible School	1,500.00	1,650.00	+ 150.00
Mens Ministry/Brotherhood	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Disaster Relief	900.00	900.00	
Royal Ambassadors	75.00	75.00	
Womens Ministry/WMU	300.00	330.00	+ 30.00
Baptist Young Women	100.00	110.00	+ 10.00
Acteens	100.00	110.00	+ 10.00
Girls In Action	100.00	110.00	+ 10.00
Mission Friends	100.00	110.00	+ 10.00
Evangelism	1,500.00	1,650.00	+ 150.00
Local Evangelism/Outreach Trailer	1,500.00	1,650.00	+ 150.00
Music	200.00	200.00	
Missions Development	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Marriage & Family Counseling Ministry	200.00	200.00	
Student Scholarship Fund (High School Seniors)	2,000.00	2,200.00	+ 200.00
Pastor Ministry	2,300.00	2,300.00	
Media Center	200.00	200.00	
III. ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS			
Annual Meeting	800.00	880.00	+ 80.00
Student Ministry/Youth	900.00	990.00	+ 90.00
IV. ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE MAINTENANCE			
***Building Maintenance	0.00	3,000.00	***+ 3,000.00
General Maintenance	3,400.00	3,400.00	
Telephone/Internet/Website	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Utilities	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Insurance (Office)	3,000.00	3,300.00	+ 300.00
V. MISCELLANEOUS			
General Miscellaneous	630.00	630.00	
Christmas Gift (DOM)	450.00	500.00	+ 50.00
Christmas Gift (AA)	400.00	500.00	+ 100.00
Christmas Gift (RC)	400.00	500.00	+ 100.00
The Tennessee Baptist Convention provides TBC Supplement for the Sweetwater Baptist Association per terms of Covenant Agreement. Total Monthly \$782.00/Annually \$9384.00			
TOTALS - overall 4% increase	\$168,445.00	\$175,421.00	+ \$6,976.00

+ Increase -Decrease ***New Item

The proposed overall budget INCREASE is \$6976.00 or a total budget of \$175,421.00. This is a proposed budget increase of 4%.

Sweetwater Baptist Association
696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS

MODERATOR David Chambers	VICE MODERATOR Dwight Torbett	Associational Council Officers & Committee Chairmen
Pastor Advisor Frank Hicks	Church Growth/Leadership Director Frank Crawford	Mission Committee Gerald Atkins, Chairman
Disaster Relief Director Tony Curtis	Historian Co-Directors Kay James & Angie Johnson	Media Ministry Director Betty Wolfe
Men's Ministry Director	Music Director Phillip Johnson	Prayer Ministry Director Svitlana Self
RA Director Phil Roy	WMU Director Charlotte Hollinghead	Vacation Bible School Directors Brian and Kim Williamson
Preschool/Mission Friends Director Savonna Chambers	Girls/GA Director Michelle Spradlin	Acteens Director Connie Gardner
Annuity Committee Director of Missions	Bivocational Pastors Council SBA Office Staff	Christian Life Committee David Lane, Chairman
Committee on Nominations Eddie McDaniel, Chairman	Constitution Committee Kay James, Chairperson	Evangelism Committee Steven McDonald, Chairman
Finance Committee Barry Self, Chairman	Personnel Committee Diane Wall, Chairperson	Program Committee Lewis Jones, Chairman
Scholarship Committee Betty Wolfe, Chairperson	Trustees Carl "Buddy" Richesin, Chairman	Youth Council Casey King, Chairman

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Welcome New Pastors

Lakeside Mitch Ingram
Lower Chilhowee Jeff Patton
Upper Shady Grove Taylor Duncan

Director of Mission Visits:

Old Pond Hill, Christianburg, Old Sweetwater, Murray's, Upper Shady Grove, Oak Grove, DOM Retreat-Pigeon Forge, Pisgah (Meigs Co), Poplar Bluff, Shelton Grove, Notchey Creek, Bethlehem, Mt. Calvary, Rocky Springs, South Madisonville, Hopewell, Union Hall, 411 Chapel, Chestua, Madisonville First, Union McMinn, Fairview Tabernacle, Sweetwater First, Vonore, Mt. Zion, Conasauga, Watson Chapel, New Bethany, Fairview, Reed Springs, Guatemala, Calvary

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Cane Creek, Howard's Chapel, Long Ridge, Reed Springs, Shady Grove



Check Out Our Website

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook

Upcoming Events

"The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth." --Psalm 145:18

August 23CP Focus Meeting, SBA Office 10:00 a.m.
August 28Church Growth and Development Conference, Madisonville First, 6:30 p.m.
September 5Seminary Extension Classes Begins @ SBA Office, 6:30 p.m.
September 10-17..Week of Prayer for State Missions and Golden Offering
September 11Pastor/Family Picnic, Notchey Creek Pavilion, 6:30 p.m.
September 13Food Boxes to be returned to SBA Office for Food Box Give-Away
September 27See You at the Pole
October 7Food Box Give-Away at SBA Office
October 16Annual Meeting, Session 1 411 Chapel, 6:45 p.m.
October 17Annual Meeting, Session 2, Mt. Zion, 6:45 p.m.
November 6WMU Quarterly Meeting, Tellico, First Baptist Church, 7:00 p.m.
November 13-15...The Summit, Tennessee Baptist Convention, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville

East TN Healthcare - Birthday Cake Schedule

August	411 Chapel	September	Mt. Zion
October	Notchey Creek	November	Bethlehem

SBA Pastor's Conference, Monday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.
SBA Office Building, Madisonville, Everyone Welcome!

Information for the next newsletter must be received by **November 10**

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

Plan now to attend....Sweetwater Baptist Association
Association Evangelism Conference
Monday, January 21, 2018
6:45 p.m.



Dr. Roc Collins
Conference Speaker

Director of Evangelism, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board
Former Senior Pastor, Indian Springs Baptist Church, Kingsport

Hosted by: **Notchey Creek Baptist Church**
Madisonville, Tennessee

Theme: *In Christ Alone*, Acts 4:12
EVERYONE INVITED

The Summit
Tennessee Baptist Convention
November 13-15, 2017
FBC, Hendersonville, Tennessee
Annual Gathering of Tennessee Baptists



www.tnbaptist.org