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2026 Annual Meeting, Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville



Thank you, Rocky Springs Baptist Church and Pastor Greg McCosh for the gracious welcome and for hosting the *198th Annual Meeting*.



Thank you to all *Messengers* and visitors for coming to share in this *Annual Meeting*.



Director of Missions, East Tennessee Baptist Association, Mike Hensley thanked SBA churches for providing disaster relief in Cocke County.



Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford accepted a *Golden Offering* plaque from Shane Johnston, East Tennessee Regional Vice-President, TBMB.



The *Worship Session* began with congregation singing led by Greg Massingale accompanied by Shanna Hudson playing piano and Darrell Atkins playing guitar (with Pastor Greg McCosh enjoying and singing along in the background), Rocky Springs Baptist Church.



Our hearts were blessed with special music by David (Moe King, Jr., Union McMinn Baptist Church.



The Moderator's Plaque was presented to Gabe Brannon for a job well done. We thank Vice-Moderator, Rick Harris, and Moderator, Gabe Brannon, for their outstanding service during the past year. We also thank the Moderator for sharing the *Moderator's Message* from Acts 2:1-13 and encouraging us to want the fire to fall as we wait, obey and watch.



The message was closed with a time of prayer for all pastors and ministers in the congregation.

Please pray for the 2026-2027 Leadership of the SBA. (left to right)



Tony Rutherford (Director of Missions)
Rick Harris, Moderator, 2026-2027 (Pastor, South Madisonville)
Gerald Lynn, Vice-Moderator, 2026-2027 (Pastor, Mt. Calvary)
Gabe Brannon, Out-going Moderator, 2025-2026 (Pastor, Union McMinn)

Program of the 196th Annual Session of the
Sweetwater Baptist Association
2026 Annual Meeting

Theme: FAN THE FLAMES OF FAITH… *Acts @ Pentecost*
And when the day of Pentecost was fully come,
they were all with one accord in one place… – Acts 2:1-13

Director of Missions	Vice Moderator	Moderator
Tony Rutherford	Rick Harris	Gabe Brannon

Celebrating 196 Years…1830-2026



Monday Evening, October 19, 2026
ROCKY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Madisonville, Tennessee

Business Session

6:00 *Associational Council Report*.....*Video Presentation*

6:30 *Greetings and Prayer*..... *Tony Rutherford*
Director of Missions; Member, Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church

Video Message .....*Dr. Randy Davis*
Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

TBMB Representative.....*Shane Johnston*
East Tennessee Regional Vice-President, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

Memorial Report.....*Video Presentation*

Welcome and Prayer ..... *Greg McCosh*
Pastor, Rocky Springs Baptist Church

Presentation of Gavel..... *Director of Missions*

Call to Order..... *Gabe Brannon*
Moderator; Pastor, Union-McMinn Baptist Church

Business Session..... *Moderator*

Constitution of Body ..... *Becky Jones*
Clerk; Member, First Baptist Church, Madisonville

Appointment of Committee on Nominations..... *Moderator*

Election of Officers.....*Rick Harris*
Vice-Moderator; Pastor, South Madisonville Baptist Church

Committee on Nominations..... *Andy Franklin*
Member of Committee on Nominations; Pastor, Mt Zion Baptist Church

Treasurer's Report..... *Sheri Stephens*
Treasurer; Member, Notchey Creek Baptist Church

Presentation of Budget.....*Wendi Stakely*
Chairperson of Budget Committee; Member, Bethlehem Baptist Church

Director of Missions Report ..... *Tony Rutherford*

Presentation of 2027 Calendar..... *Director of Missions*

Recommendation(s) and Presentation(s) ..... *Director of Missions*

Old Business.....*Vice-Moderator*

New Business.....*Vice-Moderator*

Adjourn .....*Vice-Moderator*

Monday Evening, October 19, 2026

ROCKY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Madisonville, Tennessee

Worship Session

Congregational Hymn ..... *Rocky Springs Baptist Church*

Welcome and Prayer ..... *Rick Harris*

Vice-Moderator; Pastor, South Madisonville Baptist Church

Special Music ..... *David (Moe) King, Jr.*

Member; Union McMinn Baptist Church

Moderator's Message ..... *Gabe Brannon*

Moderator; Pastor, Union McMinn Baptist Church

Benediction ..... *Director of Missions*

VOTING MESSENGERS:



- Each participating church, meeting requirements, is entitled to seven (7) Messengers to participate in the business of the Association. (Pastors/Interim Pastors, shall be one of the Messengers, and six additional Messengers, whose names have been submitted to the Association Office, shall make up the total seven voting Messengers for each church.)
- Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council will be considered automatic Messengers to the Annual Meeting.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

- Please complete registration form on front of handout, tear off, and leave on pew. We will collect all registration forms at the close of the service. We ask that everyone please register.
- **All Messengers must register at Registration table**. Messenger nametag will be given during registration, before the Annual Meeting Session, and only one Messenger nametag is issued to each Messenger. Ballots will be distributed to Messengers, only if Moderator calls for a vote by ballot, and only Messengers with Messenger nametag will be given ballots. Lost or misplaced Messenger nametags and/or ballots cannot be replaced.

Please note: All reports for the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, and available reports from the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, North American Mission Board and International Mission Board are included in the *2026 Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*. The 2026 Associational Council Report includes Recognition of New Pastors.

2026 Minute Books can be ordered and purchased from Sweetwater Baptist Association for $8.00 each.

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION - HISTORICAL REPORT

DATE	PLACE OF MEETING	PREACHER	MODERATOR	CLERK
1923	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	T.W. Gaylor		
1924	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	O.E. Fleming	W.A. Ghormeley	R.D. Malone
1925	Chestua Baptist Church	J.E. Vaughn	W.A. Ghormeley	Ray D. Hicks
1926	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	O. B. Fleming	W.A. Ghormeley	J.E. Vaughn
1927	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	Joe Davie	W.A. Ghormeley	J.E. Vaughn
1928	Christianburg Baptist Church	L.O. McCracken	W.A. Ghormeley	O.D. Fleming
1929	Blairland Baptist Church	J.H. Atkins	W.A. Ghormeley	O.D. Fleming
1930	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.H. Sharp	W.A. Ghormeley	O.D. Fleming
1931	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	T.W. Hill	N.M. McDaniel	O.D. Fleming
1932	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	C.C. Slaeagle	N.M. McDaniel	O.D. Fleming
1933	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	J. F. Wolfenbarger	N.M. McDaniel	George C. Watson
1934	Rocky Springs Baptist Church	J.B. Tallent	N.M. McDaniel	George C. Watson
1935	Loudon Baptist Church	J.H. O. Clevenger	J.B. Tallent	George C. Watson
1936	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	J.R. Hodges	J.B. Tallent	George C. Watson
1937	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Ray H. Dunn	W.A. Carroll	Mrs. Theo Sloan
1938	Chestua Baptist Church	C.S. McCoy	George C. Watson	Mr. Theo Sloan
1939	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	J.W. Newman	George C. Watson	Mrs. Theo Sloan
1940	Vonore Baptist Church	Roy Creasman	R.G. Cansler	W.R. Haun
1941	East Sweetwater Baptist Church	George G. Watson	J.R. Hodges	W.R. Haun
1942	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	Dr. A. F. Mahan	J.R. Hodges	W.R. Haun
1943	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.H. Atkins	J.R. Hodges	W.R. Haun
1944	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Dr. O.W. Taylor	J.R. Hodges	C.W. Gosnell
1945	Philadelphia Baptist Church	E.G. Ingle	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1946	Prospect Baptist Church	O.D. Fleming	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1947	Glenlock Baptist Church	James Tilley	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1948	Corinth Baptist Church	Chester Millsaps	Henry Veal	E.R. Webster
1949	Reed Springs Baptist Church	A.B. Coutney	J.W. Newman	E.R. Webster
1950	Reed Springs Baptist Church	Virgil Tallent	John L. Tilley	George G. Watson
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
1951	Holly Springs Baptist Church	James Windham	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
	Chestua Baptist Church			
1952	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	Edd Rickman	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
	Oak Grove Baptist Church			
1953	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Thomas Franks	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
	Fairview Baptist Church			
1954	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	Wallace E. Cowan	E.H. Thomas	W. Paul Hall
1955	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	O.C. Rainwater	E.H. Thomas	Ray Hicks
1956	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.B. Watson	W.R. White	Ray Hicks
1957	Chestua Baptist Church	Clifford Debety	W.R. White	Dr. John L. Tillery
1958	Friendship Baptist Church	James Patton	W.R. White	Dr. John L. Tillery
1959	Tellico, First Baptist Church	High Ensminger	W.R. White	Dr. John L. Tillery
1960	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	Roscoe Long	Rev. John Smith	Dr. John L. Tillery
1961	South Madisonville Baptist Church	Dr. Fred Kendall	Rev. John Smith	Dr. John L. Tillery
1962	Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	J.B. Watson	D. Mynatt-Protem	Dr. John L. Tillery
1963	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Lewis Rhodes	Jewell Watson	Dr. John L. Tillery
1964	Rocky Springs Baptist Church	David Walker	James Clapp	Dr. John L. Tillery
1965	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	C.A. McKenzie	Virgil Tubyfill	Rev. Robert Sharp
1966	Cedar Fork Baptist Church	Billy Jones	Joe Little	Rev. Robert Sharp
1967	Bethlehem Baptist Church	Eugene Leaman	Anderson McCulley	Billy Jones
1968	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	John Kosier	James Atkins	Billy Jones
1969	Cedar Fork Baptist Church	Anderson McCulley	George Pittman	John Kosier
1970	Chestua Baptist Church	Van Millsaps	George Pittman	John Kosier
1971	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	J.B. Crisp	Ralph Millsaps	John Kosier

1972	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	Bennie Creel	Ralph Millsaps	John Kosier
	Mt. Zion Baptist Church			
1973	Island Creek Baptist Church	Jonas Stewart	R.L. Davis	Steve Byrum
	Notchey Creek Baptist Church			
1974	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Victor Houston	Quentin Lee (Asst)	Clinton Riddle
	Reed Springs Baptist Church			
1975	Gregory's Chapel Baptist Church	Keller Brown	Anderson McCulley	Clinton Riddle
	Bethlehem Baptist Church			
1976	Rocky Springs Baptist Church	Lester Young	Fred Tate	Horace C. Brown
	Murrays Baptist Church			
1977	411 Chapel Baptist Church	Benny Woods	Fred Tate	Horace C. Brown
	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church			
1978	Vonore Baptist Church	Ralph Patton	Elmer Hurst	Horace C. Brown
	Tellico, First Baptist Church			
1979	Lakeside Baptist Church	Nevil Smith	Grover McCrary	Horace C. Brown
	Notchey Creek Baptist Church			
1980	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	James Patton	Robert D. Moore	Nevil Smith
	Mt. Zion Baptist Church			
	Old Sweetwater Baptist Church			
1981	Tellico Plains Baptist Church	Anderson McCulley	Joe Caldwell	Nevil Smith
	Island Creek Baptist Church			
1982	North Sweetwater Baptist Church	Joe Caldwell	Grady Miller	Nevil Smith
	Friendship Baptist Church			
1983	Fairview Tabernacle Baptist Church	David Allison	Bruce Poplin	Nevil Smith
	Unicoi Baptist Church			
1984	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	Virgil Tallent	Virgil Tallent	Nevil Smith
	Cedar Fork Baptist Church			
1985	Tellico. First Baptist Church	Frank Hicks	James Jackson	Nevil Smith
	Oak Grove Baptist Church			
1986	Glenlock Baptist Church	Dr. John Tillery	Dewey Raley	Nevil Smith
	South Madisonville Baptist Church			
1987	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	John Tipton	Don Rockholt	Nevil Smith
	Mt. Harmony Baptist Church			
1988	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	Robert Spradlin	Doug Alexander	Nevil Smith
	Fairview Tabernacle Baptist Church			
1989	North Sweetwater Baptist Church	R.L. Davis	James Harris	Nevil Smith
	New Providence Baptist Church			
1990	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Clint Riddle	Frank Hicks	Doug Alexander
	South Madisonville Baptist Church			
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
1991	Glenlock Baptist Church	Lon Shoopman	David Allison	Glenda Spradlin
	Bethlehem Baptist Church			
	Vonore Baptist Church			
1992	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Alvin Patton	Robert Spradlin	Glenda Spradlin
	New Macedonia Baptist Church			
	Long Ridge Baptist Church			
1993	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Tommy Self	Lon Shoopman	Sandra Oaks
	Chestua Baptist Church			
	Mt. Harmony Baptist Church			
1994	Lakeside Baptist Church	Clayton Dunsmore	Gerald Atkins	Shannon Clayton
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
	Fairview-(Ballplay) Baptist Church			
1995	Vonore Baptist Church	Virgil Turbyfill	Gale Miller	Shannon Clayton
	Cedar Fork Baptist Church			
	Notchey Creek Baptist Church			
1996	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	James Atkins	Clayton Dunsmore	Evelyn Summers

