

The MESSENGER
of the
Sweetwater Baptist Association



SWEET WATER
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.

TONY RUTHERFORD

Director of Missions
tonyrutherford@bellsouth.net

SHERI STEPHENS

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

BECKY JONES

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

SVITLANA SELF

Resident Interpreter Volunteer

Volume 13

November/December, 2023

Number 65

2024
EAST TENNESSEE
EVANGELISM
RALLY
FEBRUARY 24

Save the date



Dr. Roc Collins
Strategic Objectives Director
Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

Dr. Dean Haun
Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church
Morristown, TN



Daniel Doss
with Band
Special Music



Rev. Allan Taylor
Executive Pastor of Ministries,
First Baptist Church Concord
Knoxville, TN

Natchey Creek Baptist Church
in conjunction with
Sweetwater Baptist Association
For more information 423-442-6604

8:30 a.m. **PASTORS,
PREACHERS, &
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**
(open to all)

7:00 p.m. **EVANGELISM
RALLY** (open to all)

Hosted by: **Natchey Creek
Baptist Church**
5529 New Hwy 68, Madisonville, TN 37354

Sweetwater Baptist Association presents



THE LORE FAMILY
**Senior Adult
Christmas Show**
10:30 a.m. Vonore Baptist Church
Monday, December 4th
Everyone Invited!

**Pastor & Wife
Christmas Banquet**
(Reservations Required
for Banquet)

6:30 p.m. Vonore Family Life Center



*Sounds
of the
Season*

Sweetwater Baptist Association, Family of Churches Welcome

Pastor Cody Dalton
wife Rachael & Daughters
**CANE CREEK
Baptist Church**



We are praying for this pastor and
congregation as they share the love of
Christ in their community.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

Monday, October 23, 6:30 p.m.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Hosted by: **New Providence Baptist Church, Tellico Plains**

Darrell Cardin, Moderator **David Lane, Vice-Moderator**

**All in attendance are invited to bring donations for New Providence's Mission Center. Items will be collected in the church foyer.

Needed items include: non-perishable foods, hygiene items, baby diapers, laundry detergent, etc.

Director of Missions

THE RULES:

"She was along just for the fun of it." Hayrides and wiener roasts are a part of growing up. The tragic thing is sometimes



the best of plans goes wrong. The rules are given before the night's festivities begin. They sound the same every time, so no one really listens. "Do not get too close to the fire. Let the adults help with the sticks. Do not jump off the wagon once we have started. Do not throw things. Be sure you do not push and shove." As darkness settles in our valley, the gang of young men and women are gathering for an evening that creates memories for adolescence. The cool night air is driven away by the crackling embers of the bonfire. Mittens are exchanged for a wooden stick upon which is placed the American tradition, a hot dog. Standing close to the fire, the hands are getting hot. The wind changes direction causing the smoke to fill the eyes. Uncontrollable tears ran down the face. Little does anyone realize they are tears of premonition.

A ton of hot dogs, marshmallows, and s'mores are consumed. Bodies are bundled in coats, scarves, and caps. Hands are protected by gloves. All that is left exposed to the night air is the nose. The tractor coughs and belches as smoke rises into the sky. The smell of diesel acts as an alarm clock calling the young, and young at heart, to find their place amid the straw and bales of hay.

The hayride is a southern tradition. Many tender hearts have fallen in love beneath a moonlit sky, while holding hands and singing songs. The wagon of excited adventures makes its way over the bumpy field. Only hours before cattle had instinctively traveled this path to the barn. This evening the pasture had been reserved for pleasure. As children will be children, someone forgets the rules. A small attempt of trickery leads to tragedy. A girl falls off the wagon and is run over. Some would say, "rules are meant to be broken," and "accidents happen." Others would place blame on the group, the driver, the hay, or God Himself. Everyone would think the price of such an error is too great. This is often the tragedy of coming to maturity. Today, maybe there is not an answer, but in Christ there is comfort.

The above story comes from a true event from my pastoral experience. Many of you have been faced with similar tragedies in your congregation. Sometimes the best way to minister to such hurt is to just sit and cry with the family. Job's friends sat with him for a week before saying a word. Even though their assumption was wrong, their action communicated love for Job.

