

THE MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

"Churches on Mission Together"
Celebrating 186 years, 1830 – 2016

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TONY RUTHERFORD

Director of Missions
tonyrutherford@bellsouth.net

SHERI STEPHENS

Ministry Assistant
sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net

BECKY JONES

Ministry Assistant
becky.jones@bellsouth.net

STAR ATKINS

Office Volunteer
423-442-6604 (office)

SVITLANA SELF

Resident Interpreter Volunteer
423-442-6605 (fax)

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Sweetwater Baptist Association
2016 Associational Evangelism Conference
Monday, January 25, 2016, 6:45 p.m.

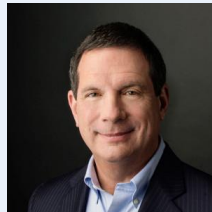
Special Music

Sweetwater
Baptist Association Choir
under the direction of

**Phillip
Johnson**
Associational
Music Director

Dr. Thom S. Rainer

Conference Speaker
President, LifeWay Christian Resources and
Author of numerous books
including, *I Am a Church Member*



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

Theme: New Life.. In Christ
EVERYONE INVITED

2015-2016 Officers of Sweetwater Baptist Association



Please pray for the Associational Leadership as they serve the Churches...
(Left to right) Outgoing Moderator, Roman Hamilton (Pastor, Poplar Bluff)
Tony Rutherford, Director of Missions
Dwight Torbett, 2015-2016 Vice-Moderator (Pastor, Westside)
David Chambers, 2015-2016 Moderator (Pastor, Altoona)



Annual
Meeting
2015

We welcome Fellowship Church, and look forward to working together for the Kingdom, with Pastor Derek McCosh and this congregation.

Conasauga

Is under watch-care, pending vote of Messengers at 2016 Annual Meeting. We are thankful for this Congregation and Pastor Ronnie Best, and welcome them to the Sweetwater Association.



Sweetwater Baptist Association Family of Churches Welcomes New Pastors to the following Churches



Community

Pastor Dennis Atkins and wife Marilyn



Cedar Valley

Pastor Joel Tilson and wife LuAnne with family Adam, Tyler and Jamie



Fairview (Tellico)

Pastor Dennis Wiseman and wife Samantha daughter Halie (not pictured son Jacob)



Fellowship

Pastor Derek McCosh and wife Christy with family Ivy, Sophia, Levi, James, Josiah



Miller's Chapel

Jim Stakely and wife Betty

Our prayers are with these dear men of God and their congregations as they share the Gospel of Jesus with their communities.

Director of Missions



The wind chill factor was four below zero. A stout wind whistled around the corner of the house seeping through the tiny cracks around the windows. The curtains in the bedroom danced with each gust, and the tin roof popped and rattled in rhythm. Winter had arrived just in time for Thanksgiving.

A clanking sound filled the air as mom opened the stove door and put in another piece of firewood. The sound of the crackling fire and the smell of smoke brought warmth into the room. On the other side of the bedroom door was a world where the heat drove the cold away. The journey to comfort was only a few steps away.

Sliding out from under several layers of hand-made quilts were sockless toes landing on the cold floor which sent a pain like little bee stings through the body. A mad dash was made toward the door while clutching to a clean shirt and a pair of pants. Bursting through the door brought immediate contact with life, new aromas, and unquestionable love.

Thanksgivings at our home were not celebrated with tons of in-laws and out-laws. Only Mom, Pat, Tom and I would sit down to a small feast. Instead of turkey, we ate chicken with all the fixings. While others enjoyed looking forward to pumpkin pie or sweet potato pie, my taste buds were set on the cranberry sauce. What a way to top off a good meal! Looking back makes me thankful for those simple days.

This year, things promise to be not quite as simple. My brother, Tom, is coming for a visit and bringing his family with him. It has been years since we have seen each other and our grandchildren have never met. Family members have learned to communicate through social media. However, nothing can ever replace face-to-face talking and laughing over a sweet dessert. It is a good thing to bring family together, especially around the holidays.

Our small family of three siblings has grown to approximately 70, and we are hoping all will be together this Thanksgiving. It is the simple things for which our hearts long. We are not promised days of plenty, yet we are encouraged to be thankful. Even though we cannot return to the days gone by, we can look forward to a homecoming where greetings of life, new aromas, and unquestionable love are available to everyone.