	New Providence Baptist Church			
	South Madisonville Baptist Church			
1997	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church	Russ Cooper	Lee Chorn	Sheri Stephens
	Reed Springs Baptist Church			
	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church			
1998	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Don Edwards	Tommy Self	Sheri Stephens
	Oak Grove Baptist Church			
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
1999	Mt. Zion Baptist Church	Richard Parker	Tommy Self	Sheri Stephens
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church			
2000	South Madisonville Baptist Church	Dwayne Leming	Russ Cooper	Sheri Stephens
	Vonore Baptist Church			
	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church			
2001	Bethlehem Baptist Church	Anderson McCulley	Steve Teague	Sheri Stephens
	Cedar Fork Baptist Church			
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
2002	Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	Chris Farmer	Richard Parker	Sheri Stephens
	New Macedonia Baptist Church			
	Watson's Chapel Baptist Church			
2003	Lakeside Baptist Church	Bill Roberts	Clint Riddle	Sheri Stephens
	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church			
	New Providence Baptist Church			
2004	Glenlock Baptist Church	B.J. Wall	Tony Collins	Sheri Stephens
	411 Chapel Baptist Church			
	Notchey Creek Baptist Church			
2005	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Shane Bryson	Chad Kirkpatrick	Sheri Stephens
	Westside Baptist Church			
	Vonore Baptist Church			
2006	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	Darrell Franklin	Mike Williams	Sheri Stephens
	Rocky Springs Baptist Church			
	Bethlehem Baptist Church			
2007	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church,	Russ Cooper	Chris Farmer	Sheri Stephens
	Trinity Baptist Church			
	Watson Chapel Baptist Church			
2008	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church,	Johnny Carr	Jarrod Johnson	Sheri Stephens
	Island Creek Baptist Church			
	Mt. Zion Baptist Church			
2009	Notchey Creek Baptist Church	Mike Williams	Steve Teague	Sheri Stephens
	Cedar Valley Baptist Church			
	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church			
2010	New Macedonia Baptist Church	Dennis Cagle	Bill White	Sheri Stephens
	Poplar Bluff Baptist Church			
	Rocky Springs Baptist Church			
2011	Madisonville, First Baptist Church,	Frank Hicks	Steven McDonald	Sheri Stephens
	North Sweetwater Baptist Church			
	Vonore Baptist Church			
2012	Glenlock Baptist Church	Dr. Lon Shoopman	Mike Williams	Sheri Stephens
	Bethlehem Baptist Church			
2013	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	Dr. H. Dean Haun	Mike DeLand	Sheri Stephens
	Tellico Plains, First Baptist Church			
2014	Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	Dr. Edward Johnson	Carroll Hamilton	Sheri Stephens
	New Providence Baptist Church			
2015	Watson Chapel Baptist Church	Dr. John Powers	Roman Hamilton	Sheri Stephens
	Long Ridge Baptist Church			

2016	New Macedonia Baptist Church	Dr. Ronnie Owens	David Chambers	Sheri Stephens
	Lakeside Baptist Church			
2017	411 Chapel Baptist Church	Dr. Doug Sager	Carroll Hamilton	Sheri Stephens
	Mt. Zion Baptist Church			
2018	Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	Greg McCosh	Greg McCosh	Sheri Stephens
2019	Union McMinn Baptist Church	Charles "Bud" Boring	Charles "Bud" Boring	Sheri Stephens
2020	Vonore Baptist Church	Mitch Ingram	Mitch Ingram	Sheri Stephens
2021	Madisonville, First Baptist Church	Lewis Jones	Lewis Jones	Becky Jones
2022	Bethlehem Baptist Church	Michael McLemore	Michael McLemore	Sheri Stephens
2023	New Providence Baptist Church	Darrell Cardin	Darrell Cardin	Becky Jones
2024	Sweetwater, First Baptist Church	David Lane	David Lane	Becky Jones
2025	New Macedonia Baptist Church	Jamie Johnson	Jamie Johnson	Becky Jones
2026	Rocky Springs Baptist Church	Gabe Brannon	David Lane	Becky Jones

DATE	PLACE OF MEETING	PREACHER	MODERATOR	CLERK

CONSTITUTION of the SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.

(adopted by Messengers at 189th Annual Meeting, October 21, 2019)

PREAMBLE

We declare and establish this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith, and to govern the Association in an orderly manner. This constitution will help preserve the liberties of each individual church.

NAME

The body shall be known as Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. located in Madisonville, Tennessee.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association shall be to empower, encourage and equip the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. to strategically reach the lost for Christ locally, as well as across the world, through cooperating together with the churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and Southern Baptist Convention.

OBJECTIVES

- To promote a kindred spirit, foster Christian fellowship and committed cooperation in shared ministry among the affiliated churches**.**
- To uphold the doctrines and principles of our Baptist Faith and encourage our churches to be loyal to these principles.
- To promote mission giving to the Association and Southern Baptist entities.
- To provide local and international mission opportunities for churches.
- To provide training for all areas of Christian ministry.
- To aid and assist member churches and pastors.
- To be available to pastors and churches to assist with conflict resolution, if requested.
- To support future decisions made by the Executive Board or the Messengers to the Associational Annual Meeting.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Holy Bible is the inspired word of God and is the basis for any statement of faith. This Association relies on the Bible for instruction on all matters concerning ordinances, ministries, activities, membership and employment. The Holy Bible is the sole guidance for faith and practice and all activities are to be consistent with, and not contrary to, the teaching of scripture. As an additional means of applying scripture to daily living and governing of the body, this Association adheres to the *Articles of Faith* listed in the *Baptist Faith and Message* as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14, 2000.

RELATIONSHIPS

The government of the *Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.* is vested in the member churches that compose it. The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will cooperate with and support the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention, as long as said entities are in agreement with the statement of faith for Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.

This *Constitution* was approved and adopted by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. on October 21, 2019.

Signed by: *Sheri Stephens*, Clerk 10/21/2019

THE BY-LAWS OF SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.

I. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: GENERAL

The Association is a self-governing fellowship of member churches sharing a common faith and mission. The churches of the Association are autonomous. The fellowship of churches involves oneness, shared life and support; a common faith, grounded in harmony in faith and practice.

The Association shall be composed of churches affiliated and cooperative with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and Southern Baptist Convention, and which are in conformity with the purposes of the Association in their doctrine, polity and practice, and which have given evidence of support to the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

SECTION 2: NEW CHURCH ADMISSIONS

Churches desiring to affiliate with the Association shall make a written petition to the Mission Committee for consideration. They must also submit a copy of the record where the church has voted to request membership. The following information must be included in the petition:

- A brief history of the organization of the church/mission
- Evidence of cooperation or intention of cooperation with the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention.
- A written statement of the *Articles of Faith* and *Covenant* that the church has adopted.
- A brief history of the achievements of the church to date of petition. (*For example*: has the church acquired property; has the church constructed a building; how often do they have preaching services at the church, etc.)
- A listing of current church leadership with contact information at time of petitioning.

SECTION 3: PROCEDURE FOR NEW CHURCH ADMISSIONS

The Associational Missions Committee shall investigate the petitioning church and based upon their investigation, can choose to make a recommendation during business session to place said church under watch care. If accepted, the petitioning church will be placed under the watch care of the Association for a minimum of six (6) months. A majority vote is required to place said church under watch care.

During this time the accepted church will be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Association, except that of voting. At the conclusion of the watch care, the Missions Committee will again meet with the church to give opportunity for any questions or suggestions, by either the church or the Missions Committee.

At the conclusion of the watch care period, the Missions Committee can choose to recommend during business session to accept the petitioning church. A two-thirds majority vote during the business session will be necessary

for admission into the Association. If admitted, a church shall be considered a regular standing congregation with full privileges at the ensuing Associational Meetings.

If the recommendations of the Missions Committee concerning the said church do not receive a two-thirds majority vote of the voting business members present, it shall be automatically referred back to the Missions Committee.

II. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 1: ANNUAL CHURCH REPORTS
It shall be the duty and the responsibility of the churches to correspond with the Association by annual church report/letter each year on the forms furnished to the churches for that purpose. This report/letter is expected to be in the Associational office by the due date.

SECTION 2: FINANCES
It is understood that membership in the Association involves financial obligation to support its ministries with regular, proportionate gift. Churches affiliated with the Association must annually share in the financial support of the work of the Association.

SECTION 3: FAILURE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS
A church holding membership in the Association must participate financially in the work of the Association and must file an annual report of its work to the Association. If a church fails to meet either of these two requirements, then the Association shall initiate the following process in an effort to redeem such a church back into active participation and fellowship:

1) The first year a church fails to meet a requirement, the Director of Missions and/or Missions Committee will make a personal contact with the church and/or pastor for the purpose of seeking to discover what the difficulty may be and to encourage the church to participate.
2) If a church fails to meet a requirement for two (2) consecutive years, that church will not be recognized as a participating church during business session(s). Said church will not be permitted to have voting privileges. Executive Board members and Messengers will not be recognized. Once both church membership requirements are met, voting privileges will be reinstated and Executive Board members and Messengers will be recognized.

III. AUTHORITY

The Association shall have no ecclesiastical jurisdiction over churches' internal affairs. The Association is available to advise, give counsel and propose measures.

The Association shall have power to withdraw fellowship from any church which departs from the doctrines and practices adhered to by this Constitution, and set forth in *Baptist Faith and Message* as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14, 2000.
Any questions concerning fellowship with the churches shall be referred in writing to the Missions Committee. After consideration, the Missions Committee shall submit their recommendations to the business sessions.

IV. SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OFFICE POLICIES, PROCEDURES & PERSONNEL HANDBOOK (aka *SBA Handbook*)

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc., *Office Policies, Procedures & Personnel Handbook (aka SBA Handbook)* will be used as a guideline for office operations and procedures. The *SBA Handbook* is not part of the *By-laws of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc*. The *SBA Handbook* defines job descriptions for staff, department directors and non-standing committees. Non-standing committees and departments may be added or removed as the needs of the Association dictates and do not require any Constitutional or Bylaw amendment. The *SBA Handbook* also includes building and property usage guidelines. The *SBA Handbook* may be updated or revised, as

needed. Updates or revisions may be made to the *SBA Handbook* by the appropriate Committees and/or Officers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.

V. MEETINGS

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Associational Executive Board shall meet annually as specified by the Associational Calendar of Events. The Executive Board shall be responsible to hear and transact business presented on behalf of the Association.

A. QUORUM

A quorum consists of those eligible Executive Board Members who are in attendance at the meeting that has been property called.

B. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board Members shall consist of:

- Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council,
- Pastor/Interim Pastor or in the event the church has no Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacon becomes the first Executive Board Member from each church,
- One elected Executive Board Member from each church.

Names of Executive Board members from each church must be submitted to the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. in order for a list of Executive Board Members to be compiled. Each member church is permitted to have two (2) voting Executive Board members. One member must be the Pastor or Interim Pastor. In the event the church has no Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacon becomes the first Executive Board Member. The second Executive Board member shall be one (1) elected member from the participating church. All Executive Board Members must be a member of the church they represent. All Executive Board Members must be age 18 or older.

The Executive Board list shall include Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council. Members of the Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council will be considered automatic Executive Board Members with voting privileges, and do not have to be duly elected by their participating church(es). The Associational Staff will not be considered as the one duly elected Executive Board Member to represent their participating church(es).
Visitors will be welcome to attend the business session, but only registered Executive Board members will be allowed to participate in the business session.

SECTION 2: ANNUAL MEETING

The Associational Messengers shall meet annually as specified by the Associational Calendar of Events. The Messengers of the Associational Annual Meeting shall be responsible to hear and transact business presented on behalf of the Association.

A. QUORUM

A quorum consists of those eligible Messengers who are in attendance at the meeting that has been properly called.

B. MESSENGERS TO ANNUAL MEETING

Messengers shall consist of:

- Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council
- Pastor/Interim Pastor or in the event the church has no Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacon becomes the first Messenger from each church; and shall be first of seven (7) Messengers,
- Six elected Messengers from each church for a total of seven (7) Messengers.

Each member church will be entitled to seven (7) Messengers. Messengers, other than the Pastor, shall be duly elected by their participating church, prior to the Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. Names of Messengers must be submitted to Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. office in order for list of Messengers to be compiled.

The Messenger list shall include Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council. Members of the Associational Staff, Associational Officers and Associational Council will be considered automatic Messengers to the Annual Meeting and do not have to be duly elected by their participating church(es). The Associational staff will not be considered as one of the duly elected Messengers to represent their participating church(es).
Messenger registration card(s) or form(s) will be made available to the church clerks of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. to submit names of Messengers. Messenger registration(s) must be returned, prior to the Annual Meeting to the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. office, by the due date as set by the Associational Calendar of Events.

During Annual Meeting registration, each Messenger will be presented a Messenger name-tag by the Associational Clerk or Assistant Clerk. The Messenger will be required to wear the name-tag during the Annual Meeting in order to participate in business session. All Messengers must be a member of the church they represent. All Messengers must be age 18 or older.

Visitors will be welcome to attend any and all of the Annual Meeting Sessions, but only registered Messengers will be allowed to participate in the business session.

SECTION 3: SPECIAL MEETING
The Executive Board may be called into a special session at a time and place set by the Director of Missions, or Missions Committee Chairman provided churches are notified at least ten (10) days before the special meeting. The notification should state the time, place and purpose of the meeting. All special meetings may deal only with the stated purpose(s) of the meeting.

SECTION 4: ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING
The Annual Meeting business session(s) may be considered and also constitute the Annual Meeting of the Corporation.

A. QUORUM
The quorum consists of those eligible members who are in attendance at the business meeting, provided it is a regular business meeting.

SECTION 5: VOTING RIGHTS OF MEMBER CHURCHES
Registered member(s) present of member church(es) of good standing and having met all requirements (per Item II. *Church Membership Requirements*, Section 3. *Failure to Meet Requirements*) are entitled to vote in all elections and on all questions.

SECTION 6: VOTE
The type of vote used shall be determined by the Moderator.

SECTION 7: RULES OF BUSINESS AND DECORUM
- Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall be used as authority in all deliberations of the Association.
- Moderator shall call to order each session at the appointed time.
- Any member wishing to address the Association shall rise in place and address the Moderator.
- Moderator shall decide points of order, subject to an appeal from his decision to the Association. He shall have the preference to speak to or explain when an appeal is taken from this decision.

VI. STAFF OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be served by employed staff, as deemed necessary. All employed staff of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. are voting members during business sessions.

SECTION 2: DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS
- Job description provided in *SBA Handbook*
- When necessary, position shall be filled by recommendation of the Missions Committee, with a two-thirds majority vote, during business session.
- Employment shall be for an indefinite period of time.

SECTION 3: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
- Job description provided in *SBA Handbook*
- Employed for an indefinite period of time upon the recommendation of the Director of Missions, with the approval of the Personnel Committee. No vote of the Association is needed for employment.

SECTION 4: MINISTRY ASSISTANT
- Job description provided in *SBA Handbook*
- Employed for an indefinite period of time upon the recommendation of the Director of Missions, with the approval of the Personnel Committee. No vote of the Association is needed for employment.

VII. OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be served by officers, as deemed necessary. All officers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. are voting members during business sessions.

SECTION 2: DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS
- Shall work with all officers of the Association and its organizations and the committees in giving counsel, guidance and oversight to every phase of the Associational work.
- Shall serve as ex-officio member with all committees of the Association.

SECTION 3: MODERATOR
- After fulfilling term as Vice-Moderator, will automatically assume the office of Moderator for the coming year.
- In the event Vice-Moderator cannot serve to assume office as Moderator, he shall be nominated by and elected by a majority vote of Messengers at Associational Annual meeting.
- Cannot serve more than (1) year in succession.
- Shall preside at all regular or special called meetings of the Association.
- Shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
- Will appoint two (2) members of the Committee on Nominations during the Annual Meeting.
- Will serve as member of the Committee on Nominations with voting privileges.

SECTION 4: VICE MODERATOR
- Shall be nominated by and elected by a majority vote of Messengers at Associational Annual meeting.
- Shall preside in the absence of or at the request of the Moderator at Executive Board Meeting or Associational Annual Meeting.
- Will automatically assume the office of Moderator for the remainder of the term, in the event the Moderator cannot complete his term.
- At the end of 1 year term as Vice Moderator, will automatically assume the office of Moderator for the following year.

SECTION 5: CLERK/ASSISTANT CLERK:

- Office filled by Administrative Assistant or Ministry Assistant as defined in *SBA Handbook.*
- Shall be responsible for keeping accurate minutes of all business meetings.
- Shall compile reports from committees and churches in the annual *Minutes of Sweetwater Baptist Association*.
- Shall hold all records as property of the Association.
- Shall return records in possession at time of resignation or change of officer to Association.

SECTION 6: TREASURER/ASSISTANT TREASURER:

- Office filled by Administrative Assistant or Ministry Assistant as defined in *SBA Handbook.*
- Shall be responsible for keeping accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of all monies handled by the Association.
- Shall prepare a written report for business meetings of Association.
- Shall print Associational budget in the associational newsletter prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.
- Shall hold all records as property of the Association.
- Shall return records in possession at time of resignation or change of officer to Association.

VIII. CORPORATE OFFICERS

SECTION 1: GENERAL

The officers of the corporation are the officers who can act on behalf of the corporation. These officers have no power other than those express powers given to them by the corporation.
The term of the corporate officers shall run for the period of one year, coinciding with the Associational year or until their successors are chosen and elected. The President and Secretary are voting officers of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. during business sessions.

SECTION 2: PRESIDENT

The office of President is held by the Director of Missions position. The President shall have general and active management of the Corporation, and shall see that all orders and resolutions are carried into effect.

SECTION 3: SECRETARY

The office of Secretary is held by the Treasurer position. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the corporation and shall be responsible for preparing the minutes of such meetings.

IX. COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: GENERAL

Committees are responsible for planning and promoting the work and ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. The Association will be served by five (5) standing Committees. Additional Committees may be established according to the needs of the Association. Committees, other than standing Committees, will be defined in the *SBA Handbook.*

All committees shall be under Associational control; all committee members/officers must be elected by vote of Messengers at Annual Meeting. Committees are required to report as needed to the Association. All committee members must be members of participating churches. All committee members must be 18 years of age or older.

SECTION 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Each committee shall be composed of at least three (3) and no more than five (5) members, all of which are in good standing of an affiliated church of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.
- Committee members shall assume their elected duties on adjournment of the current Annual Meeting of the Association.

- Members who have fulfilled their term shall not be eligible for re-election to the same Committee until out of such office for one Associational year.
- Individuals are not eligible to serve on more than two committees simultaneously, except those who serve on standing committees by virtue of their office. This restriction shall not prevent one from serving on special committees.
- Members of Committees shall be on a rotating basis. Upon completion of serving term, the Senior Committee Member(s) will move off, and a new member(s) is added.
- The new Chairman of a Committee shall be the one next in seniority on the Committee. Committee members may deem it necessary to request a change in chairmanship.
- Committees will meet as necessary.
- Committees shall report as needed to the Association through the Chairman or through an appointed Committee representative. Reports will be made during business sessions.

X. STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be served by five (5) standing Committees.

SECTION 2. COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

- Shall be responsible for bringing recommendations for all committee members of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.
- Shall be responsible for bringing recommendations for all Department Directors of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc.
- Two (2) members of the Committee on Nominations will be appointed by the Moderator during the Annual Meeting. They will replace two (2) senior members of the Committee on Nominations who will rotate off the Committee on Nominations each year.
- The incoming Moderator will serve as a member of the Committee on Nominations with voting privileges.

SECTION 3. BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Shall prepare and present the proposed annual operating budget.

SECTION 4. MISSIONS COMMITTEE

- Shall be responsible for promotion, development and guidance of the mission work of the Association.
- Shall assist the Director of Missions in working with the churches in mission related and church related issues.
- Will be responsible to serve as a Search Committee and present a candidate for Director of Missions, as needed.

SECTION 5. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- Will be responsible for working with the Director of Missions to employ all office staff and personnel.
- Will have the responsibility of giving assistance to office personnel employed by the Association.
- Is not responsible for hiring Director of Missions.

SECTION 6. TRUSTEES

- Will hold in trust the property of the Association.
- Will have the actual care of the real and personal property, but shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer any property without a specific vote of the Association authorizing such action.

- Will execute, acknowledge and deliver any and all leases, agreements, deeds, mortgages, deeds of trust and any and all other papers, instruments or other documents, but only after authorized to do so.
- A majority of Trustees must sign all legal papers in behalf of the Association, and such signing must be witnessed by the Director of Missions.

XI. DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

SECTION 1: GENERAL
Department directors shall work with the Director of Missions to promote and direct ministry opportunities of respective departments to plan meetings to train and equip the churches. Associational Department Directors are defined in the *SBA Handbook*. Associational Department Directors may be added or removed as needed.

XII. ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The Associational Council of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. shall be composed of Associational Staff, Associational Committee Chairmen and Associational Department Directors. The Associational Council shall work with the Director of Missions to plan and promote Associational training, events, mission and activities.

XIII. USE OF PROPERTIES

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The intended use of buildings or property of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. is solely for Associational administration and ministries. Buildings or property cannot be used as meeting space by individuals, community or civic organizations except for member churches as defined in the *SBA Handbook*. Properties cannot be used for any purpose that is in violation of biblical doctrine. Further use of building and property is defined in the *SBA Handbook*.

XIV. FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 1: GENERAL
The fiscal year shall run concurrently with the Associational year which begins on *October 1 and ends September 30.*

XV. AMENDMENT(S)

SECTION 1: GENERAL
Proposed amendment(s) to the *Constitution and By-laws* of the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. will be presented by the Constitution Committee. Notification of proposed amendments to the *Constitution or By-Laws* must be presented to the churches in writing 30 days in advance of the business session and voted on at ensuing business session of the Association. Amendments to the *Constitution or By-laws* shall be made by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members present who are entitled to vote during business session of the Association.

Proposed amendment(s) to the *Constitution or By-laws,* presented from the floor during a business session, will be referred to the Constitution Committee for consideration.