Christ gave us rules to abide by to traverse life that will lead the follower safely home. There are three words that come to my mind: repent, believe, and obey. Jesus' message was a universal call to repent or to change the direction of their thinking concerning God, and how God was reaching out to humanity (Matthew 4:17). When Jesus proclaims the command to repent, it is a call to allow Jesus to reign in the heart of the believer. Jesus challenged their traditional view of Messiah. Before the religious Jew could move from cold ritual to relationship their mind and heart had to reverse action to open to the possibility that Jesus was the Son of God.

In John 3:36, the author John stresses the word believe. He says: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that

believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." The apostle, that Jesus loved, uses the term "believe" to magnify the follower's relationship with Christ. John believed the true believer would allow faith in Christ to greatly impact the Christian lifestyle. Therefore, the words of the believer would match the way the person lives (I John 1:6-7). It is not simply saying "I believe," following the rules creates a pattern of obedience.

This brings us to the final rule of survival: Obey. Samuel challenges King Saul's disobedience in I Samuel 15:22. King Saul had defeated the Amalekites in battle. Saul had been instructed to destroy the Amalekites and their livestock. Saul had kept some of the spoils, and he claimed the animals were for sacrifice to the Lord. Samuel's response was "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice." Jesus said, "all who love me will do what I say" (John 14:23). Obedience is a response to God's gracious invitation and is lived as a dependence and intimacy with God.

It seems to be true that when we violate the rules, there is a consequence that appears to be unfair. Often the price is greater than we expected. Who would think that a small prank would carry a soul into eternity? Is that what is happening within our congregations? Satan's little tricks have eternal consequence. The rules may seem old-fashioned, but they are worth living by! — Tony

ANNUAL MEETING, 2023: Please let us encourage all elected Messengers to attend the upcoming 193rd 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 23rd at New Providence Baptist Church. The Business Session will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Worship Session will follow. Special Music will be presented by The Lingerfelts, and our Moderator, Darrell Cardin, will preach the sermon during the Worship Session. We thank him and our Vice-Moderator, David Lane for their outstanding leadership this past year.

The *Memorial Report* for this year will include the *Dedication of the 2023 Minutes* of the Association in memory of former pastors, Dennis Robinson and Frank Hicks. These men were beloved and faithful servants to this Association and our Lord.

All in attendance are invited to bring donations for New Providence's Mission Center. Items will be collected in the church foyer. Needed items include: non-perishable foods, hygiene items, baby diapers, laundry detergent, etc. We look forward to seeing you at this important meeting of the Association.

193rd ANNUAL MEETING of the SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION Monday, October 23

Hosted by: **New Providence Baptist Church**, Tellico Plains

Business Session: 6:30 p.m. Worship Service to follow

Highlights include... Memorial Report, Video Presentation
Executive Director-Treasurer, TBMB, Dr. Randy Davis, Video Presentation
Election of Officers Committee on Nominations Treasurer's Report
Presentation of Budget Director of Missions Report/Presentations/2024 Calendar
Special Music by The Lingerfelts Moderator's Message by Darrell Cardin

**All in attendance are invited to bring donations for New Providence's Mission Center. Items will be collected in the church foyer. Needed items include: non-perishable foods, hygiene items, baby diapers, laundry detergent, etc.

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 12-15 at Chattanooga Convention Center. Online information and additional registration are available at www.tnbaptist.org/summit2023



CHRISTMAS BANQUET FOR PASTOR & WIFE:

Reservations are required for the *Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* that will be

held on **Monday evening, December 4th at 6:30 p.m.** Highlights for the evening will include the reading of the Christmas story, a Christmas sing-along and guest southern Gospel singing group, The Lore Family. The catered meal/banquet will be held at Vonore Baptist Church, Family Life Center in Vonore.

Pastors, we will soon be mailing information to you regarding the *Christmas 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:

The *Senior Adult Christmas Show* will be held on **Monday morning, December 4th at 10:30 a.m.** This is a **FREE** event, open to all ages! It will be held at Vonore Baptist Church.

