

The MESSENGER

of the
Sweetwater Baptist Association

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

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Website: www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook

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Volume 12

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Number 59

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
2022 Annual Meeting
Monday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.

Hosted by: **Bethlehem Baptist Church, Madisonville**

Theme: *Our Heritage Lives On* Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Moderator, Michael McLemore..... Vice-Moderator, Darrell Cardin
Highlights of Annual Meeting Program Include.....

● **Business Session: 6:30 p.m.**

- Video Presentation of Memorial Report
- Video by Executive Director-Treasurer, TBMB, Dr. Randy Davis
- Election of Officers
- Committee on Nominations
- Treasurer's Report
- Presentation of Budget
- Director of Missions Report/Presentations/2023 Calendar

● **Worship Session following Business Session**

- Special Music by Kayla Disspain and Jamie McLemore
- Message by Moderator

Sweetwater Baptist Association

Associational Evangelism Rally

January 9-10, 2023 **6:45 p.m.**

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



Dr. Jeff LaBorg

Senior Pastor, Fairview Knox Church, Corryton
Conference Preacher



SPECIAL MUSIC

Monday Evening, Associational Choir
under direction of Phillip Johnson

Tuesday Evening, Kenny Evans



EVERYONE INVITED!

Sweetwater Baptist Association, Family of Churches Welcome

Pastor Dustin George

and wife *Rebecca*

Vonore

Baptist Church



Pastor Josh Sloan

and wife *Ashley*

Williamsburg

Baptist Church

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

Sweetwater Baptist Association presents

SCOTT DAVIS

**Senior Adult
Christmas Show**

10:30 a.m. Vonore Baptist Church

FREE: Everyone Invited

Monday, December 5th



Sing-along with
JOSH CROFT



Pastor & Wife Christmas Banquet

6:30 p.m. Vonore Family Life Center
(Reservations Required)

**Director
of
Missions**



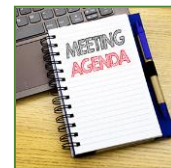
“IT’S REVIVAL TIME IN TENNESSEE!” That is not exactly what you hear on a typical Saturday in the south! However, it is a great slogan for the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

Many churches have traditionally held fall revivals. Summer has faded, workers scurry home before dark, and life slows down. It is an excellent time for revivals. Your senior adults can probably remember when two weeks of revival were experienced each spring and fall of the year. Those days have gone but need not be erased from our memory. You may want to let one of your senior saints’ share (positively) how the church was impacted by the spiritual highlights of days gone by. Church growth, families rescued, and lives changed can often be traced to churches praying, singing, and preaching during revival times. Hopefully, your church is planning a fall revival or maybe several churches in a community can join together to experience a broader saturation of the Holy Spirit through revival services.

We still have a few churches that are suffering from the results of Covid-19. I was sitting in the doctor’s office the other day and heard two older couples talking. One gentleman stated where he and his wife attended church but continued to say they had not been since the covid issue caused the church to call off worship. I know many older couples have developed a fear over this issue. While I understand everyone’s concern, we must gage our response to any issue in regard to our health and our faith. Hopefully, our congregations will continue to minister to those who restrict their going as well as to the shut-ins. We look forward to everyone returning to Sunday School and worship in the near future. Please understand that your church family misses you and I know you miss the privilege of worshipping together.

As we enter the autumn season, let us keep our focus on the mission which the Father has placed us. We have the privilege to minister to people of all ages and each situation we encounter is different. Yet, God seems to equip us to provide the solution that brings Him honor and glory. As Southern Baptists, we are reminded of the fore-father’s vision of reaching the lost with an unblemished Gospel. With boldness, God has brought us into the 21st century and placed in our heart the desire to share His love. Touching lives in the name of Jesus has not gone out of style. The need is greater today than any time in history. The church must keep its heart and focus on the hurting of our society. Please do not get distracted by the things that may beset us. – *Tony*

ANNUAL MEETING, 2022: Please let us encourage all elected Messengers to attend the upcoming 192nd Annual Session of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. (Visitors are welcome to attend but cannot participate in business.)