I hope your congregation is participating in the Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag program through the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Over 700 bags have been given to the churches. Bags are to be filled and distributed by the church in your local community, or returned for the special give-away day at the Association Office on November 21st. Your generosity will bring hundreds of people a simple yet enjoyable Thanksgiving meal.

Christmas preparations are quickly placed into action before the leftover turkey sandwiches are digested. Sometimes the hustle and

bustle of the Christ Season overshadows the true meaning of the celebration. However, I am still glad we take time to honor what our Heavenly Father chose to do. He purposely demonstrated His love for us by sending Jesus to be born of a Virgin in the small town of Bethlehem. What a night! What an event! What a Savior! He is worthy of our adoration. We are humbled by His thought of us. May the jubilee never end!

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas, -- *Tony Rutherford*

Sweetwater Baptist Association
MISSION OPPORTUNITIES
Thanksgiving Meals in a Bag
November 18-21

- ◆ Churches asked to pick up bags
and pack suggested non-refrigerated type items in bag
- ◆ Return bags to Association Office November 18 - 20
- ◆ Church groups need to receive and organize bags November 18-20
- ◆ Bags will be distributed at SBA Office on November 21

Haiti Mission Project
February, 2016

- ◆ Team needed to work with children at orphanage - VBS
- ◆ Construction/Electrical team needed to install fans at school/church

Remote Area Medical (RAM)
April 23-24, 2016

- ◆ Churches needed to serve meals for volunteers
- ◆ Groups needed for setup and to provide snacks for patients, etc.

Please contact the SBA Office for additional information.

GUATEMALA (Tennessee Baptist Convention) MISSION PROJECT:

In 2015, the Tennessee Baptist Convention asked the Sweetwater Baptist Association to participate in a pilot project in Guatemala. The Association responded to this request by providing five mission teams to serve in the Pacific Coast region. Teams participated in door-to-door evangelism, crusades, revivals, etc. It was reported that fifty-one people accepted Christ during the week-long project.



Plans now are for mission teams to return to Guatemala in 2016, to work in same locations and continue ministry work that was begun. The missionary in Guatemala recently shared with our office that the Pacific Coast area is one of the largest regions, so there is potential for more of our churches to work in other churches in this region of Guatemala. Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association if you or your church is interested in serving on a revival mission team in Guatemala in 2016.

The Tennessee Baptist Convention requires all participants to attend an orientation meeting, as well as training in More-Life, cross-cultural, security, travel safety and child protection. They also require a complete background screening. Much of the training is available on-line.

HOPE FOR HAITI: Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association continue to provide for children at Foundation Yaveh Shamma for the Children Orphanage operated by Pastor Gaetan Alcegaire. Food, clothing, shelter and schooling are furnished for the orphan children.

HOPE FOR HAITI



In addition to providing support for the children, construction continued at the new church/school building. In February of 2015, a team of workers



from the Sweetwater Baptist Association traveled to Haiti to build the rafters and roof the building. Locals were enlisted to stucco and paint the outside of the building, as well as tile the top floor of the building. Pews have been purchased for the building, and the new building dedication service was held in August of this year.



Now we need your help! In February of 2016, a volunteer mission team project is being planned for the Sweetwater Baptist Association. We need a mission team of 8-10. This group will work with the children at the orphanage to do an on-site Vacation Bible School. We also need a small electrical/construction team to install fans in the church/school building. In addition, leadership from another Association will be traveling with our mission team as part of a vision team to examine the ongoing work at the school and orphanage.

Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association office, if you would like to be part of the upcoming mission project and serve on this mission team. Mission volunteers must have a valid passport and would need to get any required vaccinations from their doctor or health department.

As we enter the final year of our partnership in the country of Haiti, please continue to pray for Pastor Gaetan and the children at the orphanage. Pray that other Associations may come forth, at the conclusion of our partnership, to provide for their needs and work to share the love of Christ in the country of Haiti.

REPORT FROM ANNUAL MEETING, 2015:
"New Life...In Christ" was the theme



for the Sweetwater Baptist Association, 2015 Annual Meeting as we gathered for worship and business.

Dr. John Powers, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Delano shared the mission message during the first session. He reminded us that where there is no vision, the people perish. Special music was provided by the Associational Choir and led by Phillip Johnson. Dedication of the 2015 Minutes of the Association was presented in memory of Bruce Newman,

a much loved and faithful servant of God. Wife, Susan Newman, and daughter, Leah Newman Waller were in attendance to receive the dedication memorial.