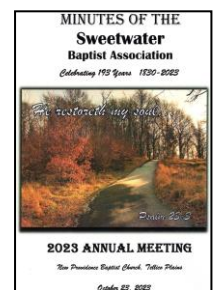


You will not want to miss THE LORE FAMILY! This southern gospel vocal group consists of Darren, Sandy, Fayth, Jake, and Samuel who perform well-known gospel classics, along with their own songs such as, *The World Needs A Song, Didn't He Promise, I Bring You Jesus* and their first *Top 20* song, *He Still Bears the Scars*. Be sure and check out their music online at <http://www.thelorefamilyministries.com>

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

ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:

The *Minutes of the 193rd Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association* will be completed and sent to the printers soon after the *2023 Annual Meeting*. We will notify the churches as soon as the *Minute Books* are back from the printers and available for pickup in the SBA Office. This year the *2023 Minute Books* are dedicated in memory of former pastors, Dennis Robinson and Frank Hicks.



Minutes are available at \$7.00 per printed copy on a first-come, first-serve basis. The *Minutes of the 193rd Annual Meeting* will also be available on our website at www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com.

2024 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 2024, 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.



Senior Adult Christmas Show

Monday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.

Vonore Baptist Church

FREE EVENT!

Featuring

The LORE FAMILY



Everyone Invited!

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board presents

2024 Bivocational Pastor's

& Wives Retreat

January 25-27

Music Road Hotel

& Convention Center

303 Henderson Chapel Rd, Pigeon Forge, TN

Additional information:

www.tnbaptist.org



**2024
EVANGELISM**

RALLY: Please mark your calendar now and make plans to attend the **2024 East Tennessee**



Dr. Roc Collins
Strategic Objectives Director
Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

Evangelism Rally! The meeting will be held on **Saturday, February 24th** and will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church, 5529 New Highway 68** in Madisonville.



Dr. Dean Haun
Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church
Morristown, TN

Plans are still being finalized for the event that will feature Dr. Roc Collins,

Dr. Dean Haun, Rev. Allan Taylor and special music by Daniel Doss and Band.



Rev. Allan Taylor
Executive Pastor of Ministries
First Baptist Church Concord
Knoxville, TN

Everyone is invited to attend the Saturday morning session that will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude shortly after noon. All pastors, preachers and church leaders are especially encouraged to attend! This will be a special training/preaching session with all conference leaders sharing at this morning session.



**Daniel Doss
with Band**
Special Music

Then at 5:30 p.m., all Sweetwater Baptist Association pastors and their wives are invited to attend an *IGNITE* presentation.

This event is being provided by the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. Dr. Roc Collins will provide a *WinTN 30 Day Prayer Challenge* (with a light meal) during this presentation. To adequately prepare, reservations are required for this portion of the conference.

Once again at 7:00 p.m., everyone (especially all pastors, preachers, church leaders and leadership) are encouraged to gather for the *2024 East Tennessee Evangelism Rally!* We look forward to seeing everyone at the evening session.

Music will be provided at all sessions by Daniel Doss and Band. We know you will be blessed and will not want to miss this event!

Registration will be required in order to adequately prepare. Please watch for additional information regarding registering or contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net or becky.jones@bellsouth.net.

Please make plans now to attend the *2024 Evangelism Rally*. Again, please mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 24th at Notchey Creek Baptist Church** and watch for more information!

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 2022 through September 25, 2023* totaled \$222,840.02; and *Budget Expenses for 2022-2023* were \$199,635.83. 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 2022-2023 (as of 09.25.2023)