The meeting will be held on Monday evening, October 17th at Bethlehem Baptist Church. The Business Session will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Worship Session will follow. Our Moderator, Michael McLemore will preach the sermon during the Worship Session. We thank him and our Vice-Moderator Darrell Cardin for their outstanding leadership this past year.

The *Memorial Report* for this year will include the *Dedication of the 2022 Minutes* of the Association in memory of former pastors: Rod Miller, Fred Beaty, Kenneth Johnson and Tyson Matoy. These men were beloved and faithful servants to this Association and our Lord.

We look forward to seeing you at this important meeting of the Association.

ANNUAL MEETING of the SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Monday, October 17

Hosted by: **Bethlehem Baptist Church, Madisonville**

Business Session: 6:30 p.m. Worship Service 7:15 p.m.

HOLY LAND GROUP TOUR

for SBA & Yael Adventure (Hosted by Tony Rutherford): The *January 2023 Israel Tour* will be held January 23 - February 1, 2023. We still have a few seats remaining! Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association office at 423-442-6604 **AS SOON**



AS POSSIBLE, if you are interested in being part of this group.

OCTOBER is Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor Appreciation Month/Day is an excellent opportunity for churches to affirm love and appreciation to the men of God who are called and serve the Churches. 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. We are so thankful for our pastors and their families, and their ministry to the churches and communities.

The Summit is the annual gathering of Tennessee Baptists for *Pastors Conference* and *Annual Meeting*. It will be held



November 13-16 at Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova. Visit www.tnbaptist.org/summit2022 for additional online registration information.



CHRISTMAS BANQUET FOR PASTOR & WIFE: Reservations are required for the *Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* that will be

held on **Monday evening, December 5th at 6:30 p.m.** Highlights for the evening will include the reading of the Christmas story, a Christmas sing-along with Josh Croft, and guest Christian comedian/singer, Scott Davis. The catered meal/banquet will be held at Vonore Baptist Church, Family Life Center in Vonore. .

Pastors, we will soon be mailing reservation information for the *Banquet*. Due to limited space and to help plan the meal, we will need to please receive \$5.00 per person to confirm your reservation. You may also call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net the number attending the *Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet*.

Senior Adult Christmas Show
Monday, December 5, 10:30 a.m.
 Vonore Baptist Church
FREE EVENT!




Featuring
SCOTT DAVIS

Sing-along with
JOSH CROFT

Everyone Invited!



SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS SHOW: The *Senior Adult Christmas Show* will be held on **Monday morning, December 5th at 10:30 a.m.** This is a **FREE** event; open to all ages! It will be held at Vonore Baptist Church.

You will not want to miss Christian comedian, author and singer, Scott Davis! Scott is known for his family-oriented Christian comedy. As a best selling author, he has made people laugh about life and given hope through print. With a full music scholarship, Scott is an accomplished vocalist and has traveled the US and abroad. You will recognize Scott from appearing on Mark Lowry's videos, and he has written comedy for Mark while under contract with Word Records.

We will also enjoy a Christmas sing-along with Josh Croft. You will be blessed as Josh shares joys of the Christmas season through his musical talents! Josh serves as Associate Pastor at Old Sweetwater Baptist Church.

We know you will not want to miss this special presentation! Bring your group! Everyone is invited (all ages) to this free Christmas show.



TINY HOUSES: In 2019, \$24,545.65 was presented to Shelter My Sheep Ministries on behalf of the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association to provide funds to build micro "tiny" houses. We are



happy to share with you that construction on 4 "tiny" houses has now been completed. These units are being used to assist with the homelessness in our area. Thank you for your generous giving.

ISAIAH 117: Work is continuing at the *Monroe-McMinn County, Isaiah 117* house. The roof, electrical work, plumbing, and HVAC work are all completed. The front door has been delivered and installed. In addition, the brick was delivered and started; and the siding is almost completed. The insulation on the inside has also been delivered and installation has started. The dry wall will begin next!



Isaiah 117 is a ministry devoted to providing temporary housing and comfort for children while waiting for placement in foster care. The house is located at the intersection of County Road 517 and 519 in Englewood. Thank you for being part of this worthwhile ministry.