A special thank you to our Moderator Roman Hamilton, for his humble spirit and outstanding leadership this past year. The Moderator's Message, *I/we Need a Little More Jesus*, was presented during the second session. Special music was provided by Lance Hamilton, Debbie Martin and Laura Harris.

During the Business Session, a proposed budget of \$165,248.00 was approved by Messengers. The total overall increase in the budget was \$1,115.00 or less than 1%. Dwight Torbett (Pastor of Westside Baptist Church) was elected as Vice-Moderator for 2015-2016 and David Chambers (Pastor of Altoona Baptist Church) will serve as Moderator for 2015-2016.



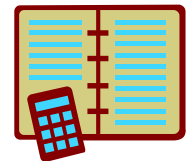
Missions Committee Chairman, Chris Farmer reviewed the 2014-2015 work of the Association, which included continued construction at the school/orphanage

building in Haiti, World Changers teams, and mission team to Guatemala as part of Tennessee Baptist Convention vision project. It was reported that Conasauga Baptist Church had met all requirements for petitioning the Association for membership and has been taken under the watch-care of the Association pending vote of Messengers at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Ronnie Best is pastor at Conasauga.

Mission Committee Recommendations approved by Messengers included (1) Working Agreement for a minimum of 6 months with Union Hall to be placed under the supervision of the Association (2) Acceptance of The Fellowship Church for membership as a participating church in the Sweetwater Baptist Association.

We want to thank 250+ Pastors, Messengers and visitors that were in attendance for the sessions. We want to thank host churches, Watson Chapel, Madisonville and Pastor Ronnie Blair, and Long Ridge, Tellico Plains and Pastor Carroll Hamilton. 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, 2016.

ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS: The 2015 Minutes of the 185th Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association are available for pickup in our office. If your churches ordered Minutes of the Annual Meeting, please stop by the Association Office at your convenience to pick up your copies.



Extra copies of the Minutes are available at \$7.00 per printed copy on a first-come, first-serve basis. The Minutes of the 185th Annual Meeting are also available on our website at www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com.

2016 SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CALENDARS

will be mailed to Pastors and Church Leadership in the next few days. When preparing the Associational Calendar, it is our desire that the dates are set so far in advance that all of us can do our planning without conflict of schedule. We hope you will use the calendar in planning your church events for 2016, and anything we have scheduled would not hinder any of the events at one of our 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.



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 Wives Christmas Banquet. It will be held this year on Monday evening, December 7th at 6:30 p.m. at Vonore Baptist Church, Family Life Center. In addition to pastors and their wives, our invitation is extended to include seminary extension students, retired pastors and the associational officers, as well as their spouses.



Special guest for the evening will be Tim Lovelace. Tim was with us two years ago, and was so well received, he has been invited back. He is a renowned Southern Gospel artist and comedian. He has received numerous awards, including Musician of the Year. He has written several #1 songs and has been nominated for Grammy and Dove Awards. He has also appeared on several Gaither videos.

In order to adequately prepare for the correct number in attendance, a \$5.00 per person registration fee is being required. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 or email your number attending to becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net by November 19th.

Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet Monday, December 7th, 6:30 p.m.

Vonore Baptist Church, Family Life Center, Vonore
Reservations required. Please call SBA Office at 442-6604 or email becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net for reservations.



2016 ASSOCIATIONAL EVANGELISM CONFERENCE:

We want to personally invite you and your church to attend the **2016 Sweetwater Baptist Association Evangelism Conference**. The meeting will be held on **Monday, January 25th**. The meeting will be hosted by **Notchey Creek Baptist Church** in Madisonville, and will begin at **6:45 p.m.**

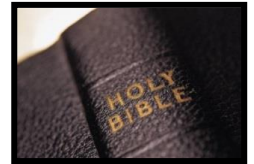


We are extremely excited about the conference this year. Our conference speaker is **Dr. Thom S. Rainer**. Dr. Rainer truly loves God and loves to do Kingdom work. He is President of LifeWay Christian Resources. Prior to LifeWay, he served at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for 12 years, where he was the founding dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism. He is the author of numerous books, including *I Am A Church Member*. Dr. Rainer has a strong commitment to the local church, a love for the Word of God, and a heart for lost souls. We know you will be blessed by his coming.

Again this year, the Associational Choir will bring our special music. 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. Our Associational Choir Director, Brother Phillip Johnson 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.