Church	Total	Church	Total
411 Chapel	3,000.00	New Macedonia	2,160.00
Antioch	275.00	New Providence	9,585.98
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	New Zion	750.00
Bethlehem	15,610.05	North Sweetwater	1,192.85
Big Creek	0.00	Notchey Creek	10,595.21
Calvary	919.05	Oak Grove	5,114.91
Cane Creek	2,400.00	Oakland	1,477.00
Cedar Fork	6,784.25	Old Pond Hill	100.00
Cedar Valley	11,007.66	Old Sweetwater	1,000.00
Christianburg	1,925.62	Paint Rock	1,320.00
Citico	825.10	Piney Grove	1,000.00
Clifton	275.00	Poplar Bluff	1,078.01
Community	944.53	Reed Springs	5,778.49
Compromise	600.00	Rocky Springs	3,800.00
Conasauga	2,400.00	Rural Vale	6,167.11
Concord	1,020.81	Shady Grove	400.00
Delano	4,239.42	Shelton Grove	2,315.72
Druid Hills	1,000.00	Shoal Creek	1,367.84
Ebenezer	655.00	South Madisonville	1,100.00
Fairview	0.00	Sweetwater First	4,200.00
Fairview Tabernacle	18,000.00	Tellico	1,200.00
Fellowship	1,833.17	Tellico First	5,695.00
Glenlock	4,008.00	Tevis Springs	75.00
Gregory's Chapel	1,200.00	Towee Falls	1,800.00
Hopewell Springs	500.00	Trinity	500.00
Howards Chapel	500.00	Union Grove	1,440.00
Island Creek	3,600.00	Union Hall	795.00
Lakeside	1,200.00	Union McMinn	4,800.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00	Unity	300.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	Upper Shady Grove	550.00
Macedonia	240.00	Vonore	20,521.68
Madisonville, First	5,000.04	Walnut Grove	3,902.10
Maple Springs	750.00	Watson Chapel	2,000.04
Miller's Chapel	1,200.00	Westside	0.00
Mt. Calvary	1,051.34	Williamsburg	529.02
Mt. Isabella	0.00	TBMB	8,602.00
Mt. Zion	7,586.70	Miscellaneous	207.58
Murray's	1,856.14	Total	\$222,840.02
New Bethany	5,213.77		

Pray for Israel

**TELICO PLAINS
DISASTER RELIEF:**

During the month of August, flood waters wiped out roads, homes, and businesses in the Tellico Plains area. Thank you to the many individuals and churches who responded in a great way to the devastating needs. Water, household, and cleaning supplies were distributed to the hurting people in the community through the local City Hall. In addition, many shared monetary gifts to Poplar Bluff Baptist Church for the rebuilding of the outside baptistery and other damages to the church property that was caused by the damaging floods. Our prayers continue to be with these who have lost so much.



from Bethlehem Baptist Church to return to work with Pastor Hugo Barrios on June 25-July 2 at the Jesus es El Camino Baptist Church El Cañal. Please pray for these mission projects and volunteers.

2024 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: A "VBS Showcase" will be held on Monday evening, March 4th! This is a great event you will not want to miss!



We will have different VBS themes with sampler kits for each on display throughout the Associational Office. Pastors and VBS Directors are 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.

Watch for additional information about Vacation Bible School and the VBS Showcase that is forthcoming!

October, 2022-September, 2023 Gifts to SBA Miscellaneous Disaster Relief Funds	
Tellico (Ballplay) Sept. 2023.....	3,000.00
Tellico (Ballplay) Feb. 2023.....	3,000.00
Notchey Creek, FLA - Hurricane	3,007.00
Bobby and Charlotte Best.....	100.00
Anonymous, KY Floods	100.00
Anonymous, KY Coat Fund.....	100.00
Vonore, Seekers SS Class, FLA - Hurricane	500.00
Steekee Creek, FLA - Hurricane	500.00
Anonymous, FLA - Hurricane	100.00

2024 IOWA MISSION PROJECT: A mission team from Notchey Creek Baptist Church is scheduled to travel to Iowa to participate in a summer mission project, July 13-20. The volunteers will be working in the community of West Branch, Iowa with Pastor Brian McNamara of Downey Baptist Church. Please pray for this team and others across our Association as they prepare for 2024 missions.



The Upper Room
CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

Individual,
Marriage
& Family
Counseling

865.414.3269

UPDATE ON UKRAINE RELIEF: Just a reminder! 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, families, 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: Tentative dates for the Guatemala Mission Projects have already been planned for 2024. It is intended for a team from Poplar Bluff Baptist Church to return to work with the Iglesia Bautista Macedonia in La Unión on June 18-25. This will be a new area of ministry opportunities for this team. In addition, plans are for a team



The **UPPER Room Christian Counseling Center** provides 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**.