Amendment(s) must be added to and kept with the official copy of the *Constitution and By-laws* at the time they are passed.

These *By-laws* were approved and adopted by the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Inc. on October 21, 2019.

Signed by: *Sheri Stephens*, Clerk 10/21/2019 adopted 10.21.2019

PROCEEDINGS of the
196th Annual Session of the SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Celebrating 196 years, 1830-2026
Theme: *Fan the Flames of Faith, Acts @ Pentecost*
And when the day of Pentecost was fully come,
they were all with one accord in one place… – Acts 2:1-13

Business Session: Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville October 19, 2026, Monday evening, 6:30 p.m.

1) The video presentation of the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association *2026 SBA Associational Council Report* was presented.
2) Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford shared a word of thanks to Pastor Greg McCosh and Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville for hosting the 196th Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. All visitors and *Messengers* in attendance were welcomed.
3) A video message from Dr. Randy Davis, Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board was presented.
4) On behalf of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, Shane Johnston, East Tennessee Regional Vice-President (TBMB) shared a word of greetings from the TBMB and presented a plaque to the Director of Missions for *Golden Offering* giving. 17 churches of the SBA provided gifts to the *2025-2026 Golden Offering*.
5) A *PowerPoint* presentation of names of those that had passed away during the year was presented as the 2026 *Memorial Report*.
6) Pastor Greg McCosh, Rocky Springs Baptist Church shared a word of greetings, welcome and prayer.
7) The Director of Missions presented the *"JW Newman"* gavel to Moderator, Gabe Brannon.
8) Moderator, Gabe Brannon, Pastor, Union McMinn Baptist Church, shared a word of welcome, and that it was his privilege to call to order the 196th *Annual Meeting o*f the Sweetwater Baptist Association.
9) Clerk, Becky Jones, moved that Messengers from the churches present constitute a quorum, and be duly seated to conduct the business of the *196th Annual Meeting* of the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Second by Doug Alexander, motion carried unanimously.
10) The Moderator thanked the Messengers for the prayers and the opportunity to serve as Vice-Moderator and Moderator, and to be part of the various Committees during the past years. The Moderator appointed Marshall "Jodie" Moser, Union McMinn Baptist Church and Sean Patton, Hopewell Springs Baptist Church to serve on the *Committee on Nominations*.
11) After a brief transition of power from Moderator Gabe Brannon to Vice-Moderator Rick Harris, Pastor, South Madisonville Baptist Church, the Vice-Moderator presided over the remaining sessions for the evening.
12) The Moderator stated during the Election of Officers, historically, the Vice-Moderator automatically moves into the Moderator position for the upcoming year for the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Thus, Rick Harris, Pastor of South Madisonville Baptist Church, would serve as Moderator for 2026-2027.
13) Dennis Cagle nominated Gerald Lynn, Pastor, Mt Calvary Baptist Church, Tellico Plains, to serve as Vice-Moderator for the 2026-2027 Associational Year. With no further nominations, motion by Steve Teague, second by Jack Ingram that nominations cease, and that Gerald Lynn be elected by acclamation. Motion carried, with no opposition.
14) Messengers were instructed by the Moderator that the Officers for 2026-2027 were Rick Harris, Moderator and Gerald Lynn, Vice-Moderator.
15) Committee on Nominations member, Andy Franklin presented the *Committee on Nominations Report* for 2026-2027 and moved to adopt the report as printed in the *Messenger Handout* booklet. Motion carried, with no opposition.
16) Motion by Sheri Stephens to adopt the *Treasurer's Report* as presented; second by Doug Alexander. Motion carried, with no opposition.
17) The *Finance/Budget Committee Report* was presented by Committee Chairperson, Wendi Stakely. She reviewed the proposed budget changes as printed in the *Messenger Handout* and moved the adoption of the budget for 2026-2027. Second by Doug Alexander; motion carried, with no opposition.
18) Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, presented his 16th Annual *DOM Report* to the Messengers of the Association. He thanked the churches for their prayers and for welcoming him as he visited the family of

churches. He stated that his written report and statistical report were included in the *Messenger Handout*, and yielded part of his allotted report time to the following: (a) Mike Hensley, Director of Missions, East Tennessee Baptist Association: thanked the churches of the SBA for providing food, water supplies and rebuilding teams in response to the disaster relief needs in Cocke County (b) Shane Johnston, Evangelism Director: shared plans of upcoming 2027 August revival events and requested prayers for *Awesome August 2027* while encouraging participation of churches and prayer for the harvest.

19) Motion by Doug Alexander, second by Marshall (Jody) Moser to provide $25,000 from designated funds for the construction of church building in Guatemala for the First Baptist Church, Coatepeque where Pastor Otto Echeverria currently serves. These designated funds would be replenished during a special fund appeal campaign from the Sweetwater Baptist Association churches in February, 2027 and any overage of $25,000 will be sent to Guatemala. Motion carried, with no opposition.
20) Motion by Tony Rutherford, second by Gabe Brannon to accept the *2027 Calendar of Activities for the Sweetwater Baptist Association* as printed in the 2026 *Messenger Handout* with any further changes or stipulations that might be needed in the future. Motion carried, with no opposition.
21) Motion by Tony Rutherford, second by Gabe Brannon to receive all reports of the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board to be included in the *2026 Book of Reports*. Motion carried, with no opposition.
22) The Director of Missions presented a plaque for outstanding service and leadership to Moderator, Gabe Brannon.
23) The Moderator called for old business, and there was none.
24) The Moderator called for new business, and there was none.
25) Motion to adjourn by Shane Johnston second by Doug Alexander. Motion carried, with no opposition, and the meeting adjourned to a time of worship. 7:19 p.m.

Worship Session: Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville October 19, 2026, Monday evening

26) The worship session began with the congregation singing, *When We All Get to Heaven* led by Greg Massingale, Music Director, Rocky Springs Baptist Church, accompanied by Shanna Hudson playing piano and Darrell Atkins playing guitar.
27) Special music was presented by David (Moe) King, Jr., Union McMinn Baptist Church, with his special testimony song selection of *I Met God.*
28) Gabe Brannon presented the Moderator's Message. He shared scripture from Acts 2:1-13 and reminded us to *Fan the Flames*. He encouraged us to want the fire to fall as we (i) wait (ii) obey and (iii) watch. He affirmed we should all work together in unity as we patiently wait on God to *fan the flames*. The message was closed with a time of prayer for all pastors and ministers in the congregation.
29) The Director of Missions shared a word of thanks to Rocky Springs Baptist Church, sound and media workers, and Pastor Greg McCosh for hosting the meeting, special music and musicians, Rick Harris for serving as Vice- Moderator, Gabe Brannon for serving as Moderator and sharing the *Moderator's Message*, and to the Messengers and all in attendance for the sessions.
30) The meeting was closed in prayer by Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford. 8:10 p.m.

REGISTRATION FOR 2026 ANNUAL MEETING

Messengers	95
Pastors	17
Visitors	19
Total Attendance	131
Churches Represented	29

Sheri Stephens, Clerk Becky Jones, Assistant Clerk
Gabe Brannon, Moderator Rick Harris, Vice-Moderator
Tony J. Rutherford, Director of Missions
8:10 p.m. sstephens sweetwaterassoci@bellsouth.net

Sweetwater Baptist Association
DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS REPORT
October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026
Tony Rutherford, Director of Missions

The Sweetwater Baptist Association is nearing its *Bicentennial Celebration!* Two-hundred years of missions, ministry, and evangelism; helping churches share the Gospel at home and around the world. It is amazing how God has used this rural East Tennessee community as evidenced in the historical records on file. God has led His people to traverse mountains, seas, foreign languages, and local traditions to share His message of salvation to thousands of people of all backgrounds. Celebrations in eternity will take place because SBA visions built churches, hospitals, and friendships.

Leading up to this historical event, the Association will be planning events that encourage church participation. This year's "*Awesome August*" *One-Day Revival in 3-Locations* is an example of evangelistic emphasis. Tentative plans are being prepared for our churches to participate in *2027 Awesome August* as we work with our Associational Evangelism Director, Shane Johnston to finalize details. Watch for more information to be forthcoming as specifics are confirmed!

This previous year has produced new and exciting missionaries from the Sweetwater Baptist Association. Our teams have journeyed through the back country of Guatemala for over 10 years, traveling trails that are barely wide enough to walk carrying two gifts to tin covered huts. The two gifts? The first is the *Gospel of Jesus Christ* that saved to the uttermost no matter our past, and secondly, a bag of food that will last the family the biggest part of a month. Meeting people who are eager to discover the love of Jesus and a supportive family called church. This year a spiritual renewal came to over sixty new and experienced missionaries' that gave their lives to missions. Hopefully, over the next four years more believers will experience the mission field.

When ministry involves dollars for gas, shoes, or a new coat, it brings joy to our heart. Passing out groceries to the hurting family, school backpacks to students, and shoeboxes to Africa are uplifting. The ministry of the Sweetwater Baptist Association often goes unnoticed and rightly so. Ministry opportunities happen within the local church and sometimes deal with struggles and issues that are confidential in nature. Congregations are "struggling saints" that remind us that we are all sinners saved by the grace of God. It is important to remember that grace plays a gigantic role in our relationship with the Father and each other. When we take our eyes off the grace that saved us, we become ungracious toward others. It is and has been my pleasure to serve the Sweetwater Baptist Association for over fifteen years, and with God's help and the grace of the churches, I hope to serve a little longer. Along with my family, doing missions, ministry, and evangelism is all I know. Love you!

Statistical Report
October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026
Tony Rutherford, Director of Missions

It has been my privilege to attend, visit, worship or preach in the following during the past year: 411 Chapel; Antioch (Athens); Antioch; Beaty's Chapel; Beaty's Chapel *(Ordination*); Bethlehem (*Revival*); Bethlehem; Bible Baptist; Big Creek; Bristol; Brittsville (CrossNet); Calvary; Cane Creek; Cedar Fork; Cedar Valley; Christianburg; Christianburg (*Drive-thru Christmas*); Citico; Clifton; Community; Compromise; Conasauga; Concord; Delano; Druid Hills; Community (*Easter)*; Ebenezer; Ebenezer (*Revival*); Fairview (Tellico); Fairview Tabernacle; *Fan the Flames of Revival* Island Creek; Fellowship (*Mother's Day*); Fellowship; Glenlock; Glenlock (*Father's Day*); Greece; Gregory's Chapel; Hopewell Springs; Howard's Chapel (*Executive Board*); Howard's Chapel (*Revival*); Howard's Chapel; Island Creek (*Drive-thru Christmas*); Lakeside (*Christmas Program*); Lakeside (*Revival*); Long Ridge; Lower Chilhowee; Macedonia; Madisonville First; Madisonville First (*Candlelight Service*); Madisonville First (Youth); Maple Springs; Miller's Chapel; *Mission Team Meetings*, SBA Office & Poplar Bluff; Mt Isabella; Mt. Calvary; Mt. Zion (*Adult Christmas Play*); Mt Zion *(Revival*); Murray's; New Bethany; New Bethany, Pastor Otto; New Macedonia (*SBA*

Annual Meeting); New Macedonia; New Providence (*Ordination*); New Providence; New Zion; Newport; North Sweetwater; Notchey Creek (*Evangelism Preach*); Notchey Creek (*Greater Vision*); Notchey Creek (*Ministry Summit and SBA Evangelism Rally*); Notchey Creek (*Revival*); Notchey Creek; Oak Grove (*Revival*); Oakland; Old Pond Hill (*Ordination*); Old Pond Hill (*Revival*); Old Pond Hill; Old Sweetwater; Old Sweetwater, Pastor Otto; Paint Rock; Piney Grove; Poplar Bluff, Pastor Otto; Poplar Bluff (*Ordination*); Reed Springs; Rocky Springs; Rural Vale; SBA *Budget/Finance Committee*; SBA *Nominating Committee*; *Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting*, Shady Grove; SBA *Pastor/Wife Picnic*; SBA *Pastor's Christmas Banquet*; SBA *Senior Adult Christmas Show*; Shady Grove; Shady Grove (*Ordination)*; Shelton Grove; Shoal Creek (*Deacon Ordination*); Shoal Creek (*Revival*); Shoal Creek; South Madisonville; Sweetwater First; *TBMB Vision Trip* Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburg; Tellico (Ballplay); Tellico First; Tevis Springs (*Revival*); Tevis Springs; Towee Falls; Trinity; Union Grove; Union Hall; Union McMinn (*200th Anniversary Presentation*); Unity; Upper Shady Grove; Vonore; Walnut Grove; Watson Chapel; Westside; Williamsburg.