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 evening January 25th at Notchey Creek Baptist Church!**

SEMINARY EXTENSION: The winter session for seminary extension classes at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office will begin on January 5th at 6:30 pm. The course study is *Southern Baptist Heritage*.



Cost will be as follows:

Discounted Fee for Pastors/Ministers \$50.00
Discounted Fee for Lay Members \$100.00
(Includes Textbooks and Qualifies for Course Credit)

Students who wish to audit the class can do so for a \$20.00 fee (no books or credit will be available for audit students). Tony Mizer will be the instructor for this class. Please call the SBA office or email becky.jones@bellsouth.net or sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net to pre-register by December 15th. For more information, please contact the associational office at 423-442-6604.

2016 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Pastors and youth leaders for each of our churches should have already received 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

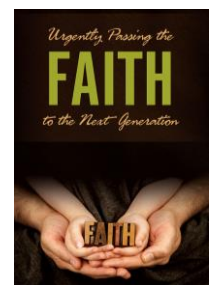
Music Road Hotel & Convention Center
Pigeon Forge, TN

January 28-30, 2016

Cost \$225.00 per couple

(Covers hotel, meals and breaks)

For more information and/or program/schedule or to register online please check website at www.tnbaptist.org





WMU and LADIES MINISTRY:

Looking ahead, I want to thank everyone who will be taking part and/or attending the WMU Expo on Saturday, November 14th. We want to especially thank Pastor Johnny Carr and Fairview Baptist Tabernacle for hosting the event, as well as guest speakers Carolyn Outland and Ann Davenport. I know this will be a blessing and a wonderful opportunity for us to see and learn about missions. I look forward to seeing you at the Missions Expo!

SBA WMU and Ladies Ministry News

Remember when it is your WMU's time to provide a birthday cake for East Tennessee Healthcare.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| November Bethlehem | December....New Bethany |
| January Ebenezer | February.... Rocky Springs |

My Christmas wish for you and your family is health, happiness, love for all, and a greater desire for missions. Prayers for a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year, *Charlotte Hollinghead, Associational WMU Director*

WMU EXPO

Saturday, November 14

- 3:00-5:00 p.m. Tour of Expo Booths (Family Life Center)
Call 442-6604 to reserve your Mission Booth
- 5:00 p.m. Guest Speakers (Sanctuary)
Carolyn Outland and Ann Davenport (Authors and Missionaries)

Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church, Sweetwater, Tennessee

Everyone Welcome!

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS:

Every penny given to the Lottie Moon Offering is used to support Southern Baptist missionaries as they share the Gospel overseas. The offering represents 55% of the International Mission Board's total income. Thirty-two percent of IMB's support is received from the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program (CP). Your church gives its CP offering to the State Convention, and a portion goes to support the work of IMB. On average, it costs \$43,845.86 per year or \$0.08 per minute to support a missionary.



Lottie Moon...*Because of Who He Is*...Christmas Offering:

- Thousands of people and churches give through the offering
- 100% is used to send and support missionaries (currently 4700)
- In one year, they shared His redemptive story with 1.75 million people
- Trained 21,000 nationals to start new churches
- Helped start 14,000 churches
- All the while they worked to rescue slaves, feed orphans and cared for the needy

100% of your gifts support missionaries and their ministries. Last year, they reported:

- 1.75 million people heard a Gospel witness
- 275,000 became new believers
- 14,000 new churches and 4,000 new groups were formed

These numbers represent changed lives with new hope and purpose. YET.... billions remain lost! We still have many challenges to face. It will take all of us-- our churches, our missionaries—to share the Great Commission, among unreached peoples and places. The suggested

date for the Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is November 29-December 6. Please help take the Gospel everywhere, all the way to the ends of the earth, *Because of Who He Is.* (Information taken from 2015 Lottie Moon Resources plus *Your Lottie Moon Gifts at Work Booklet.*)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS:

As the Associational Vacation Bible School Directors, we look forward to serving you again this year. We are excited (and know you will be too) about this year's theme, "*Submerged, Finding the Truth Below the Surface*". Watch for more information about the upcoming VBS Clinic. We can't wait to help you plan and prepare for your Vacation Bible School! Have a blessed Christmas season! **Bryan and Kim Williamson, Associational VBS Directors**



Vacation Bible School Clinic

March 24, 2016 ... Watson Chapel Baptist Church

LifeWay's 2016 VBS Sampler Kits will be available at the SBA Office. Please call 442-6604 to reserve your kit or stop by the SBA Office to pick up a kit for your church.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SAMPLER KITS:

We are so excited! LifeWay's 2016 "*Submerged, Finding Truth Below the Surface*" Jump-Start Kits will be available at the SBA Office in December, and all 2016 VBS materials will be at the SBA Office in January. Please call the Associational Office at 442-6604 to reserve the kit and materials that are just right for your church.



