

THE MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 188 years, 1830 – 2018

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Volume 8

November/December, 2018

Number 40

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2019 Associational Evangelism Conference Monday and Tuesday, January 21 & 22, 6:45 p.m.



Dr. Jeff LaBorg, Conference Speaker
Senior Pastor, Fairview Baptist Church, Corryton

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

Theme: *The Way* -- John 14:6

Special Music:

Monday Evening: Sweetwater Baptist Association
Choir under the direction of
Phillip Johnson, Associational Music Director

Special Music:

Tuesday Evening: Fairview Church Choir,
Corryton, under the direction of
Tony Crawford, Worship Pastor

EVERYONE INVITED

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

Pastor Lewis Jones
wife, Tasha
daughters, Jessie, Amber and Emily
Murrays



Pastor Ronny Davis
and wife, Jenny
Druid Hill



Pastor Joey Bivens
and wife, Judy
Williamsburg

Annual Meeting, 2018

Sweetwater Baptist Association
Family of Churches Welcome



DELANO

Delano Baptist Church has petitioned to be part of the fellowship of Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. We welcome them to do Kingdom work together.

Pastor
Jamie Johnson
wife, Malinda
daughter, Abigail
(son, Austin not in photo)



Please pray for the Sweetwater Baptist Association Leadership as they serve.



(Left to right)
Greg McCosh (Pastor, Rocky Springs) Outgoing Moderator 2017-2018
Tony Rutherford Director of Missions
Charles "Bud" Boring (Pastor, Cedar Fork) Moderator 2018-2019
(Not in photo)
Mitch Ingram (Pastor, Lakeside) Vice-Moderator 2018-2019

Director of Missions

On July 9, 1776, General George Washington was headquartered on Manhattan Island in New York. The ink on the *Declaration of Independence* was less than a week old when General Washington rallied his troops by having it read to them. Twenty-seven grievances were summarized in one revolutionary sentence: "A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people." That sentence lit a fuse. As it should in us, for the prince of this world is a tyrant to the people of God.

A few years earlier, in 1770, a fifteen-foot statue of King George III sitting on horseback had been erected in New York where Broadway dead-ends at Bowling Green. That is where Washington's energized army marched after the *Declaration of Independence* was read. The troops threw ropes around the two-ton, lead statue and pulled it down. Then they put the broken pieces into wagons, took them down to the wharf, and placed them on a schooner that sailed up the East River to a foundry in Litchfield, Connecticut, where the statue of King George III was melted down and made into 42,088 musket balls.

General Washington's troops didn't just pull the statue down, they melted it down. They turned the two-ton lead statue into 42,088 musket balls to shoot at King George III's advancing army. I love the fact someone took the effort to count the musket balls. God wants to redeem every attack the Enemy has waged against us. In fact, what the Enemy intends for evil, God will use for good.

Meltdown! Encountering a meltdown is often a companion to a difficult experience in a person's life. Job is our example of the struggle in determining the origin of our dilemma. Moreover, Job teaches us, it is not the origin of our dilemma that is ultimately important. The greater significance is how we journey through the meltdown. It is good to be broken by the Spirit of God which teaches us to lean on Him, and to trust His steady hands. As we go through our dilemma we should not waste our suffering, failure, disappointment or cancer. Instead, let us ask: "Lord show me, help me, and lead me."

As I close this article, I want to thank all those who have been faithful in praying for my health issues. I am glad to say I am much improved. I am back in the office most days and visiting the churches. If you need me, please do not hesitate to call.

Our churches are busy planning special Christmas celebrations. Churches will be filled with excitement and special music and programs. Please don't have a meltdown and miss the glorious season of worship. Have a *Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.*

--Tony

PASTOR AND WIFE CHRISTMAS BANQUET:

Pastors, this is just a reminder you still have time to send in your reservations for our annual **Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet**. The Annual Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet will be held on **Monday evening, December 3rd 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. Due to limited space and to help plan the meal, reservations are required.

Dr. Charles S. Lowery will be our guest for the **Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet**. Again, reservations are required due to limited space. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net the number attending the *Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet*.