Vacation Bible Schools: 411 Chapel; Bethlehem; Bible; Big Creek; Cedar Valley; Christianburg; Clifton; Conasauga; Fairview Tabernacle; Gregory's Chapel; Glenlock; Hopewell Springs; Howard's Chapel; Island Creek; Lakeside; Long Ridge; Madisonville First; Miller's Chapel; Mt Calvary; Mt Zion; Murray's; New Bethany; New Macedonia; Notchey Creek; Oak Grove; Old Sweetwater; Poplar Bluff; Rocky Springs; Shelton Grove; Shoal Creek; South Madisonville; Tellico First; Trinity; Union Hall; Union McMinn; Vonore; Walnut Grove; Watson Chapel.

Church Visits (within the Association)	146
Church Visits (outside the Association)	2
Total Church Visits	148
Pulpit Committee Contacts	14
Ordinations	10
Funerals	3
Committee Meetings	8
Associational Meetings	3
TBMB Meetings	3
SBA Pastor's Conference	32
Travel Miles (Car)	9,420
Miles Traveled (air travel-approximate)	11,790
Total Miles Traveled	21,210

Special Missions Projects

Greece	Nov, 2025	Tour Group
Guatemala mission	May, 2026	Brittsville (CrossNet Association)
Guatemala mission	June, 2026	New Bethany, Bethlehem, Poplar Bluff
Guatemala mission	June, 2026	Birchfield (Chilhowee Association)
Cocke County Disaster Relief	June, 2026	Bethlehem, Notchey Creek
TBMB *Off the Grid*	Aug, 2026	Vision/Fact-Finding Trip
Hosted Pastor Otto Echeverria	Aug 19-Sept 2	Guatemala Mission Partnership

Special Events .....

- Biblical Studies, *Is There Life After Death, Lessons From the Resurrection of Christ,* Sept-Oct 2025
- *Annual Meeting SBA*, Oct. 2025
- *Senior Adult Christmas Celebration*, Dec. 2025 The Shirah Brothers
- *Pastor's Christmas Banquet*, Dec.2025
- *Ministry Summit/Evangelism Rally*, Dr. Jim Henry, Dr. Roc Collins, Rev. Allan Taylor, Feb. 2026 with Ladies Conferences by Rebecca George & Jeralyn Collins
- *VBS Showcase*, March, 2026
- *SBA Youth Rally*, Bean & Bailey; Heath Brothers, message by Jackson Bailey, March, 2026
- SBA Executive Board, Howard's Chapel, April, 2026
- Scholarship Presentation 2026 (4)
- VBS Visits, June-July (38)
- Mission Team Meetings (4)
- *Awesome August* Evangelistic Emphasis
- SBA Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting, Shady Grove, Aug. 3
- Church Clerk Training Conference, Aug, 2026
- *1-Day Revival, 3 locations,* Aug 25
- Pastor/Family Annual Picnic, Sept. 2025
- WMU/Ladies Meeting (2)

DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS
UPDATES/PRESENTATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
to Messengers of *2026 Annual Meeting*

(1) **MIKE HENSLEY: EAST TENNESSEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**, many of our churches responded to the needs in the Cocke County area by providing funds and teams of volunteers.

(2) **SHANE JOHNSTON:** SBA Evangelism Director, 2027 August Revivals planned.

(3) **RECOMMENDATION TO MESSENGERS OF ANNUAL MEETING:** Motion to adopt the *2027 Associational Calendar of Events*, as printed in the 2026 *Messenger Handout*, with any further changes or stipulations that might be needed in the future.

(4) **RECOMMENDATION TO MESSENGERS OF ANNUAL MEETING:** Motion to receive all reports of the ministries of the Sweetwater Baptist Association and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board to be included in *2026 Annual Minutes of the Sweetwater Baptist Association.*

(5) Presentation of Moderator's Plaque to Gabe Brannon.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, 2027

January
Jan 11.....2027 Pastors' Conference Begins

February
Feb 27 .....East TN Ministry Summit and
Evangelism Rally, Notchey Creek

March
Mar 1 .....Scholarship Applications Due
Mar 13 .....SBA Youth Rally, Notchey Creek
Mar 15 .....VBS Showcase, SBA Office
Mar 16 .....Mission Committee Meeting
Mar 25,29 .....Office Closed, Holiday

April
Apr ??.....Cocke Co Mission Trip
Apr 12 .....Executive Board Meeting, Community

May
May 3.....WMU/Ladies Meeting, New Bethany
May 29-Jun 4 .....Guatemala Mission Trip #1
May 31.....Office Closed, Holiday

June
Jun 15-22 .....Guatemala Mission Trip #2
Jun 22-29 .....Guatemala Mission Trip #3

July
Jul 1,5 ..... Office Closed, Holiday
Jul 19 ..... Nominating Committee Meeting
Jul 20 ..... Budget Committee Meeting

August
Aug 1-31 ..... Awesome August
Aug 24 ..... Church Clerk Training, 10:00 am
Aug 30 ..... Old Fashioned Prayer Meeting
Aug 31 ..... Awesome August Celebration

September
Sept 6 ..... Office Closed, Holiday
Sept 7 ..... Biblical Studies Class Begins
Sept 20 ..... Pastor & Family Picnic, Notchey Creek
Sept 27 ..... Mission Committee Meeting

October
Oct 1..... ACP/Messenger Cards Due
Oct 18..... SBA Annual Meeting

November
Nov 1 ..... WMU/Ladies Meeting, New Providence
Nov 24-25..... Office Closed, Holiday

December
Dec 6 ..... Senior Adult Christmas Show, Union McMinn
Dec 6 ..... Pastors/Wives Christmas Banq, Union McMinn
Dec 20-Jan 3 .. Office Closed, Holiday

SBA Pastor's Conference
Meets each Monday at 10:00 am; except in June and December or if office is closed for weather, holiday, or event

SBA Office Hours
Monday-Thursday.....8:30 am – 4:00 pm

*Calendar of Events is subject to change



Sweetwater Baptist Association
2026-2027 ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES
Committee on Nominations Report, 2026-2027
Andy Franklin, Committee Member
***Officers or Committee Members Added 2026**

ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF:
Director of Missions..... Tony Rutherford
Administrative Assistant/Treasurer/Clerk .....Sheri Stephens
Ministry Assistant/Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Clerk.....Becky Jones

ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS:
Evangelism Director..... Shane Johnston
Music Director .....Phillip Johnson
Women's Ministry/Ladies Director..... Rachel Thompson

By Vote of Messengers:
Moderator .....Rick Harris
Vice Moderator.....Gerald Lynn

STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:
Patrick Dalton (2027)
Dustin Atkins (2027)
Moderator Rick Harris
*Marshall (Jodie) Moser (2028)
*Sean Patton (2028)

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE:
Trey Ferguson (2027)
Jonas Turpin (2028)
Roman Hamilton (2029)
Derek McCosh (2030)
*Josh Croft (2031)

MISSION COMMITTEE:
Lon Shoopman (2027)
Carroll Hamilton (2028)
Darrell Cardin (2029)
Richard Parker (2030)
*Sam Baines (2031)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:
Scarlett Mashburn (2027)
Linda Cagle (2028)
*Amy Ferguson (2029)

TRUSTEES:
Albert Graser (2027)
Joe Barr (2027)
Wayne Trentham (2028)

*Added 2026-2027
(Year term ends to serve)

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Year End…Financial Statement
October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026

I. GENERAL ACCOUNT

Balance Forward	$104,083.07
Income:	
Church Gifts	223,793.21
Interest-Aug	146.89
Subtotal	223,940.10
Designated Gifts	206,411.20
Total Income	430,351.30
Expenses:	
Budget Expense	(217,992.90)
Designated Expense	(298,135.39)
Total Expense	(516,128.29)
General Account: Unobligated Balance 09.2026	**$18,306.08**

II. MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT September 30, 2026

- Local/Foreign Ministries Fund 31,986.01
- Designated Funds 09.30.2026 (See Schedule) 53,055.56
- Money Market/Savings Account 71,431.50
- Contingency Fund 53,027.44

Miscellaneous Accounts: Total Balance..... $ 209,500.51

TOTAL GENERAL/MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT BALANCE $227,806.59

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

2025-2026 CHURCH/MISSION GIFTS

(Report reflects deposits through September 24, 2026)

411 Chapel	1,500.00
Antioch	275.00
Beaty's Chapel	200.00
Bethlehem	10,800.00
Bible	700.00
Big Creek	0.00
Calvary	1,454.51
Cane Creek	1,200.00
Cedar Fork	6,143.70
Cedar Valley	11,509.24
Christianburg	2,254.42
Citico	2,724.11
Clifton	300.00
Community	1,887.21
Compromise	600.00
Conasauga	3,600.00
Concord	1,754.90
Delano	2,774.99
Druid Hills	1,200.00
Ebenezer	770.00
Fairview	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	13,000.00
Fellowship	1,750.27
Glenlock	4,008.00
Gregory's Chapel	1,200.00
Hopewell Springs	500.00
Howard's Chapel	1,200.00
Island Creek	4,200.00
Lakeside	2,400.00
Long Ridge	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	2,970.07
Macedonia	600.00
Madisonville First	5,000.04
Maple Springs	750.00
Miller's Chapel	1,200.00
Mt. Calvary	1,506.85
Mt. Isabella	0.00
Mt. Zion	8,551.85
Murray's	2,359.15
New Bethany	3,773.22
New Macedonia	2,400.00
New Providence	10,702.24
New Zion	650.00
North Sweetwater	1,205.93
Notchey Creek	10,164.16
Oak Grove	4,005.97
Oakland	800.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00
Old Sweetwater	1,000.00
Paint Rock	1,320.00
Piney Grove	400.00
Poplar Bluff	1,200.00
Reed Springs	0.00
Rocky Springs	4,200.00
Rural Vale	5,364.13
Shady Grove	1,000.00
Shelton Grove	2,799.98
Shoal Creek	1,343.00
South Madisonville	1,800.00
Sweetwater First	4,200.00
Tellico	1,500.00
Tellico First	5,599.00
Tevis Springs	600.00
Towee Falls	1,800.00
Trinity	0.00
Union Grove	1,440.00
Union Hall	908.00
Union McMinn	4,800.00
Unity	300.00
Upper Shady Grove	600.00
Vonore	20,610.24
Walnut Grove	1,750.00
Watson Chapel	0.00
Westside	300.00
Williamsburg	502.73
Miscellaneous/TBC	7,512.00
Misc/AM/Golden	13,398.30
Miscellaneous/Interest	146.89
Total	**$223,940.10**

(<u>Note:</u> Church Gifts do not include designated gifts to the Sweetwater Baptist Association)

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION Church Gifts: October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026