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

WMU/LADIES

MINISTRY: The next Associational **WMU/Ladies Ministry Meeting** will be **Monday, November 6th at 7 pm** (light meal will be provided at 6 pm). It will be held at First Baptist Church in Tellico Plains. We are so excited for you to hear guest speaker, **Jennifer Hand**. Jenn is a trauma/crisis counselor who travels all over the world doing mission work. Just over the past year, she has served in Ukraine, Dominican Republic, Turkey, Syria, Nicaragua, and Italy. Jenn is also an author and podcaster. She is a gifted storyteller, who will share heartfelt stories of her mission work, while keeping you engaged (and laughing) the whole time. Ladies, you don't want to miss this meeting! *Rachel Thompson, Associational WMU/Ladies Ministry Director*

WMU/LADIES MEETING

Monday, November 6th

7:00 pm (light meal at 6:00 p.m.)

First Baptist Church, Tellico Plains



engaged (and laughing) the whole time. Ladies, you don't want to miss this meeting! *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 December 3-9. 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. (Information taken from www.imb.org.)



ASSOCIATIONAL MEDIA CENTER UPDATE:

The Associational Media Center has added 7 new studies to their already growing number of 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 by some great authors. Please come by and check out a Bible Study for your next group study.



YEC 2024 East Tennessee

March 1-2

Black Oak Heights Baptist Church,
Knoxville, TN



CONNECT

YOUTH MINISTRY: Changes are coming for **CONNECT 2024!** Next year's rally will be held on Saturday, March 9th at Fairview Tabernacle in Sweetwater. The guest speaker will be Shaq Hardy and music will be led by a joint youth band with students from Fairview Tabernacle and Sweetwater, FBC! Be on the lookout for more information!

The guest speaker will be Shaq Hardy and music will be led by a joint youth band with students from Fairview Tabernacle and Sweetwater, FBC! Be on the lookout for more information!

FIELDS OF FAITH

OCTOBER 18, 2023
Sequoyah High School
Football Field
Gates Open at 5:30

REDMOND WALSH - FORMER UT BASEBALL PLAYER AND COACH
 WORSHIP | GAMES | GIVEAWAYS
 + MORE

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

BEN POTTORFF
 FCA AREA DIRECTOR
 (502) 548-3654

Ordinations & Anniversaries



On Sunday, August 27, Brandon Wilcox was ordained as Pastor of **New Zion Baptist Church** in Athens.

On Sunday, August 20, Mike Grant & Ronnie Croft were ordained as Deacons of **New Providence Baptist Church** in Tellico Plains.



On Sunday, September 10, Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, presented **Delano Baptist Church** with a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, commemorating the church's **100-Year Anniversary**. (Pictured Tony Rutherford and Pastor Jamie Johnson.)



On Sunday, September 17, Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, presented **Williamsburg Baptist Church** with a plaque from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, commemorating the church's **125-Year Anniversary**. (Pictured Tony Rutherford and Brother B.W. Ledford.)

Church News

BETHLEHEM:

Fall Festival: Oct 29, 5:00 pm
Trunk or Treat, Food, Games, Hayride.



BIG CREEK: On Saturday, December 16th at Noon, we will be hosting **"The Widowed Luncheon"** to honor the

widows and widowers of our community. Please RSVP Christi @ 865-659-4526.



CONCORD: Soup Drive-Through, Nov 4, 11:00 am-3:00 pm. **Christmas Drive-Through,** Dec. 15-16, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm.



DELANO: Fall Festival/Trunk-R-Treat, Oct 28, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. Fun, Food, Candy.

FAIRVIEW

TABERNACLE: Our annual **"Judgement Day"** event will be on Sunday, October 22, 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm and on Wednesday, October 25, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Everyone invited.



MADISONVILLE, FIRST: Fall Fling: Oct 29, 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm, Food, Games, Trunk or Treat.

David Phelps in Concert, Sunday, Nov 5, Get tickets at the church office or at www.davidphelps.com Tickets: \$25 and up.