All of our churches will have opportunities to see and hear Dr. Lowery while he is in our area. Dr. Lowery will be the guest speaker on **Sunday evening, December 2nd at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater**. The service begins at 6:00 p.m. This is a free event, and everyone is invited.

In addition, Dr. Lowery will be hosting a **Senior Adult Christmas Celebration at Vonore Baptist Church on Monday, December 3rd at 10:30 a.m.** This also is a free event; and all ages are invited.

Dr. Charles Lowery is president and CEO of Lowery Institute for Excellence, Inc. He uses laughter to promote faith and family values in a lighthearted and humorous way. His stories of growing up and the funny side of life entertain his audience even as he implants a strong and encouraging message. His unique style of humor, encouragement and motivation has made him one of the most sought after speakers in the country. Dr. Lowery is a seasoned communicator, teacher, author, humorist and motivator.

Dr. Charles S. Lowery Christmas Show

◆ **Sunday, December 2, 6:00 p.m.**

Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church, Sweetwater

◆ **Monday, December 3, 10:30 a.m.**

Vonore Baptist Church, Vonore

Everyone Invited



Holy Land Group Tour, 2019 and Holy Land Group Tour, 2020 Sweetwater Baptist Association and Yael Adventure (Hosted by Tony Rutherford)

Fifty-five participants will travel to Israel, January 24-February 2, 2019. This tour group is completely booked for 2019. However, we are now accepting applications for the *2020 Holy Land Group Tour* to Israel. Registration forms are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office.

The total cost of the trip is \$3500.00 per person. A monthly payment option is available; and monthly payments of \$350.00 each can be set up for February through November, 2020. Completed registration forms, deposits and copy of passports are due from all participants on **FEBRUARY 1, 2019.**

No additional trips are being planned by the Sweetwater Baptist Association to Israel at the completion of the 2020 group tour. If you are interested in participating in the *2020 Holy Land Tour* to Israel, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association office for more information.



2019 ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM CONFERENCE:

We want to personally invite you and your church to attend the **2019 Sweetwater Baptist Association Evangelism Conference!** The Evangelism Committee has new things scheduled for 2019, and we are extremely excited about the conference this year.



We have a 2-night Evangelism Conference planned! The meeting will be held on **Monday and Tuesday, January 21st and 22nd.** Both nights will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church** in Madisonville. The meeting will begin at **6:45 p.m.** each evening

Our conference speaker for both nights is **Dr. Jeff LaBorg.** Dr. LaBorg currently serves as Senior Pastor of Fairview Baptist Church in Corryton. Dr. LaBorg has a strong commitment to the local church, a love for the Word of God, and a heart for lost souls. He truly loves God and loves to do Kingdom work.

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

Phillip is already working on the special music for the conference. Just as soon as possible, we will have practice "cd's" available at the Associational Office. Please stop by the SBA Office to pick up a copy of the music "cd" and feel free to make additional copies.

Then we know you will receive an added blessing as Dr. LaBorg brings his church choir to provide special music on Tuesday evening. We are looking forward to Fairview Church Choir, Corryton, under the direction of Tony Crawford, Worship Pastor, coming to share in the service on Tuesday.

This *Evangelism Conference* will encourage you as a pastor and/or leader in your church, and help us keep our focus on what Jesus has called us to do. No matter what we do, there is nothing more important than evangelism. Please encourage your church leaders and members to attend the Evangelism Conference. You will not want to miss this great evening of worship. Mark your calendars for **Monday and Tuesday evenings, January 21st and January 22nd at Notchey Creek Baptist Church!**

GUATEMALA MISSION MINISTRY: During the past year, numerous short term mission volunteers traveled to Guatemala as part of the on-going Tennessee Baptist Mission Board partnership in Guatemala.



Would you like to be part of the mission ministry in Guatemala? Volunteers are needed in 2019 to serve as preachers at revivals and crusades, as well as lay-persons to serve on medical and dental teams.