MYANMAR UPDATE: The country of Myanmar has experienced a devastating military takeover. However, in the midst of the unrest, the drilling of water wells has not been hindered. Thirty water wells have been drilled since January, without the awareness of the military and government officials! For many of the people, this is the first clean water they have ever had. In addition, rations of rice, onions and oil have been provided for the starving people in the area. Clean water and food for the hungry have opened doors to share the Gospel of Christ! Please continue to pray for this ministry, and for God's protection on the workers in this dangerous region.



2023 ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM RALLY: Please mark your calendar now and make plans to attend the **2023 Sweetwater Baptist Association Evangelism Rally!** The meeting will be held on **Monday and Tuesday, January 9 & 10!** The Rally will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church** in Madisonville, and will begin at **6:45 p.m.** each evening.

Dr. Jeff LaBorg will serve as the conference speaker. He currently serves as Senior Pastor of Fairview Knox Church, Corryton. We are excited to have Dr. LaBorg to come and share with us for both evenings.

Special music on Monday evening will be provided by Phillip Johnson and the Associational Choir. Phillip is Minister of Music at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater. Then Kenny Evans will provide special music on Tuesday evening. Kenny is a well-known Christian musician/vocalist in our area. We know you will be blessed each evening.

Please encourage your church leaders and members to attend the *Evangelism Rally*. Everyone is invited to attend. Again, please mark your calendars for **Monday and Tuesday evening, January 9th and 10th at Notchey Creek Baptist Church!**

August/September 2022 Gifts to SBA for Disaster Relief Funds for Kentucky

Christianburg.....	1000.00
Clifton.....	200.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1000.00
Lakeside.....	1730.00
Long Ridge.....	1564.00
Mt. Zion	40.00
Paint Rock.....	2000.00
Rural Vale.....	200.00
Sweetwater, First Baptist.....	275.00
Tellico, First Baptist	1964.00
Tellico Ballplay	3000.00
Barry & Svitlana Self.....	100.00
John Isbill.....	500.00
Outreach Across America.....	100.00

*Plus, over \$2000.00 in gift cards/checks directly to the Rehoboth Bible Baptist Church from various individuals/churches

KENTUCKY DISASTER RELIEF:

Thank you to the many individuals and churches who responded in a great way to the devastating needs for the people of Kentucky. Donations of food, clothing, paper products, household and cleaning supplies were collected and taken to the Rehoboth Bible Baptist Church in Jackson, Kentucky. These will be distributed to the hurting people in that community. In addition, several thousands of dollars in gift cards, as well as monetary gifts, were received for families who suffered great loss to their homes when their lives were impacted by the damaging floods. Our prayers continue to be with these who have lost so much.



UPDATE ON UKRAINE RELIEF:

Over the past months, many of our churches and individuals have responded directly to the needs of church family and friends in Ukraine. Our Resident Interpreter, Svitlana Self is continuing to be available to assist with the distribution of monetary gifts for responding to the needs of churches, pastors, family and friends that remain in the Ukraine. Svitlana can be contacted at 423-420-9253 or through our office at 423-442-6604. Thank you churches for ministering to those deeply affected and severely impacted by the crisis in Ukraine. Thank you for always being generous supporters of missions. Please continue to pray for the Ukraine nation and the people of Ukraine.



GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT:

We are praying for short-term mission volunteers to serve on ministry teams in 2023 in Guatemala. It is hopeful that established ministry work will continue where focus has already begun by current teams, and additional work will begin in different areas of Guatemala by new teams. If you are interested in serving on a 2023 mission team in Guatemala, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association. The project dates are tentatively planned for June 20-27.



IOWA MISSION PROJECT:

Recently a volunteer mission team from Reed Springs, Union McMinn, Island Creek, Bethlehem, Fairview Tabernacle and Shelton Grove traveled to Iowa to participate in Vacation Bible School and Revival. Prior to the mission project, the SBA Office assisted Downey Baptist Church and this volunteer team by

preparing over 2000 door-to-door mailouts. These were sent out in the community of West Branch, Iowa (where the team would work) with an invitation to attend the VBS and revival services. We have now received the following note of appreciation from Pastor Brian McNamara of Downey Baptist Church. "I would like to share my thought about the churches that come to Iowa. It is remarkable the things they do for our kids and families of the church. This year has been the greatest impact so far. When I put out that churches from Tennessee are coming again to help us with VBS, there becomes an instant excitement come over our church. At the end of this VBS, we had 2 saved (praise God), 5 families that came the following week to church. And as I see it, the love they sent out to these people was God sent. We are a small church with limited amount of people, so to be able to have this kind of love and support is God sent. Thank you all for being willing to travel to help us as we try to witness to the community."

ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:

The 2022 Minutes of the 192nd Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association are being completed and will be available for pickup in the SBA office very soon. We will notify the churches as soon as the Minute Books are available. This year the 2022 Minutes are dedicated in memory of former pastors: Rod Miller, Fred Beaty, Kenneth Johnson and Tyson Matoy. Extra copies of the Minutes are available at \$7.00 per printed copy on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Minutes of the 192nd Annual Meeting will also be available on our website at www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com.



2023 SBA CALENDARS will be available at

the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office by mid-November. We will advise when the calendars are available for pickup. We hope Pastors and Church Leadership will use the calendar in planning church events for 2023, 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.



Sweetwater Baptist Association presents

FINANCIAL TAX SEMINAR

SBA Office Building, Madisonville

Monday, January 16, 2023

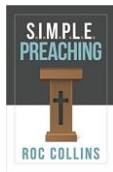
10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.



DEBORAH TAYLOR, CPA

Important information for Pastors, ministers, financial secretaries, treasurers, administrators, bookkeepers, finance and personnel committee members, payroll clerks, church staff, administrative staff, church leadership! **Mark your calendar! Watch for more information!**

PREACHERS CLASS COMING IN FEBRUARY: The Notchey Creek Baptist Church in conjunction with the Sweetwater Baptist Association will host Dr. Roc Collins for a **Preachers Class** on **Saturday, February 25th**. All pastors, ministers and preachers (young and old) are invited to attend. In addition, since we are replacing the regular *Winter Bible Study Class* (which is usually held in January with this *February Preachers Class*) all Bible Study Students are encouraged to attend this *Preachers Class*, as well. The total class fee is \$15.00 per person to cover the cost of materials.



Dr. Collins will share insights from his new book, *S.I.M.P.L.E. Preaching* during this one-day session. The meeting will be held at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Copies of the book will be available on the day of the class.

Registration will be required since breakfast will be provided from 8:30-9:00 a.m. and light refreshments are being planned at noon. Please watch for additional information regarding registering or contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net or becky.jones@bellsouth.net.

2023 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Watch for new plans for 2023 *Associational Vacation Bible School!* A **"VBS Showcase"** will be held on **Monday evening, March 7th**.



We will have 5 different VBS themes with sampler kits for each on display at the Associational Office. Pastors and VBS Directors will be invited to see the options that are available for their church. Ordering information for each theme will also be available. In addition to the showcase night, the display will remain set up in the office for about a month, so anyone can come in during office hours and see the themes. Then at the end of the month, we will have a drawing to give away the VBS sampler kits.

Additional information about Vacation Bible School and the *VBS Showcase* will be forthcoming! --Bryan and Kim Williamson, *Associational VBS Directors*



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. The

counseling center offers sessions and conferences for individuals, marriage, and families. Sessions deal with issues such as relationships, grief, divorce recovery, stress and anxiety, and coping skills. For more information, to book a conference, or to schedule an appointment call **865.414.3269**.



CHURCH GIFTS: We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have provided for the Sweetwater Baptist Association. These gifts support the various budget ministries of the Association. **Church Gifts for October 2021 through September 21, 2022** totaled \$203,553.71; and **Budget Expenses for 2021-2022** were \$191,078.12. 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 2021-2022
(as of 09.21.2022)**