	Oct, 2025	Nov	Dec	Jan, 2026	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
411 Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Antioch	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	275.00
Beaty's Chapel	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Bethlehem	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	10,800.00
Bible Baptist	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00
Big Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Calvary	137.55	0.00	107.95	253.46	64.20	0.00	210.25	137.95	435.95	107.20	0.00	0.00	1,454.51
Cane Creek	100.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Cedar Fork	578.06	481.07	484.29	554.08	430.81	574.58	539.79	554.91	586.18	503.81	383.39	472.73	6,143.70
Cedar Valley	958.71	1,266.09	0.00	2,021.82	0.00	576.02	2,138.24	0.00	1,473.48	933.77	1,146.63	994.48	11,509.24
Christianburg	972.25	0.00	0.00	667.17	0.00	0.00	615.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,254.42
Citico	308.10	302.35	0.00	257.31	232.65	219.95	342.20	260.55	298.60	50.40	0.00	452.00	2,724.11
Clifton	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	300.00
Community	63.27	244.38	49.68	67.68	239.07	44.43	58.44	237.15	492.66	61.26	261.12	68.07	1,887.21
Compromise	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	600.00
Conasauga	300.00	300.00	0.00	600.00	300.00	0.00	600.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	3,600.00
Concord	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,754.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,754.90
Delano	316.79	250.61	384.92	222.90	212.71	351.12	376.34	300.14	359.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,774.99
Druid Hills	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Ebenezer	0.00	163.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	145.00	92.00	0.00	112.00	66.00	80.00	112.00	770.00
Fairview	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	13,000.00
Fellowship	0.00	402.39	0.00	189.94	238.40	0.00	150.21	213.71	290.51	0.00	265.11	0.00	1,750.27
Glenlock	334.00	334.00	0.00	668.00	334.00	0.00	668.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	334.00	4,008.00
Gregory's Chapel	100.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	200.00	100.00	0.00	200.00	100.00	1,200.00
Hopewell Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Howard's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Island Creek	900.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	600.00	4,200.00
Lakeside	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
Long Ridge	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Lower Chilhowee	327.90	346.21	268.37	240.04	145.00	276.80	536.40	294.50	534.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,970.07
Macedonia	200.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Madisonville First	833.34	0.00	833.34	416.67	416.67	0.00	833.34	0.00	833.34	416.67	0.00	416.67	5,000.04
Maple Springs	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Miller's Chapel	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Mt. Calvary	166.85	130.11	123.09	145.23	102.09	105.04	154.04	132.23	105.24	114.93	99.03	128.97	1,506.85
Mt. Isabella	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	904.60	731.20	626.92	544.79	486.50	890.00	794.45	705.83	480.07	748.09	649.40	990.00	8,551.85
Murray's	2,359.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,359.15
New Bethany	284.61	324.63	365.83	197.07	226.03	413.26	364.67	322.28	358.52	250.20	289.12	377.00	3,773.22
New Macedonia	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	2,400.00
New Providence	859.55	978.70	1,000.00	847.14	505.04	953.46	1,000.00	881.50	1,000.00	676.85	1,000.00	1,000.00	10,702.24
New Zion	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	650.00

	Oct, 2025	Nov	Dec	Jan, 2026	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
North Sweetwater	99.48	78.70	0.00	151.99	65.20	103.60	125.88	77.78	132.19	118.88	78.75	173.48	1,205.93
Notchey Creek	816.96	1,024.68	947.22	1,102.20	582.11	815.43	874.92	844.53	768.87	666.74	825.42	895.08	10,164.16
Oak Grove	584.81	0.00	0.00	626.22	0.00	0.00	1,267.83	401.83	0.00	759.25	0.00	366.03	4,005.97
Oakland	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	800.00
Old Pond Hill	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Old Sweetwater	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Paint Rock	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	1,320.00
Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Poplar Bluff	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1,200.00
Reed Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rocky Springs	1,000.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	4,200.00
Rural Vale	394.42	596.67	319.48	613.93	305.54	0.00	834.02	0.00	457.80	926.92	429.77	485.58	5,364.13
Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	1,000.00
Shelton Grove	410.52	0.00	173.55	202.02	204.28	449.61	254.58	161.63	232.75	286.29	132.85	291.90	2,799.98
Shoal Creek	235.00	0.00	436.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	331.00	0.00	0.00	341.00	0.00	0.00	1,343.00
South Madisonville	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	1,800.00
Sweetwater First	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	4,200.00
Tellico	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
Tellico First	334.00	330.00	541.00	504.00	345.00	455.00	604.00	497.00	489.00	457.00	313.00	730.00	5,599.00
Tevis Springs	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	600.00
Towee Falls	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	1,800.00
Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Union Grove	120.00	120.00	0.00	240.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	1,440.00
Union Hall	0.00	215.00	165.00	47.00	0.00	0.00	43.00	127.00	0.00	0.00	311.00	0.00	908.00
Union McMinn	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	4,800.00
Unity	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Upper Shady Grove	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	600.00
Vonore	1,323.48	1,860.17	1,807.42	1,603.72	1,842.26	1,081.77	1,480.36	1,759.44	3,092.75	0.00	2,968.29	1,790.58	20,610.24
Walnut Grove	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	1,750.00
Watson Chapel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Westside	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Williamsburg	35.84	35.94	0.00	104.44	22.60	0.00	84.10	42.50	45.10	0.00	0.00	132.21	502.73
TBMB	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00	0.00	1,252.00	7,512.00
Golden Offering	11,320.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,077.50	0.00	0.00	13,398.30
Misc AM/ Int	22.31	22.00	20.40	4.38	5.75	8.06	16.82	20.14	17.64	5.94	0.00	3.45	146.89
TOTALS	**33,438.35**	**17,823.90**	**14,140.46**	**23,834.10**	**15,211.91**	**12,619.13**	**22,095.88**	**14,462.60**	**19,086.96**	**18,108.70**	**16,446.88**	**16,671.23**	**223,940.10**

SCHEDULED DESIGNATED FUNDS:

Disaster Relief Building: building, tools, equipment maintenance	548.95
Ministry Trailers/Upkeep/Repair/Supplies/Maintenance	2,637.28
Youth/Student Ministry	9,221.65
Staff Family/Marriage Counselor Ministry	7,485.00
East TN Disaster Relief	4,123.29
Israel	8,962.95
WMU/Ladies Ministry/MK	1,352.63
Local Ministry/Evangelism/Mission Development	2,975.34
SBA Office/Building/Guttering	701.14
Guatemala: Union McMinn: Pastor Fred Salary Support 2026-2027	1,200.00
Guatemala: Brittsville 2026 VBS	1,122.00
Guatemala: Brittsville (Quarterly July 2026)	215.00
Guatemala Mission Ministry	657.33
Bible Study Class/Seminary Extension	2,402.78
Bibles/Marked New Testaments	1,210.84
Secretarial Office	716.92
SBA Evangelism Rally	4,259.97
SBA Pastor/Wife Christmas Banquet	2,821.66
SBA Pastor Benevolent/Monday Conference/Supplies	440.83
Total Designated 09.2026	**53,055.56**

TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD

Antioch CP 275.00
Clifton – TBCH 64.00
Clifton TBAH 50.00
Clifton – Lottie Moon Christmas Offering 77.00
Williamsburg – CP 84.10
Williamsburg – GO 132.19
Williamsburg - TBCH 502.69
Williamsburg – TBAH 87.60
Williamsburg – AAEO 127.03
Williamsburg - LMCO 71.76

MISCELLANEOUS/LOCAL/HOME/INTERNATIONAL MISSION PROJECT

Brittsville, Georgetown = Guatemala Ministry @ $1250.00 Quarterly, Oct, 2025 – April, 2026 ..... 3,750.00
Brittsville VBS 2026 – Guatemala Ministry 1,122.00
Brittsville Guatemala Ministry Quarterly, July 2026 ..... 1250.00
Notchey Creek – Guatemala Ministry – Van for Sela Community Church 540.00
Anonymous - Guatemala Ministry – Van for Sela Community Church 8,060.00
Kennesaw Bait Co – Guatemala Ministry/Bibles for Sela Community Church 1,500.00
Bethlehem – Guatemala: Pastor Hugo support (2025-2026) 4,800.00
Poplar Bluff – Guatemala: Pastor Antonio, Macedonia support (2026) 1,800.00
Poplar Bluff – Guatemala: J Hamilton 1,800.00
Poplar Bluff – Guatemala Medicines for Medical Clinic 1,500.00
Birchfield - Guatemala Medicines for Medical Clinic 750.00
Bethlehem - Guatemala Medicines for Medical Clinic 750.00
New Bethany – Guatemala – Pastor Otto 600.00
Union McMinn – Disaster Relief – Newport 300.00
Union McMinn – Guatemala – Pastor Fred Salary support (2026-2027) 1200.00
Christianburg – Old Pond Hill – Flood 500.00

Sweetwater Baptist Association
CLERK'S REPORT
October, 2025-September, 2026

Clerk, Sheri Stephens Assistant Clerk, Becky Jones Director Of Missions, Tony Rutherford
Moderator, Gabe Brannon Vice-Moderator, Rick Harris

This brief report highlights recommendations brought before the Executive Board this past year. The Board regularly hears reports from various departments such as Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Missions Committee, VBS, Church Growth and Development, etc. at each meeting. These reports are given, in the most part, for information only. A review of the previous Minutes, Director of Missions Semi-annual Report and Treasurer's Report are presented to the Executive Board, as well.

Sweetwater Baptist Association
Excerpt taken from MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Howard's Chapel Baptist Church
424 Old Citico Rd, Vonore, Tennessee
April 13, 2026

(1) The Executive Board met on April 13, 2026 at Howard's Chapel Baptist Church in Vonore, with a total of 41 present and 16 churches represented. Various reports were presented and received for information only. Highlights of the meeting included:
(2) The Treasurer's Report was presented by Sheri Stephens; motion to accept report by Treasurer, second by Shane Johnston, motion carried with no opposition.
(3) Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, shared his report on church visits, committee meetings, etc. and upcoming projects, events and training. The *Director of Missions Report* also included information from the *Evangelism Summit/Rally, VBS Showcase* (with an announcement of VBS Sampler Kits presented to Christianburg, Lakeside, Macedonia, Murray's and South Madisonville), *SBA Youth Rally*, as well as *2026 Scholarship* presented to:

• Ava Sueann Duckett (in attendance)	All Other (Cross Creek)	Shelton Grove
• Emily Grace Barnett (in attendance)	Sequoyah HS	Vonore Baptist
• Emily Kristina Grace Campbell (in attendance)	Sweetwater HS	Sweetwater, First
• Isaac Mason Hollinghead (not in attendance)	Tellico Plains HS	New Providence

He also shared information about upcoming mission projects in Iowa and Guatemala, as well as *Awesome August, Fan the Flames of Revival* being planned with 3 simultaneous meetings for a 1-day revival in 3 locations on Tuesday, August 25.
(4) The Moderator called for old business and there was none.
(5) The Moderator called for new business.
(6) Motion by Tony Rutherford for a letter to be sent from the Executive Board Members of the Sweetwater Baptist Association to the City of Madisonville, Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen stating that the churches of the SBA are strongly opposed to any changes in the current ordinance regarding issuance of beer permits and the distance from church property to businesses selling beer. The SBA desires for the current city ordinance of 500 feet distance from a church to remain in effect. Second by Jonas Turpin; motion carried unanimously.
(7) Motion to adjourn by Steve Gamble, second by Darrell Cardin, motion carried with no opposition.
(8) The meeting was closed in prayer led by the Moderator, Gabe Brannon.