We are also hopeful teams will return in 2019 to continue ministry projects and/or do further work in areas where ministry focus has already been established. Additional teams are needed to do work in the new ministry locations of Guatemala. Teams participate in door-to-door evangelism, crusades, revivals, medical clinics, Vacation Bible Schools, etc. Additional information and applications are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association. **Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association immediately for further details or if you are interested in serving on a mission team in Guatemala.**

BIBLICAL STUDIES CLASS The winter session for a *Biblical Studies Class* at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office will begin on **Tuesday, January 8th** at 6:30 pm. The 8-week study course will be the Study of *I Peter*.



This will be a non-credit class taught by Tony Rutherford to help equip young preachers, pastors and Sunday School teachers. The cost of the class is \$20.00 per person. Purchasing books is not required. However, suggested authors to read on *I Peter* include: Warren Wiersby, John MacArthur, John Phillips and William Barclay. These books may be found online at Amazon, LifeWay, Ebay, CBD, etc. Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604 for additional information or if you are interested in taking this class.

ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS: The **2018 Minutes of the 188th Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association** are now at the printers and will be available for pickup in the SBA office very soon. If your church ordered *Minutes of the Annual Meeting*, please stop by the Association Office at your convenience to pick up your copies. This year the *2018 Minutes* were dedicated in *Memory of Pastors Bobby Lawson, Taylor Duncan and Doug Sager.* Extra copies of the *Minutes* are available at \$7.00 per printed copy on a first-come, first-serve basis. The *Minutes of the 188th Annual Meeting* are also available on our website at www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com.



2019 SBA CALENDARS will soon be available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. In an effort to be good stewards, we have asked that *2019 Associational Calendars* be picked up, if at all possible.



We hope Pastors and Church Leadership will use the calendar in planning church events for 2019, 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 all of the ministries that are offered by both the Association and each of our churches.

2019 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: Pastors and youth leaders for each of our churches will soon receive a packet of information regarding the Sweetwater Baptist Association, High School Scholarship program. Scholarship applications must be completed and returned to the Association Office by **March 1st.**



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

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents
Bivocational Ministers and Wives Retreat,
January 24-26



Music Road Hotel and Convention Center
Cost **\$225.00 per couple (Covers hotel, meals and breaks)**

For more information or to register online, please check website at www.tnbaptist.org

REPORT FROM ANNUAL MEETING, 2018:

What a great time of worship, as Messengers gathered for the 188th Session of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. "The Way" was the theme for the 2018 Annual Meeting.



The Moderator's Message was presented by Greg McCosh, Pastor, Rocky Springs Baptist Church. He shared Scripture from Isaiah 6, and asked the question, "Are we advancing the Kingdom of God?" A special thank you to our Moderator for his humble spirit and outstanding leadership this past year. Special music was provided by the Associational Choir and led by Phillip Johnson. Denise Bronaugh, Adult Missions Ministry and WMU Ministry Specialist, shared a word of greetings from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board. She also presented a plaque to the Sweetwater Baptist Association on



behalf of churches of the Association that participated in the Golden Mission Offering. The Memorial Report included *Dedication of the 2018 Minutes* of the Association in memory of former pastor, Bobby Lawson, and Taylor Duncan (Upper Shady

Grove) and Doug Sager (Vonore), who were serving as pastors at the time of their passing. These men were dearly beloved and faithful servants to this Association and our Lord. They will be sadly missed.



Our Vice-Moderator, Charles Bud Boring did an outstanding job in leading the Business Session. Items approved by Messengers included: to remodel and update the Associational office building; to revise, update and/or replace the current Constitution and Bylaws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association; churches to provide funds to build micro "tiny" house; and a proposed budget of \$178,976.00 was approved. Charles "Bud" Boring (Pastor of Cedar Fork Baptist Church) will serve as Moderator for 2018-2019 and Mitch Ingram (Pastor Lakeside Baptist Church) was elected as Vice-Moderator for 2018-2019.