Church	Total	Church	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	New Macedonia	1,400.00
Antioch	250.00	New Providence	8,496.73
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	New Zion	100.00
Bethlehem	14,431.70	North Sweetwater	1,295.59
Big Creek	0.00	Notchey Creek	6,369.56
Calvary	1,176.63	Oak Grove	4,952.01
Cane Creek	2,400.00	Oakland	400.00
Cedar Fork	5,794.29	Old Pond Hill	275.00
Cedar Valley	9,194.69	Old Sweetwater	1,000.00
Christianburg	1,297.16	Paint Rock	1,320.00
Citico	1,083.95	Piney Grove	0.00
Clifton	300.00	Poplar Bluff	3,063.18
Community	934.19	Reed Springs	3,448.00
Compromise	600.00	Rocky Springs	4,400.00
Conasauga	1,100.00	Rural Vale	5,350.25
Concord	1,240.54	Shady Grove	500.00
Delano	4,158.59	Shelton Grove	2,701.52
Druid Hills	1,200.00	Shoal Creek	1,089.00
Ebenezer	786.00	South Madisonville	1,200.00
Fairview	0.00	Sweetwater First	4,200.00
Fairview Tabernacle	18,000.00	Tellico	1,200.00
Fellowship	1,900.18	Tellico First	6,447.00
Glenlock	4,676.00	Tevis Springs	100.00
Gregory's Chapel	1,200.00	Towee Falls	1,800.00
Hopewell Springs	1,416.00	Trinity	500.00
Howards Chapel	671.07	Union Grove	1,320.00
Island Creek	3,600.00	Union Hall	593.00
Lakeside	1,200.00	Union McMinn	4,800.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	Unity	200.00
Lower Chilhowee	400.00	Upper Shady Grove	600.00
Macedonia	340.00	Vonore	19,914.22
Madisonville, First	5,000.04	Walnut Grove	1,859.00
Maple Springs	500.00	Watson Chapel	2,036.69
Miller's Chapel	1,200.00	Westside	0.00
Mt. Calvary	1,184.28	Williamsburg	423.92
Mt. Isabella	0.00	TBMB	8,602.00
Mt. Zion	6,587.64	Miscellaneous	287.62
Murray's	1,778.00	Total	\$203,553.71
New Bethany	4,708.47		

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents
2023 Bivocational Pastor's & Wives Retreat
January 26-28
Music Road Hotel & Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, TN
 Additional information: www.tnbaptist.org



YOUTH COMMITTEE: With CONNECT 2022 in our rearview mirror, we are looking ahead to next year's event.

We are happy to announce that **Ryan Keaton** will be back delivering the message.

Ryan did an outstanding job this year, presenting the gospel and sharing words of encouragement



and challenge to our students.

We are also excited that **Roger Williams and the All-Mixed-Up Quartet** will be back providing our worship music.

As your church and youth groups begin to plan your 2023 calendar, please mark **Thursday, July 13 for Youth Connect!**

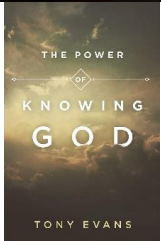
Looking forward to another great year for associational youth ministry. -- *Josh Croft, Committee Chairman*



ASSOCIATIONAL MEDIA CENTER UPDATE:

The Associational Media Center has approximately 50 bible studies that can be checked-out and used by your Sunday School class, Small Group, Women's Retreat, Youth Retreat, etc. Most are DVD

studies and include a wide variety of topics, such as Deacon Training, Parenting, Students, Women's, and Men's Bible Studies. You can find studies by some great authors, such as Francis Chan, Max Lucado, Priscilla Shirer, Lysa TerKeurst, Louie Giglio, Tony Evans and more. Please come by and check out a Bible Study for your next group study.



I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming **WMU/Ladies Ministry Meeting** on Monday, November 7th at 7:00 pm. South

**SBA
WMU/Ladies
Ministry News**

Madisonville Baptist Church will be hosting the meeting and our guest speaker will be Tabitha Woodby and board members from the food ministry Jehovah Jireh. This ministry serves a free meal every Thursday for anyone in need at the Marcella Center located in Sweetwater. They make meal deliveries to shut-ins in the area. Since our program guest provides a food ministry, I would like to encourage all the ladies to bring canned foods and non-perishables for a food drive to benefit the Jehovah Jireh Ministry. In addition, we want to ask our ladies to please bring gently used or new coats and jackets. All sizes are needed!