Sweetwater Baptist Association
ASSOCIATIONAL REPORT, 2026

2025-2026 ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL/OFFICERS

Moderator.....Gabe Brannon
Vice-Moderator .....Rick Harris

Committee on Nominations Chairman ..... Steve Strickland
Budget/Finance Committee Chairperson .....Wendi Stakely
Missions Committee Chairman..... Danny Lingerfelt
Music Director .....Phillip Johnson
Personnel Committee Chairperson..... Donita Moore
Trustees Committee Chairman ..... Albert Graser
WMU/Ladies Ministry Director..... Rachel Thompson

ANNUAL MEETING: The 195th *Annual Meeting* was hosted by Pastor Mitch Isbill and New Macedonia Baptist Church Sweetwater on October 20th . Vice-Moderator, Gabe Brannon did an outstanding job in leading the Business Session, and Moderator, Jamie Johnson shared the message for the evening. The Memorial Report included Dedication of the 2025 Minutes of the Association in memory of former pastors: Jimmy David Hollinghead and Marvin "Bud" Millsaps. The *196th Annual Meeting* is scheduled for October 19, 2026 at Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Madisonville. The 197th Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held at Glenlock Baptist Church on October 18, 2027. The Sweetwater Baptist Association is planning a *Bicentennial Celebration* in 2030 as the Sweetwater Baptist Association will celebrate 200 years of Ministry, 1830-2030. A 200th Anniversary logo has been designed and is being used on much of the correspondence.

BIBLICAL STUDIES CLASS: The *2025 Biblical Studies Class* began on September 9th. The non-credit course, *Is There Life After Death, Lessons from the Resurrection of Christ and the Teachings of Paul* was taught by former pastor and member of First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Wayne Stockstill. A *Biblical Studies Class* is being planned for 2027; Dennis Cagle will be teaching the *Book of Jude* and classes are tentatively scheduled to begin on September 7th.

CHRISTIAN LIFE: With no licensed Christian counselor seeing clients on a regular basis in the associational office, the Sweetwater Baptist Association refers potential clients to Macy Small, founder of *The Upper Room* Christian Counseling Service. Macy specializes in Premarital, Marriage, and Family Sessions. Children and Teen Sessions are also available. She offers Divorce, Addiction and Grief Recovery, as well as Individual Counseling for depression, anxiety, fear, anger, worry, and negative emotions. Sessions are available at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater. For more information, or to schedule a visit with Macy, please call 865-414-3269 or visit the link at www.fairviewfamily.org .

CHRISTMAS: The *2025 Senior Adult Christmas Show* was held on December 8th and hosted by Union-McMinn Baptist Church. The 2025 Pastor and Wives Christmas Banquet will also be held on the same evening. Special guests for the Christmas Show and also featured at *Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* on the same evening were The Shirah Brothers.

The *2026 Senior Adult Christmas Show* will be held on December 7th and will be hosted by Union-McMinn Baptist Church. The 2026 Pastor and Wives Christmas Banquet will also be held on the same evening. Special guests for the evening will be The Perry's.

The *2027 Senior Adult Christmas Show* will be held on December 6 at Union McMinn Baptist Church. The *2027 Pastor & Wives Christmas Banquet* will also be hosted by Union McMinn Baptist Church, and held on December 6th. Special guests will be announced as soon as confirmed.

CLERK TRAINING: Assistance to Church Clerks is always available and has been offered to several *Church Clerks* at the Sweetwater Baptist Association during the year. A *Church Clerk Training* was offered on August 25th with topics that included writing Minutes of Business Meetings, Church Membership and Completing ACP Reports. We had 9 churches represented and 10 in attendance. The Seminar was led by Rebecca Jones. A *2027 Church Clerk Training* is being planned.

DISASTER RELIEF: Disasters have occurred across our world, country, and even continued to hit areas of Tennessee numerous times during the past year. Flood waters damaged areas of upper East Tennessee again this year! Our churches have constantly responded to the needs of others.

In June, 2026, a short-term mission team led by our Director of Missions with volunteers from Bethlehem and Notchey Creek traveled to Cocke County to work with the *East Tennessee Baptist Association, the TBMB Disaster Relief and the Cocke County Long-Term Recovery Group.* This was part of long-term disaster recovery efforts by providing repair and cleanup in communities. It is estimated that 100 homes in the area are still needing to be repaired or rebuilt after recent floods or due to *Hurricane Helene* in 2024. Many families, homes, businesses and churches in the community suffered great loss through the damaging floods. Lives were impacted. Yet our volunteers responded to the victims by providing much needed assistance in the rebuilding of their lives. Thank you to all for being part of missions here in our own state of Tennessee. A disaster relief project to this area is being tentatively planned for April of 2027.

During the year, the SBA disaster relief trailer has been used by Westside Baptist Church to take relief supplies to areas impacted by disaster in upper East Tennessee, West Virginia and North Carolina. Westside continues to use the Associational disaster relief trailer and keeps the trailer loaded with goods for a quick response to distribute in the event of disaster.

Many of our churches have continued to provide prayers, support and ongoing relief for the people of Ukraine. Our Resident Interpreter, Svitlana Self continues to be available to share the needs of churches, pastors, families and friends that remain in Ukraine. She can also assist with the distribution of monetary gifts to assist those that remain in the Ukraine. Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, and thank you for always being generous supporters of missions around our world.

Our prayers continue to be with the many that have been affected by tragedies.

EVANGELISM: Notchey Creek Baptist Church in conjunction with the Sweetwater Baptist Association hosted the *2026 East Tennessee Ministry Summit & Evangelism Rally* on Saturday, February 28th . Special speakers for the great leadership training and morning session included: Dr. Jim Henry, Rev. Allan Taylor, and Dr. Roc Collins; ladies conferences were led by Rebecca George and Jeralyn Collins. The evening session featured preaching Dr. Jim Henry, former Senior Minister of the First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL. He is one of the most respected Christian leaders of the day. A prominent speaker, author, and past President of the Southern Baptist Convention, he also pioneered video training for deacons. Special music for both sessions was presented by Notchey Creek Praise Teams.

The *2027 East Tennessee Ministry Summit* & *Evangelism Rally* is being planned for Saturday, February 27 and will be held at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Tentative plans call for a Morning Session on Saturday with special guest speakers Dr. Roc Collins, Dr. Danny Sinquefield and Dr. Michael Mason. A ladies conference is also being planned and leaders are to be announced. Pastor, preachers, teachers and all church leaders are especially encouraged to attend the morning preaching/training conference. The special guest speaker for the *Evening Session. Evangelism Rally* will be Dr. Danny Sinquefield. Everyone is invited to attend both sessions.

Churches were encouraged to do outreach and evangelism throughout the year, but were asked to pick at least one day in the month of August to do a community outreach or an evangelism project. This was promoted as *AWESOME AUGUST*! This was an excellent opportunity for our 75 churches to promote a planned ministry event to reach others for Christ in their community.

As part of *Awesome August*, the Sweetwater Baptist Association encouraged churches to attend *Fan the Flames of Revival* at one (1) of the three (3) simultaneous meetings planned as a special evangelistic/outreach; this was a 1-day revival event at 3 locations on Tuesday August 25.

- Fan the Flames of Revival – 3 simultaneous meetings, 1-day revival in 3 locations, Tuesday, August 25
  - **New Providence Baptist Church** Opening Music: New Providence Choir
    Special Music: "Saved by Grace"
    Speaker: Dan Spencer, Pastor, First Baptist Church Sevierville/TBC President
    Approximately 150-170 in attendance
  - **Island Creek Baptist Church** Opening Music: Island Creek Choir Special Music: "The Lingerfelts"
    Speaker: Pastor Otto Echeverria Approximately 100 In attendance
  - **Union McMinn Baptist Church** Opening Music: Union McMinn Choir
    Special Music: Fairview Tabernacle Choir Speaker: Dr. Jeff LaBorg, Pastor Fairview, Knoxville
    Approximately 230 in attendance, 1 saved

Plans are being made for *Awesome August 2027*. Watch for details!

EXECUTIVE BOARD: Members of the Executive Board met at Howard's Chapel Baptist Church in Vonore on April 13th for the regular *Semi-Annual Business Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*, with 16 churches represented and 41 in attendance. The Board regularly hears reports from ministry work of various departments such as Ladies/Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Missions Committee, VBS, Evangelism at each meeting. These reports are given, in the most part, for information only. In addition, a copy of previous Minutes, Director of Missions Semi-annual Report and Treasurer's Report are presented to the Executive Board. During a time of new business, Executive Board Members voted for a letter to be sent from to the City of Madisonville, Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen stating that the churches of the SBA are strongly opposed to any changes in the current ordinance regarding issuance of beer permits and the distance from church property to businesses selling beer. The SBA desires for the current city ordinance of 500 feet distance from a church to remain in effect. (See *Clerk's Report* for complete details.) The 2027 *Semi-Annual Meeting* will be held at Community Baptist Church in Madisonville on April 12, 2027.

GREECE TOUR: In November, 37 participants traveled to Greece to explore *Paul's Missionary Journeys*. Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford led this tour that provided the group with insights into Greek culture, lives and cities. Philippi, Macedonia, Thessalonica, Beara, Athens and Corinth were some of the areas, churches and cities visited during the 10-day travel.

GUATEMALA: We are so thankful for the four (4) short-term volunteer mission teams that traveled to Guatemala to share the Gospel of Christ in May and June, 2026.

On May 29-June 5, a short-term mission team of 11 volunteers from Brittsville (CrossNet Association), Long Ridge and Notchey Creek traveled to Guatemala to share the Gospel. Pastor Jake Evans was the group leader for the volunteers and Pastor Otto Echeverria served as the mobilizer in Guatemala for this team. The team worked with Pastor Hamid Gutierrez in the Sela Community with the Sela Community Fellowship Church. Ministries included food bag give aways, school visits with candy bag give aways, visit to a care center, home visits, Vacation Bible School, sports evangelism and preaching services. A ministry van was purchased with various funds provided from Brittsville, individual gifts, Notchey Creek and Sweetwater Baptist Association. This team reported two (2) professions of faith during home visits.

On June 16-23, eleven (11) mission volunteers from Poplar Bluff traveled to Guatemala to share in partnership missions. This team continued to work with Pastor Antonio at Iglesia Bautista Macedonia, Aldea La Union, Macedonia Baptist Church, La Union. Ministry included: women's workshop, ladies Bible study; men's Bible study; youth Bible study; Vacation Bible School; door-to-door witnessing; evangelism/crusade/revival; medical clinic; sports evangelism; food give-away; visit schools/activities; visit recovery center/jail ministry; painting wall murals in Sunday School classrooms. They reported twelve (12) professions of faith!

Then on June 23-30, two (2) teams of mission volunteers returned to Guatemala. Twenty-one (21) volunteers from Bethlehem continued on-going work with Pastor Hugo Barrios at the Jesús es El Camino Baptist Church El Cañal. This team also worked with Pastor César at Cristo La Unica Esperanza, La Palmita, Baptist Mission. Ministry for the youth and adults included: Vacation Bible School; home visits; medical clinic; men's Bible study; nightly services/preaching/special music; possible construction project.

On the same dates, Pastor Greg Watson led ten (10) mission volunteers from Old Sweetwater; New Bethany; and Birchfield (Chilhowee Association) to continue on-going work at Las Mercedes, Pastor Fred Aguilar, Cordero de Dios Baptist Church. Ministry for the team included: women's workshop on prayer; ladies Bible study; men's Bible study; Vacation Bible School; door-to-door witnessing; visit schools; evangelism/crusade/revival; medical clinics. Pastor Greg Watson traveled to a nearby community of Flóres to investigate a new area of work while in Guatemala during this time. These teams reported fifteen (15) professions of faith!

Many of the Churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association participated in sharing the *Gospel of Christ* here at home, throughout our state, across our country, and around our world. Our prayers have been with the pastor, teams, and mission leaders.

It was the privilege of the Sweetwater Baptist Association to host Pastor Otto Echeverria, August 19-September 2. During his visit, he was available to speak in numerous churches to share an updated report of our continued partnership work in Guatemala, visit churches, attend various meetings/revivals, and visit in homes.