Let us encourage you to stop by the Associational Office to look at the materials this year. "*Submerged*" takes your kids on an adventure like no other. They will travel deep within the mysterious sea, but best of all, kids submerge themselves in God's Word. They will discover that Jesus did not see just what was on the outside of people. He looked deep down on the inside. So get ready to jump in to find truths below the surface! Biblical content for the week include Jesus saw Zacchaeus; Jesus saw the woman at the well; Jesus saw Nicodemus; Jesus saw a blind man, Jesus saw the children. The motto is "*Jesus sees, Jesus knows, Jesus saves*" with VBS Scripture from Psalm 139:23-24.

If you have not used LifeWay Vacation Bible School materials and supplies in the past, we encourage you to look at the Jump-Start Kits. We will be happy to help you with your 2016 Vacation Bible School team, resources and supplies.

If your church does not have Vacation Bible School, we encourage you to prayerfully reconsider! There are many tools available to help your church with VBS including the church Link-up Plan. We will be happy to help your church with VBS team workers, and/or link-up resources and supplies. If your church needs any assistance with VBS for 2016, or if you have ANY questions about conducting a VBS, feel free to contact the SBA office for more information.

The **Associational VBS Clinic will be held on March 24th**. Please mark this important date on your calendar, and begin putting together your VBS team. God wants to do GREAT and MIGHTY things through Vacation Bible School.



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

Macy Small specializes in Marriage and Family Counseling and seeks to give Godly counsel for individuals, couples, and families.

Counseling services include divorce recovery, pre-marital counseling, marital counseling, and those struggling with personal stress and problems. Macy is a NCCA Licensed Clinical Christian Counselor.

Services include....

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

Macy and her husband Aaron are members of Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater. They reside with their two children in Loudon. Please call 865-414-3269 for further information or to schedule appointments with **Macy Small, M.A., The Upper Room Christian Counseling.**



YOUTH COMMITTEE: Casey King, Pastor of Trinity Baptist Church will serve as Chairman of the Youth Committee for the 2015-2016 associational year. Casey has faithfully served on the Youth Committee for the past few years and has brought great leadership to the planning and promoting of Youth Reach.

Speaking of Youth Reach, we are really excited to let you know that **Inky Johnson** will be sharing his testimony at YR 2016. Inky played for the *University of Tennessee* and had hopes of playing in the NFL. An injury during his junior year ended that hope. Inky's testimony of God's grace brings hope and inspiration.



The guest speaker will be student evangelist, *Shawn McBride*. Pastor Shawn preached at YR 2014 and he brought such a powerful message to our youth, that we have invited him back for 2016. It won't be long until Youth Leaders will be receiving registration packets, so please go ahead and mark your calendars for July 15-16, 2016 and plan to bring your students to Youth Reach.

YOUTH PASTOR OPPORTUNITY, AT FBC TELLICO:

First Baptist Church of Tellico Plains has an opening for a bi-vocational, salaried, Youth Pastor. We are looking for a passionate, energetic, spirit-led Christian with a calling to minister to youth Grades 7-12. Responsibilities include (but not limited to) leading and organizing effective youth programs, implementing fellowship, worship, Biblical teaching, discipleship, and evangelism, as well as ministry and mission opportunities. If more information is needed, contact Rev. Richard Parker, at revrap@gmail.com. Resumes may be submitted to the



following address: FBC of Tellico Plains, Attn: Youth Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 118, Tellico Plains, TN 37385.



FELLOWSHIP: I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Messengers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, who voted to accept The Fellowship Church into the association of churches, during the Annual Meeting this fall. Part of our vision has been to focus on kingdom building and to partner with other churches and to help them exalt King Jesus by making disciples. We look forward to working together with great people from all our churches. --*Dr. Derek McCosh*

ISLAND CREEK: We have several holiday events planned over the next few weeks. First, our church will again serve as a drop-off location for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. It is always a blessing to be a part of this great ministry.