These will be taken and distributed to families in Kentucky that were devastated by recent floods. Every little bit helps in a mission ministry as some of you know. Be on the lookout for a postcard in the mail with all the meeting information. All ladies or anyone that is



interested in missions are welcome. Please invite your friends and fellow church members.

A reminder that The WMU/Ladies Ministry now has a group text service. If you would like to join and start receiving information on upcoming events and news please contact Becky Jones at the association to get signed up. --*Rachel Thompson, Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director*

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS:

The *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering* has been supporting missionaries since 1888. Your giving makes this work possible. Your offerings enable missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached people and places for the glory of God. The suggested date for the *Week of Prayer for International Missions* and *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering* is November 28-December 5. Plan now to take part in the *Week of Prayer for International Missions* and the *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering*. Please remember that 100% of your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering go directly to the missionaries on the field. The theme for this year is *Together, We Reach the Nations*. Your generosity helps make an impact, as *Together* we do much more! (Information taken from www.imb.org.)



LOOKING FOR A CHURCH VAN: Pisgah Baptist Church in Meigs Co. is looking for a good, used, late-model, 15-passenger van. If your church has one to donate or sell, please contact Nathan Dennis at 423-368-1139.

LICENSINGS, ORDINATIONS, & ANNIVERSARIES



On July 6, **BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH**, licensed two men to preach the gospel, Jesse Bunch and Keeton Stakely.



On July 24, **NEW MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH** ordained Brett King. Brett is serving as the Youth Pastor of **Sweetwater, First Baptist Church**.



On August 21, Tony presented a 200-Year Anniversary Plaque to **MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**. This plaque was issued by the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board in recognition of this milestone. (Pictured: *Pastor, Andy Franklin*)

On August 21, **ISLAND CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH** ordained Luke Brackett. Luke is serving as Pastor of **Chestua Baptist Church**. (Pictured *Danny Lingerfelt and Luke Brackett*.)



On September 25, **MADISONVILLE, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** ordained two new Deacons, Matt White and Chris Bowers. (Pictured: *Matt & Carrie White, Chris & Robin Bowers*.)

CHURCH NEWS

CONCORD

- Soup Drive-Thru, Oct 22, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Thanksgiving Lunch, Nov 20, after service
- Christmas Nativity Drive-Thru, Dec 9-10, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm



We also have a portable baptistry to give-away. If interested, please contact Pastor Neal Pillion at 423-334-3265.

FAIRVIEW TABERNACLE

Fall Revival, 4 Monday Nights, 6:30 pm

Sept 26, Jeff LaBorg, Oct 3, Phil Haskins, Oct 10, Kevin Hamm, Oct 17, Roc Collins



HOWARD'S CHAPEL

We are having Harvest/Old Timer's Day on Sunday October 9th, beginning at 10:30 am. Tony Rutherford will be preaching, and dinner will be held after service.



MT. ZION

- Trunk or Treat, Oct 26
 - Annual Community Thanksgiving Harvest Service, Nov 22, 7:00 pm
- Children's Christmas Program, Dec 18, Morning Service
 - Adult Christmas Program, Dec 18, Evening Service

NOTCHEY CREEK

- Hallelujah Night, Sunday, October 30, 4:00-7:00 pm
- Visit on Facebook or our website for all upcoming Fall/Harvest, Thanksgiving & Christmas events www.notcheycreekbaptist.org



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

We are accepting resumes for the position of Full-Time Senior Pastor. Resumes can be mailed or email (emailed preferred) to:

Pastorsearchfbcsweet@gmail.com or 303 Wright St, Sweetwater, TN 37874. A full job description can be found on the SBA website,

under the Churches tab.