Carl Croft shared the Missions Committee Report for information only. It was reported that Delano Baptist Church continues to be under watch-care of the Association, pending vote of Messengers at 2019 Annual Meeting. Pastor Jamie Johnson was in attendance and was recognized and welcomed.

We want to thank 250+ Pastors, Messengers and visitors from 39 churches represented that were in attendance for the sessions. We want to thank the host church, Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church and Pastor Johnny Carr. We also want to thank the Program Committee,

and everyone on the program that helped make this year's Annual Meeting a blessed time of worship. Please pray for the Program Committee as they plan and prepare for Annual Meeting, 2019.

SHELTERED IN HIS LOVE OFFERING: We have a tremendous challenge, as we attempt to provide some kind of shelter for the homeless in our area. More and more people are without housing today.



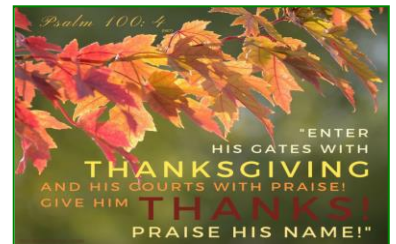
In an effort to deal with the homeless situation, Messengers at the 2018 Annual Meeting voted for the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association to provide funds to build a micro house. Therefore, we are asking churches to participate in the *Sheltered in His Love Offering* to help build a micro "tiny" house. This "tiny house" will cost approximately \$12,000-15,000 for construction materials. Local high schools would build the frame for the micro house.

The \$785.00 offering received at 2018 Annual Meeting is the first offering to become part of the *Sheltered in His Love Offering* for the "tiny" house. **Sometime during the next few weeks through February 28, 2019, we are asking churches to receive a *Sheltered in His Love Offering*.** We feel that working together the 75 churches of the Association can provide funds to build a micro "tiny" house.



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

Problems, pain, struggles, and heartaches fill our hearts from time to time. So remember to also fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving. No matter the struggle, God is good and gives us His power and His presence with us in the struggle. Remember to give Him praise!



INDIVIDUAL, COUPLES, & FAMILY COUNSELING SESSIONS, WOMENS, TEEN, MARRIAGE & FAMILY CONFERENCES, & HOLIDAY GIFT CERTIFICATES

Please call 865-414-3269 for further information or to schedule appointments with **Macy Small, M.A.**, *The Upper Room Christian Counseling*.

DISASTER RELIEF: I want to introduce myself, Jim Jollay, as the new Disaster Relief Director for Sweetwater Baptist Association. I have been involved in Disaster Relief ministry since 2005. I started working in disaster relief ministry in Georgia, shortly after Hurricane Katrina; but my wife was the driving force as she started working as an untrained volunteer in 1994 during the Albany, Georgia floods. In 2015, we relocated to Tennessee to take care of my wife's mother and father. We are members of Vonore Baptist Church.



I will be more than willing to assist anyone who wants to become involved in DR. My main goal is to make sure all trained volunteers are being contacted when needs arise. At the time I am writing this, Southern Baptists are responding to disasters in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas. Please remember these in your prayers. *Jim Jollay, Associational DR Director*



WMU and LADIES MINISTRY:

The WMU Meeting is scheduled for **Monday evening, November 5th** at Bethlehem Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. We want to thank Pastor Frank Hicks and ladies of Bethlehem Baptist Church, in advance, for graciously hosting the WMU Meeting and fellowship meal! The program for the evening is scheduled to feature volunteers from Bethlehem Baptist Church sharing about mission work they have been involved in during the past year. We know this will be a blessing.



you have a blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year! **Bryan and Kim Williamson, Associational VBS Directors**

2019 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SAMPLER KITS:

We are so excited! Lifeway's Vacation Bible School Jump-Start Kits for 2019 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.



Next summer, kids will seek animals in rainforests, grasslands, frozen tundra and even the Rocky Mountains with the 2019 Vacation Bible School theme, ***In the Wild! Amazing Encounters with Jesus.*** Kids will embark as photographers seeking to snap pictures of animals. Along the way, they will focus on miraculous, real-life encounters people had with Jesus. They will discover how Biblical snapshots of the Savior provide an opportunity to respond to the Gospel. The adventure of a lifetime awaits, as the amazing truth is revealed that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of God, and we can have life in His name.