On Sunday, November 22nd, we will celebrate our annual "Praises of Thanksgiving" service, and this year we have special guest singers, the

Ladies of Lee. The Ladies of Lee is a choir of 51 young ladies from Lee University.



We are looking forward to having them worship with us and invite all to come be a part of this special service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 and Worship Service begins at 10:45.

Finally, our Christmas Program, *Eyewitness Christmas*, will be presented on Sunday, December 20th at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.



MT. ZION: Our youth Christmas Program will be Sunday morning, December 20; and the Adult program will be that Sunday night at 6:00. On January 10th, "His Own" will be singing during the morning worship service at 11:00.

NOTCHEY CREEK: Please join us for special services. They include: Children Christmas Program on Sunday evening, December 6th at 6:00 p.m.; Community Christmas Caroling on Sunday afternoon, December 13th and Adult Christmas Program on Sunday evening, December 20th. Everyone is invited.



ROCKY SPRINGS: Everyone is invited to join us for our Harvest Supper and Singing on Sunday, November 22nd, beginning at 5:00 pm. On Sunday, December 6th, we will be presenting "The Christmas Play" at 6:00 pm. Join us for a play with a great meaning and a little comedy too. During this holiday season, let's remember to count our blessings and thank God for all he has done. ---*Kim Williamson*



SHOAL CREEK: Christmas Program, *The Greatest Story Ever Told* is scheduled for December 12 at 6:00 p.m. and December 13 at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. For additional information, please contact Jeannie Everhart at 253-3747.



GLENLOCK: Christmas Play, *Mr. Wilson Finds Christmas*, Saturday, December 12th, 6:00 p.m.; and Sunday morning, December 20th, 11:00 a.m. the choir will present Christmas Cantata. Everyone invited.



SHELTON GROVE: Christmas play on December 20 at 6:30 p.m. The name of the play is *A Cricket County Old Folks Christmas*.

WALNUT GROVE: We have two vehicles for sale. One is a 15- Passenger Ford, and the other is a 22-Passenger School Bus with a Diesel engine. For more information or inquiries, contact Pastor Bill Johnson at 423-337-1689.



Howards Chapel.....	757.33	0.00	0.00	757.33
Island Creek.....	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Lakeside.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Long Ridge.....	1000.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00
Lower Chilhowee.....	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Macedonia.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Madisonville, First.....	366.67	0.00	0.00	366.67
Maple Springs.....	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Miller's Chapel.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Mt. Calvary.....	107.00	0.00	0.00	107.00
Mt. Isabella.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Mt. Zion.....	392.05	0.00	0.00	392.05
Murray's.....	2960.34	0.00	0.00	2960.34
New Bethany.....	290.75	0.00	0.00	290.75
New Macedonia.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Providence.....	513.00	0.00	0.00	513.00
North Sweetwater.....	307.00	0.00	0.00	307.00
Notchey Creek.....	411.64	0.00	0.00	411.64
Oakland.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oak Grove.....	215.11	0.00	0.00	215.11
Old Pond Hill.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Old Sweetwater.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paint Rock.....	110.00	0.00	0.00	110.00
Piney Grove.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poplar Bluff.....	148.91	0.00	0.00	148.91
Reed Springs.....	735.00	0.00	0.00	735.00
Rocky Springs.....	840.00	0.00	0.00	840.00
Rural Vale.....	164.38	0.00	0.00	164.38
Shady Grove.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shelton Grove.....	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Shoal Creek.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Madisonville.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Sweetwater, First.....	350.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
Tellico.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tellico Plains, First.....	595.00	0.00	0.00	595.00
Tevis Springs.....	178.95	0.00	0.00	178.95
Towee Falls.....	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Trinity.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unicoi.....	84.26	0.00	0.00	84.26
Union Hall.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unity.....	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Upper Shady Grove.....	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Vonore.....	1253.92	0.00	0.00	1253.92
Walnut Grove.....	174.29	0.00	0.00	174.29
Watson Chapel.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Westside.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsburg.....	71.80	0.00	0.00	71.80
TBC.....	782.00	0.00	0.00	782.00
Misc AM.....	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Misc Interest.....	23.50	0.00	0.00	23.50
Total Income.....	19,750.49	0.00	0.00	19,750.49



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoebbox Drop-Off Location:
ISLAND CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
 2505 Hwy 411, Madisonville

Drop-Off Times:
 Nov 16-19: 10 am – 2 pm
 Nov 16-19: 5 pm – 8 pm
 Nov 20-21: 10 am – 2 pm
 Nov 22: 2 pm – 5 pm
 Nov 23: 10 am – 1 pm



CHURCH GIFTS: We are so thankful to the churches for the gifts you have shared with our office. These gifts support the various budget ministries of the Association. We have listed church gifts received as of October 26th. Please review this information, and contact our office if you should have any questions.