UNION GROVE

- Annual Fish Fry, Oct 1, 6:00 pm
- Fall Festival, Oct 29, 5:00 pm
- Thanksgiving Meal, Nov 13 @ 11:00 am
- Hanging of the Green, Dec 4, 6:00 pm
- Adult Christmas Musical/Play, Dec 17, 6:00 pm, Dec 18, 11:00 am
- Children's Christmas Play, Dec 18, at 6:00 pm
- Christmas Eve Service, Dec 24, 6:00 pm
- New Year's Eve Get-together, Dec 31, 8:00 pm till Midnight



UNION MCMINN

- Fall Festival, Oct 9, 5:00 pm
- Thanksgiving Dinner, Nov 19, 6:00 pm
- Celebration of Blessings/Redeemed & Jr Youth, Nov 27, 6:30 pm
- Angel Breakfast, Dec 3, 8:00 am
- Redeemed Team, Dec 4, 6:30 pm
- Drive Thru Nativity, Dec 9-10, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Christmas Program, Dec 24, 6:30 pm

OPERATON CHRISTMAS CHILD

SHOEBOXES: It's shoebox time again.

Do you pack shoeboxes? Do you want to know more about them and how to get started? Contact Monroe County Church Relations Leader, Carolyn Reynolds at 423-836-3464.



Shoobox Drop-Off Dates

NOVEMBER 14-21, 2022

Island Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville:

Mon-Fri: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

Sat: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Sun: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Mon: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota:

Mon-Mon: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2021-2022

MODERATOR

MICHAEL McLEMORE

VICE MODERATOR

DARRELL CARDIN

Associational Council

Officers & Committee Chairman

Committee on Nominations

Carroll Hamilton, Chairman

Constitution Committee

Roman Hamilton, Chairman

Evangelism Committee

Doug Alexander, Chairman

Budget/Finance Committee

Jonas Turpin, Chairman

Disaster Relief Director

Jim Jolley

Mission Committee

Ronnie Best, Chairman

Personnel Committee

Shannon Croft, Chairperson

Scholarship Committee

Mitch Ingram, Chairman

Trustees

Pat McGinnis, Chairman

Music Director

Phillip Johnson

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

Dustin George.....Vonore

Josh SloanWilliamsburg

Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:

Watson Chapel; Shelton Grove (Homecoming); Concord; Erwin First; Guatemala; Fairview (Tellico); Conasauga; Bethlehem; Maple Springs, Tellico First; Big Creek; CONNECT; Iowa; Fact Finding Trip;

South Dakota-Wyoming; Missouri; Delano; Calvary

VBS: Shelton's Grove; Poplar Bluff; Watson Chapel; South Madisonville; Mt Calvary; Shoal Creek; Madisonville First;

Rocky Springs; Big Creek; Bethlehem; Fairview Tabernacle; Mt Zion; Union McMinn; Island Creek; Conasauga;

Rural Vale; New Bethany; Old Sweetwater; Union Grove; Notchey Creek

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Lakeside (Interim), Murrays, Sweetwater First (Interim), Union McMinn (Interim)



Sweetwater Baptist Association Check Out Our Website

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook

SBA Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events/News

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

—Luke 2:14

October 17..... Annual Meeting, Bethlehem, Business Session, 6:30 p.m.
October 17..... Annual Meeting, Bethlehem, Worship Service, 7:15 p.m.
November 7..... WMU/Ladies Meeting, South Madisonville, 7:00 p.m.
November 13-16.. The Summit, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Cordova
November 24 Thanksgiving Day
Nov 28-Dec 5..... Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
December 5 Senior Adult Christmas Show, Vonore, 10:30 a.m.
December 5 Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, Vonore, 6:30 p.m.
December 25 Christmas Day



January 1 New Year's Day
January 9 & 10 SBA Evangelism Rally,
Notchey Creek, 6:45 p.m.
January 16 Financial Seminar, SBA Office,
10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

WMU/Ladies Group

Please contact Activities Director at 442-3990 regarding
Madisonville Health & Rehab – Nursing Home Birthday Cake Schedule

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



The Upper Room Christian Counseling **Macy Small, M.A.**
112 Key Kile Road, Sweetwater, TN 37874 865.414.3269

The next issue of The Messenger will be January/February.

The Association Office will be closed November 23-24 in observance of the holidays. Thank you for this time to spend with family and friends.

— The Associational Staff

PLEASE NOTE: Photos are taken at all associational meetings and events. These may be used by the Association in newsletters, on our website or social media sites.

SBA PASTORS CONFERENCE: Monday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.

•No Pastor's Conference in Month of December

•Pastors Conference will resume on January 9th

The Association Office will be closed December 20-January 2 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