The VBS Motto is ***Zoom in! Focus on Jesus!*** with Scripture focus from John 20:31. The Biblical Story/Point for each session is:

2019

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| (1) Encounter in the Temple | <i>Jesus knew why He came</i> |
| (2) Encounter at the River | <i>Jesus is the Son of God</i> |
| (3) Encounter on the Water | <i>Jesus proved He is God's Son</i> |
| (4) Encounter at the Tomb | <i>Jesus rose from the dead</i> |
| (5) Encounter on the Road | <i>The Bible was written so I can believe</i> |

In addition to VBS Jump-Start Kits, all 2019 VBS materials will be at the SBA Office in January. The **VBS Clinic** will be held in early spring and then **VBS Link-up** in the summer, 2019! 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 2019 Vacation Bible School team, resources and supplies.

Please call the Associational Office at 442-6604 to reserve the kit and materials that are just right for your church. If you are not able to come by the Associational Office during regular office hours to view the VBS materials, please call us, and we will be happy to make special arrangements to meet with you to help with your VBS needs.

SEE YOU AT THE POLE, 2018:



On a rainy, September 26th morning, students, teachers, parents and others had planned to meet at school flag poles for prayer. Many of these had to be moved indoors, however, the rain did

not stop the prayers. Rain or shine, God hears our prayers, and we encourage each of you to continually keep our students your prayers.

IN GOD WE TRUST:

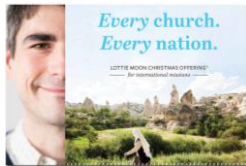
Earlier this year, Tennessee passed a bill



which required all public schools to display the National Motto "*In God We Trust*". We were honored to be able to provide these banners for all the public schools in Monroe County.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS:

In 1888, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was established to empower international mission efforts for Southern Baptists. After more than a century, the annual offering continues its steady growth. Giving enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God.



The suggested date for the Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is December 2-9. Plan now to be part of ***Every Church. Every Nation.*** and take part in the Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

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

- 1.9 MILLION heard the Gospel
- 175,290 new believers
- 15,058 trained pastors
- 6138 new churches

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



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS:

As the holiday season approaches, it is hard to believe *Vacation Bible School* is already on the minds of many. Bryan and I are beginning to plan and prepare for the **2019 VBS Clinic!**

Mark your calendars for **Monday, April 8th**. We are excited and ready for our *Amazing Encounters with Jesus* as we go ***"In the Wild"*** to share Jesus with our kids this VBS season. Be on the lookout for more information about *Vacation Bible School* and the **VBS Clinic**. We pray

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

Nashville Municipal Auditorium: March 15-16, 2019

Register at www.yectn.org



YOUTH COMMITTEE: Welcome to our new Youth Committee Chairman, Bud Boring. Bud is the Pastor of Cedar Fork Baptist Church, and has faithfully served on the associational Youth Committee several times over the years.

We are just entering "the most wonderful time of the year"...when churches will be having Harvest Festivals, preparing for Christmas programs, going Christmas caroling, and enjoying fellowship together. It seems like a long time until next summer, but, just like Christmas, it will be here before you know it. Please mark your calendars for July 19-20, 2019 for **YOUTH REACH**. We will share more exciting details in the coming months, but for now, make plans to bring your youth groups for another great conference.

CLIFTON: Recently two men from our church announced their call to preach. If any churches would like to contact them to preach, please feel free to do so. Danny Roberts (423-295-5990 or 423-295-2484) and Dillon Coleman (423-519-2680). We are blessed to see God call these men into ministry.



DELANO: We are seeking a part-time Music Director, as well as taking bids for Custodial Services starting January 2019. If interested in either of these positions, please contact our Personnel Committee at (423) 506-2387.