MT. ZION: Upcoming events...

Oct 27, 7pm-9pm: Trunk or Treat

Nov 21: Hallelujah Celebration



NOTCHEY CREEK:

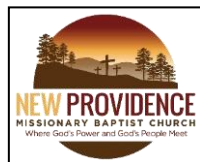
Church & Community Harvest Celebration, Sunday, November 12, 3:00-6:00 pm

For more information for all upcoming

Fall/Harvest, Thanksgiving, and Christmas events visit our website at www.notcheycreekbaptist.org or

follow us at www.YouTube.com/NotcheyCreekBC

NEW PROVIDENCE: *New Providence Mission Center* located at 451 New Providence Rd in Tellico Plains is in our old church building. It provides clothing, food, hygiene items, health and beauty items,



household goods, children's items and supplies along with children's clothing and toys. We are accepting donations of these items and monetary donations. We invite our sister churches to join us in this ministry. If you would like to volunteer or take a tour of the center, please contact 423-519-6899, 423-337-1697 or 423-295-4873. Our Trunk-N-Treat will be held on Oct 31 @ 5:30 pm (at the church on Hwy 68).

NEW ZION: We are excited to announce that we have called a new Pastor. We are so happy to have Brother Brandon Wilcox and his family with us at New Zion.



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.

UNION MCMINN: Upcoming events...

Nov 4: Jr. Youth Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov 13-20: Operation Christmas Child Collection 5:30-7:30PM

Nov 18: UMBC Thanksgiving Dinner 6:00PM

Nov 22: Praise & Worship

Nov 26, 6:30 pm: Celebration of Blessings- Redeem & Jr. Youth

Dec 1-2: Drive-Thru Nativity

Dec 24: Christmas Program

Also, mark your calendar for Our 2nd Annual **Men's Conference** is being planned for February 2-3, 2024.



UPPER SHADY GROVE: Everyone is invited to our **Fall Festival** on Saturday, October 21st from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Free fun, food & games for the whole family.

WATSON CHAPEL: Community Dinner, Nov 11, Noon-2:00 pm.



OPERATON CHRISTMAS CHILD

2023 Shoebox Drop-Off Dates

NOVEMBER 13-20

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: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

*If questions or to arrange an alternate drop-off time, contact Monroe County Church Relations Leader, Carolyn Reynolds at 423-836-3464.

Union McMinn Baptist Church, Niota:

Mon-Mon: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm



Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

Return Service Requested

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Madisonville, TN
37354

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Welcome New Pastors

Cane Creek.....Cody Dalton

Director of Mission Visits/Miscellaneous:

Miller's Chapel, North Sweetwater (Homecoming); Howards Chapel (Revival); Concord (Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting); Murray's; Community; Mt. Isabella; Oakland; Birchfield; New Providence; Notchey Creek (Revival); Rural Vale; Shady Grove; New Zion; Tellico (Ballplay); Vonore; Towee Falls; Trinity; Union Grove (Leadership); Delano (Plaque); Tellico First; SBA Picnic; Druid Hill (Revival); Upper Shady Grove; Williamsburg; Oak Grove; Cedar Fork; Island Creek; Watson Chapel; Union Hall; New Macedonia; Conasauga; Westside

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Calvary, Ebenezer, Fairview Tabernacle, Hopewell Springs, Lower Chilhowee, Murrays, Tellico (Ballplay), Unity; Williamsburg



Upcoming Events/News

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

—Luke 2:14

October 23..... Annual Meeting, New Providence, Business Session, 6:30 p.m.

October 23..... Annual Meeting, New Providence, Worship Service

November 6..... WMU/Ladies Meeting, Tellico Plains, First, 7:00 p.m.

November 12-15.. The Summit, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Chattanooga

November 23 Thanksgiving Day

Dec 3-Dec 10 Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 4 Senior Adult Christmas Show, Vonore, 10:30 a.m.

December 4 Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, Vonore, 6:30 p.m.

December 25 Christmas Day

January 1 New Year's Day



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 Association Office will be closed November 22-23 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 8th

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