SBA Church Gifts through October 26, 2015

Church/Mission	October	November	December	Total
411 Chapel.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Altoona.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Antioch.....	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Beaty's Chapel.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bethlehem.....	1002.00	0.00	0.00	1002.00
Big Creek.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary.....	77.96	0.00	0.00	77.96
Cane Creek.....	110.00	0.00	0.00	110.00
Cedar Fork.....	384.04	0.00	0.00	384.04
Cedar Valley.....	552.51	0.00	0.00	552.51
Chestua.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Christianburg.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Citico.....	66.52	0.00	0.00	66.52
Clifton.....	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Community.....	60.36	0.00	0.00	60.36
Compromise.....	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Conasauga.....	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Concord.....	333.96	0.00	0.00	333.96
Druid Hills.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ebenezer.....	79.00	0.00	0.00	79.00
Fairview.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle.....	1045.24	0.00	0.00	1045.24
Fellowship.....	165.00	0.00	0.00	165.00
Glenlock.....	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Gregory's Chapel.....	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Hilltop.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hopewell Springs.....	141.00	0.00	0.00	141.00

REGIONAL ANNUAL TAX SEMINAR: A free tax seminar is being offered by Hamilton County Baptist Association on Tuesday, December 1, at 1:30 p.m. at the Brainerd Baptist Church BX Building at Belvoir and Austin in Chattanooga. *(The CrossRoads Café is open for lunch inside this entry location.)* Pre-registration is requested since handouts will be made available for those attending. Therefore, if you plan to attend, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604 in order to register for the seminar.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
 Sweetwater Baptist Association
 Tony Rutherford,
 Beaty Jones and Sheri Stephens

Sweetwater Baptist Association

696 Anderson Street
Madisonville, TN 37354

Return Service Requested

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ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS

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

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Welcome New Pastors

Cedar Valley..... Joel Tilson Fellowship..... Derek McCosh
Community..... Dennis Atkins Miller's Chapel..... Jim Stakely
Fairview (Tellico) Dennis Wiseman

Director of Mission Visits:

Chestua, Rural Vale, Trinity, Fellowship, Upper Shady Grove, Westside, Hilltop, Big Creek, Long Ridge, Lower Chilhowee, Rocky Springs, Oakland, Glenlock, Compromise, North Sweetwater, Lakeside, Calvary, Notchey Creek, Mt. Calvary, New Macedonia, Mt. Zion, Madisonville First, Oak Grove, Howard's Chapel, Union Hall, New Bethany, Delano, Hopewell Springs, Concord, Fairview Tabernacle, Maple Springs, Guatemala, Old Sweetwater, Watson Chapel, Vonore

Please pray for our churches without pastors:

Rural Vale, Shady Grove, Union Hall



Upcoming Events/News

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us”. –John 1:14

- November 14..... WMU Expo, Fairview Tabernacle, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
- November 18-20.. Receive and Organize Thanksgiving Meals-in-a-Bag
- November 21 Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag Give-away
- November 26 Thanksgiving Day
- November 29-December 6..... Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- December 7..... SBA Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet, Vonore, 6:30 p.m.
- December 25..... Christmas Day
- January 1 New Year's Day
- January 5 Seminary Extension Classes Begins
- January 11 Youth Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- January 25 Evangelism Conference, Notchey Creek, 6:45 p.m.
- January 29 TBC Bivocational Pastor/Wife Retreat, Pigeon Forge



SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

2016 High School Scholarship Applications

Completed Applications DUE March 1st



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 4th

2016 SBA Pastor's Conference: President Dennis Ellis, Vice-President Bill Wilson

The Association Office will be closed December 21 - January 3 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

East TN Healthcare, WMU Birthday Cake

November	Bethlehem	December	New Bethany
January	Ebenezer	February	Rocky Springs

Information for the next newsletter must be received by **January 10th**.

Check Out Our Website

www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com

Visit us on Facebook

SBA Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.