ISLAND CREEK: Our church will serve as an **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection Center** (see schedule below). Also, if anyone needs empty OCC shoeboxes to fill, check with the associational office. They have a supply of boxes to give-away.



OCC Shoebox Drop-Off Location & Hours	
Island Creek Baptist Church	
2505 Highway 411 - Madisonville	
Mon-Fri, Nov 12-16	11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sat, Nov 17	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sun, Nov 18	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Mon, Nov 19	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM



MT ZION: Recently, we've had 4 new members join the church, one by baptism. On Oct. 14th we celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day with a meal and fellowship.

On November 20th at 7:00 pm, we will have our joint **Hallelujah Service**, with thanksgiving on our minds and blessings in our hearts. Together, we share this service with Lakeside, Howard's Chapel, Citico, and Ebenezer. Everyone is welcome to join us. Our Christmas program will be on December 23, with a youth service on Sunday morning, and an adult play on Sunday night at 6:00 pm.

MILLER'S CHAPEL: Our **Harvest Meal and Old Timer's Day** will be on Sunday, November 11th. Our Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 9th at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited to join us.



Revival

MURRAY'S: We will be in **Revival**, November 4-7, with Patrick O'Dell preaching. Sunday Night will begin at 6 pm, Weeknights will begin at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. We are also looking for a 15-passenger van. If your church has one for sale or to donate (or you know of one), please contact Pastor Lewis Jones at 865-207-0689.

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

- *Children Christmas Program*, Sunday evening, December 2nd, 6:00 p.m.
 - *Community Christmas Caroling*, Sunday afternoon, December 9th beginning at 3:00 p.m.
 - *Adult Christmas Program*, Sunday evening, December 16th
 - *Christmas Candlelight Service*, Sunday evening, December 23rd
- Everyone is invited. Please check our website at www.notcheycreek.org for additional times, not currently listed.



ROCKY SPRINGS: We are seeking a part-time Children/Family Ministry Director. Anyone interested can send a resume to: Rocky Springs Baptist Church, PO Box 100, Attn: Greg McCosh, Madisonville, TN 37354. More information, along with a job description can be found on our website at www.rockyspringsbaptistchurch.com.

ROCKY SPRINGS: We've had an exciting Fall and are looking forward to a joyous Christmas season! On October 6, we held our annual *Fall Festival and Cruise-In*. Everyone had a great time, and most importantly, one soul was saved! We are already looking forward to next year. Our *Relay for Life* team was announced the overall fundraisers for 2018. Thank you to everyone who contributed to help eradicate cancer.



Several events are coming up during the holiday season. On Sunday morning, November 11 at 11:00 am, we will have a special Veteran's Day service, with Rev. Clint Riddle speaking. A covered dish meal will follow the morning service. On Sunday night, November 18, at 6:00, we will have a special Thanksgiving praise and worship service. Sunday evening, December 2, at 6:00, the Children's Christmas program, "A Red-Letter Christmas" will be presented. Come join us in celebrating and thanking God for the gifts He gives us each day.

RURAL VALE: Our Christmas Program will be on Saturday, December 8th, at 6:30 PM. The children will have a short program and then we will present the play "*'Twas the Opening Night Before Christmas*". Everyone is invited to join us.



SHELTON GROVE: We will have a Deacon Ordination service for Bryan Carter, on Sunday, December 2nd at 2:00 pm. All ordained men are invited to join the Presbytery.



TELLICO (BALLPLAY): We have pews that we would like to donate to another church. We have eighteen, 12-ft pews with padded seats. We may have some additional older wooden pews (no padding). If interested, or for more information, contact Harold Sloan at 423-519-2486 or Mashell Hunt at 423-253-5931 or by email at mhunt0121@gmail.com.

UNION MCMINN: In September, a group from our church traveled to Guatemala to do evangelistic and medical missions. While there, 29 people accepted Christ as their Savior (the oldest, being 89 years old). There were also 260 people treated in 3 medical clinics. Keep praying for the people of Guatemala and for future mission teams that work there.



Our church also does mission work in Ukraine. Recently, one of our members wrote a brief history of *The Bennie Creel Medical Clinic*, and of the work that began in Ukraine almost 25 years ago. You can read this full report on the associational website, on the *Church News* page.

WATSON CHAPEL: Our annual **Free Community Dinner** will be held on Saturday, November 17th. We usually feed well over 1,000 people. If you know anyone who needs a hot Thanksgiving meal, please let them know about the Free Dinner. On December 22-23, at 6:00 pm, everyone is invited to attend our **Christmas Cantata**, titled "All Bow Down".



WESTSIDE: Our Christmas program, "That's What Happens When...", will be on Sunday, December 16, at 6:30 pm. On Saturday, December 22, we are going to have a one-day "**Christmas Vacation Bible School**". It will be for ages 3 & up, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. We will have crafts, music, a lesson and lunch. For more information, contact Kelly at 423-295-4044.

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



We wanted to share a report of our *Total Church Gifts for October 1, 2017 through September 25, 2018*, as reported at *Annual Meeting, 2018*. Therefore, in the following list, you will note the second column shows total gifts for each church for 2017-2018. In addition, we have included church gifts for the new Associational year beginning October 1, 2018. Church gifts received for the month of October, 2018 totaled \$19,934.49 and appear in last column.

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

SBA Church Gifts: Yearly Report for 2017-2018 and October 1, 2018 through October 30, 2018

Church/Mission	2017-2018 Totals	October, 2018
411 Chapel	750.00	0.00
Altoona	0.00	0.00
Antioch	275.00	25.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem	11,148.00	836.00
Big Creek	500.00	0.00
Calvary	1109.28	104.00
Cane Creek	2400.00	200.00
Cedar Fork	5456.78	504.70
Cedar Valley	8676.37	702.88
Christianburg	1103.91	0.00
Citico	895.70	71.30
Clifton	300.00	25.00

Community	542.43	65.58
Compromise	600.00	50.00
Conasauga	1200.00	100.00
Concord	1689.53	410.93
Delano	2541.59	390.09
Druid Hills	60.00	60.00
Ebenezer	866.85	71.00
Fairview	120.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	15,164.45	1317.99
Fellowship	1105.00	475.00
Glenlock	1950.00	250.00
Gregory's Chapel	1200.00	100.00
Hilltop	100.00	0.00
Hopewell Springs	1892.00	91.00
Howards Chapel	414.00	0.00
Island Creek	3900.00	300.00
Lakeside	1200.00	0.00
Long Ridge	1000.00	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	200.00	0.00
Madisonville, First	5000.04	416.67
Maple Springs	500.00	500.00
Miller's Chapel	1200.00	100.00
Mt. Calvary	1149.42	86.26
Mt. Isabella	100.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	6938.68	596.00
Murray's	2596.00	2246.00
New Bethany	4050.39	383.18
New Macedonia	980.00	140.00
New Providence	5017.00	1040.00
North Sweetwater	1320.93	261.88
Notchey Creek	5253.51	449.81
Oak Grove	4015.43	347.56
Oakland	400.00	0.00
Old Pond Hill	401.00	0.00
Old Sweetwater	1000.00	0.00
Paint Rock	1320.00	110.00
Piney Grove	1300.00	300.00
Poplar Bluff	2982.18	197.52
Reed Springs	2794.50	0.00
Rocky Springs	5500.00	400.00
Rural Vale	4288.00	310.02
Shady Grove	400.00	0.00
Shelton Grove	1279.23	186.39
Shoal Creek	785.56	0.00
South Madisonville	1300.00	100.00
Sweetwater, First	4200.00	350.00
Tellico	1200.00	0.00
Tellico Plains, First	5893.00	654.00
Tevis Springs	0.00	0.00
Towee Falls	1800.00	150.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	1440.00	120.00
Union Hall	561.00	76.00
Union McMinn	4800.00	400.00
Unity	100.00	200.00
Upper Shady Grove	600.00	50.00
Vonore	21,749.98	1724.72
Walnut Grove	1534.09	0.00
Watson Chapel	1166.67	0.00
Westside	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg	578.22	58.55
Miscellaneous/TBC	9384.00	782.00
Misc AM	50.00	0.00
Misc Interest	410.16	47.46
Total Income	185,699.88	19,934.49

Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS, 2018-2019

MODERATOR CHARLES "BUD" BORING	VICE MODERATOR MITCH INGRAM	Associational Council Officers & Committee Chairmen
Pastor Advisor Frank Hicks	Music Director Phillip Johnson	Mission Committee Carroll Hamilton, Chairman
Children's Director Kendra McDonald	Disaster Relief Director Jim Jolley	Historian Director Kay James
Media Ministry Director Betty Wolfe	Men's Ministry Director Bryan Coffey	Prayer Ministry Director Svitlana Self
Trustees Carl "Buddy" Richesin, Chairman	Vacation Bible School Directors Bryan and Kim Williamson	WMU/Ladies Director Charlotte Hollinghead
Christian Life Committee Cindy Lemmonds, Chairperson	Committee on Nominations Ronnie Best, Chairman	Constitution Committee Charles Ridenour, Chairman
Evangelism Committee Jeremy McNally, Chairman	Finance Committee Karen McDaniel, Chairperson	Personnel Committee Susan Newman, Chairperson
Program Committee Ronnie Dalton, Chairman	Scholarship Committee Marilyn Parker, Chairperson	Youth Council Charles "Bud" Boring, Chairman

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Welcome New Pastors

Jamie Johnson.....Delano Ronnie Davis.....Druid Hill
Murrays.....Lewis Jones Joey Bivens.....Williamsburg

Director of Mission Visits:

Altoona, Antioch (Athens), Cedar Valley, Delano, Fairview Tabernacle, Glenlock, Maple Springs, Miller's Chapel, Mt. Isabella, Mt. Zion, North Sweetwater, Notchey Creek, Oak Grove, Oakland, Old Sweetwater, Poplar Bluff, Reed Springs, Shady Grove, Shoal Creek, South Madisonville, Sweetwater First, Tellico (Ballplay), Tevis Springs, Towee Falls, Union Grove, Union Hall, Unity, Walnut Grove, Watson Chapel, Westside, Williamsburg

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Fairview (Tellico), Glenlock, Island Creek, New Macedonia, Sweetwater First, Tellico (Ballplay), Towee Falls, Union Grove, Vonore



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Sweetwater Baptist Association

*Tony Rutherford,
Becky Jones and Sheri Stephens*

Upcoming Events/News

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

—Luke 2:14

November 11-14...Tennessee Baptist Convention, West Jackson Baptist Church
November 22.....Thanksgiving Day
December 2-9.....Week of Prayer for International Missions
and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
December 2.....Dr. Charles Lowery at Fairview Tabernacle, Sweetwater, 6:00 p.
December 3.....Dr. Charles Lowery at Vonore Baptist Church, 10:30 a.m.
December 3.....SBA Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, Vonore, 6:30 p.m. *(reservation required)*
December 25.....Christmas Day
January 1.....New Year's Day
January 8.....Biblical Studies Classes Begins
January 21-22.....Evangelism Conference, Notchey Creek, 6:45 p.m
January 24-26.....TBC Bivocational Pastor/Wife Retreat, Pigeon Forge



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

November	Bethlehem	December	New Bethany
January	Vonore	February	Rocky Springs
March	New Providence	April	Oak Grove
May	No yet assigned	June	Madisonville FBC
July	Lakeside	August	411 Chapel



The Summit

Tennessee Baptist Convention
November 11-14
West Jackson Baptist Church
Annual Gathering of Tennessee Baptists



www.tnbaptist.org

SBA Pastor's Conference

Monday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.
No Pastor's Conference in Month of December
Pastors Conference will resume on January 7th.

Information for the next newsletter must be received by **January 7th**.

The Association Office will be closed December 19th–January 1st in observance of the holidays. We are thankful to the Association for allowing us this time to spend with family and friends.

Check Out Our Website
www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook

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