Currently, numerous Guatemala mission projects are being planned for 2027. Check the SBA Calendar for 2027 dates.

Mission leaders were encouraged to attend a TBMB *Guatemala Partnership Tour* hosted by McMinn Meigs Baptist Association in August, 2026. Volunteer Baptist International (formerly E3 Volunteers) has facilitated hundreds of teams and thousands of Tennessee Baptists over the last 10 years thru partnership missions in Guatemala. This meeting shared opportunities that were available across Central and South America, as well as Africa and Europe thru VBI.

LOCAL/OUTREACH/MISSIONS: The Association assisted numerous churches in the development and mailing of *Every Door Direct Mail for* special events. Upon requests, we are always available to assist with announcements for church news for various revivals, Vacation Bible Schools and new pastor announcements for communities.

As the Association Office was made aware of requests, churches were encouraged to provide handicap ramps for those in need. Congregations responded in a great way by providing assistance in their communities.

All churches were encouraged to participate in the *Awesome August initiative* and report their ministry outreach during the month of August. Outreach and evangelism projects (revivals, ice cream socials, singings, cookouts, food distributions) were planned by churches across the Sweetwater Baptist Association to share the Gospel of Christ during the month of August with families, neighbors, friends, and co-workers in communities and workplaces! The Sweetwater Baptist Association planned two (2) events, the *Old-Fashioned Prayer Meeting* and *the 1-Day Fan the Flames of Revival Services (3-locations)*.

In 2030, the Sweetwater Baptist Association, Family of Churches will celebrate 200 years of ministry, 1830-2030. The Associational Staff prepared and is using a logo for the 1830-2030 *Bicentennial Celebration*. Additional planning and preparation is being made as we lead up to the *Celebration*. All churches are encouraged to participate in the events for the *200th Celebration of the Sweetwater Baptist Association*.

MEDIA: The Associational *Media Center* includes approximately 60 Bible Studies. There are a wide range of studies, including children and youth studies, ladies, men and couples' studies, Deacon studies and more. In 2026, two DVD's were added to the *Media Center. I am Israel* and *I am Israel: The Mountain of the King*. These films take you on a cinematic journey through the land of the Bible. All items in the *Media Center* are available for churches to borrow.

PASTOR/FAMILY/CHURCHES: We are so thankful for the men of God who are called and serving our churches as Pastor. We pray for all our pastors and their families as they share Christ in their communities.

Churches were encouraged to affirm their love and appreciation as they observed *Pastor Appreciation Month/Day* during October. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize your pastor and the ministry he has provided to the church and congregation.

March is commonly recognized as *Pastor's Wives Appreciation Month*, a time to acknowledge and honor the significant roles these women play in church life. We encourage you to use this month to show appreciation for their behind-the-scenes work and dedication.

The *SBA Pastor's Conference* meets on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for fellowship, singing, and preaching. The Pastor's Conference does not meet in June and December, or if the SBA Office is closed for weather, holiday or events. All pastors, preachers and lay-members are invited to attend.

The *Pastor/Family Picnic* was held on September 21st at the pavilion area at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Approximately 40 attended the annual bbq meal that is provided by the Sweetwater Baptist Association for pastors and their families. The *2027 Pastor/Family Picnic* is scheduled for September 20th.

The 2025 *Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* was held on December 8th at Union McMinn Baptist Church with special guests, The Shirah Family. Approximately 60 pastors and wives were in attendance for the banquet; and Pastor Gabe Brannon shared the Christmas story reading. The *2026 Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet* will be held on December 7h at Union McMinn Baptist Church; The Perrys are scheduled to be the special guests for the evening. The 2027 Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet is scheduled to be held on December 6th.

New Pastors during the year were…

- Fairview (Tellico) Phillip Laney
- Long Ridge Mitch Ingram
- Old Pond Hill Josh Sloan
- Macedonia Morgan Peels
- Cedar Valley Sean Musgrove

Our prayers are with all of these pastors, their families and congregations, as they work together to share the love of Christ with their communities.

The Delano Baptist Church advised Director of Missions, Tony Rutherford, by telephone, that the Delano Baptist Church is returning to be part of the Polk County Baptist Association. The church is in the process of returning to the Polk County Association.

We are happy to report that as of September 30, 2026 all churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association had a pastor to lead their congregations. Since that time, Dr. Lon Shoopman advised the Glenlock Baptist Church congregation that he would retire as pastor as of October 18, 2026.

The Mission Committee has allowed the Director of Missions to serve as Interim Pastor at Glenlock beginning October 19th. Since this is thru the holiday season, extra time has been granted until May, 2027 or longer (if needed) as the church works thru their pastor search process.

Pastors were encouraged to enroll to receive text messages from the SBA Office. Messages consist of announcements for Associational or Church events.

Churches without pastors are: Glenlock

Our prayers are with this congregation as they seek a shepherd to serve their flock.

Churches were encouraged to participate in the…

- Week of Prayer for State Missions and *Golden Offering* for Tennessee Missions
- *Mother's Day Offering* for Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes
- *Father's Day Offering* for Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes
- Week of Prayer for North American Missions and *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering*
- Day of Prayer for Baptist Associations
- Week of Prayer for International Missions and *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering*
- Cooperative Program

TBMB/SBC: Pastors and church leaders were encouraged to attend…

- 2026 Annual Meeting of Tennessee Baptist, The Summit, Sevierville Convention Center, Nov 15-18
- 2027 Bivocational Pastor/Wife Retreat, Pigeon Forge, January 28-30
- 2027 Missions Get-Together, March 12-13, First Baptist Church, Cookeville
- 2027 Southern Baptist Convention, June 5-8, Pastors Conference & Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN

Please note: The TBMB has a new procedure for ordering materials (poster, prayer guides, offering envelopes, etc.) for the **Golden Offering for Tennessee, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.** Go to www.TNWMUOrder.org and click on "*Start an Order*". Churches must use the new website to receive materials. (This does NOT include materials for Mother's Day Offering (TBCH) for Tennessee Baptist Children's Home or Father's Day Offering (TBAH) for Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes.)

Miscellaneous Information:

- October is *Pastor Appreciation Month*
- March is *Pastor's Wives Appreciation Month*
- Complete *Annual Report Corporation Filing* at **http://tnbear.tn.gov/**
- Helps for ministering to unwed mothers, new mothers, babies..
  - Hope Resource Center, Knoxville 865-525-4673 https://knoxvillehope.com/resources/ Andrew Wood, Executive Director
  - Embrace Grace https://embracegrace.com/
  - Beth Moore, TBMB, Compassion Ministry Specialists, 423-440-6225 bmoore@tnbaptist.org
  - Homeless Management 423-442-4143
  - Helping Hands, www.helpinghandsact.com

PRAYER: Pastors and church leaders were encouraged to participate in the *National Day of Prayer*, May 7th. The theme for 2026 was *Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations*, 1 Chronicles 16:24. The 2027 National Day of Prayer is scheduled for May 6th.

An *Old-Fashioned Prayer Meeting* was hosted by Pastor B.J. Wall and Shady Grove Baptist Church on August 3rd. Approximately 100 were in attendance, with 11 churches represented. Pastor Vernon Webb from Maple Springs was the guest preacher, and special music was provided by Rural Vale Baptist Church where Carroll Hamilton serves as Pastor. The *2027 Old-Fashioned Prayer Meeting* is scheduled for August 30th.

SCHOLARSHIP: A drawing for four (4) names for the *SBA High School Scholarships* in the amount of $500.00 each was held. Students receiving the *2026 SBA High School Scholarship* were:

NAME	SCHOOL	CHURCH
• Ava Sueann Duckett	All Other (Cross Creek)	Shelton Grove
• Emily Grace Barnett	Sequoyah HS	Vonore Baptist
• Emily Kristina Grace Campbell	Sweetwater HS	Sweetwater, First
• Isaac Mason Hollinghead	Tellico Plains HS	New Providence

TRUSTEES: The SBA building continues to be updated, as we make repairs and upgrades at the Associational Office. Computers, printers, programs, and office equipment continue to be efficient and updated to the current operating systems. Improvements for all areas of the office have been made, as needed.

The ministry and disaster relief trailers continue to be well kept, and in good repair. Wiring for the ministry trailer was updated this year, and new tires were purchased for the disaster relief trailer. No known repairs are currently needed at the disaster relief building, as it continues to be well maintained.

Concerns continue to be addressed at the entrance at the front door to help correct an ongoing problem. Attentions continue for a new step or ramp to be added to the entrance. Work has been completed to repair/replace the soffits/facia and gutters on the building with funds previously approved by the Budget/Finance Committee for the guttering project. Lighting on the front of the building has been updated with new lights and power controllers with photocell on building, as well as new flood lights with motion detectors and photocells. The deck on the back of the building is to be repaired and repainted.

We are so thankful to the many volunteers that work together to keep the Associational Office building, equipment and trailers in good repair in order to have a great place for the churches of the Association to do ministry.

WMU/LADIES MEETING: The WMU/Ladies met on November 3, 2025 at First Baptist Church, Madisonville. We had 11 churches represented and 62 in attendance at the meeting. Our guest speaker for the evening was Russ Mitchell, Manager of the *Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes* in Knoxville. He shared about the TBAH ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board that provides care for adults with special needs. From everyday routines to special outings, the TBAH provides a loving, supportive, and safe home for residents. The total offering received was received for the TBAH in the amount of $1606.00 and many items were brought to the meeting to share with the TBAH Knoxville Home, as well. Your thoughtfulness, kindness and gifts were very much appreciated.

Vonore Baptist Church hosted the 2026 *WMU/Ladies Meeting* on May 4th. Beth Moore, *Compassion Ministry Specialist* with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, was our guest speaker for the evening, and shared about her ministry work. TBMB Compassion Ministries help increase awareness, develop strategies, provide resources, train volunteers, and connect people to address the issues that challenge our communities. We had 12 churches represented and 76 in attendance. The offering received for the evening was over $800.00 and was given to *Compassion Ministries* for the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board.

The *WMU/Ladies Meetings* are scheduled as follows:

November 2, 2026	Bible Baptist Church, Tellico Plains
May 3, 2027	New Bethany Baptist Church, Sweetwater
November 1, 2027	New Providence Baptist Church, Tellico Plains

The WMU/Ladies Groups are encouraged to participate in the monthly Nursing Home Birthday Cake program at the Madisonville Health & Rehab. Contact information for the facility is the Activities Director at 423-442-3990.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SHOWCASE: A *VBS Showcase* was held at the SBA Office on Monday evening, March 9th . Five different VBS themes were on display at the Associational Office. Pastors, VBS Directors and Church Leaders were invited to see the options that were available for their church. The 5 Sampler Kits were given away following the *Showcase*. Churches receiving the free sampler kits in 2026 were Christianburg, Lakeside, Macedonia, Murray's and South Madisonville. The *VBS Showcase* for 2027 is planned for March 15th at the SBA Office.

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 VBS Statistics *(as reported on the 2026 ACP Report)*

Church	Enrollment	Decisions
411 Chapel	97	0
Antioch	None Reported	
Beaty's Chapel	30	0
Bethlehem	224	0
Bible	58	
Big Creek	100	0
Calvary	55	0
Cane Creek	40	3
Cedar Fork	None Reported	
Cedar Valley	88	3
Christianburg	37	0
Citico	36	0
Clifton	21	8
Community	20	0
Compromise	None Reported	
Conasauga	56	0
Concord	69	6
Druid Hill	None Reported	
Ebenezer	35	0
Fairview	76	0
Fairview Tabernacle	350	10
Fellowship	None Reported	
Glenlock	142	1
Gregory's Chapel	40	0
Hopewell Springs	80	0
Howard's Chapel	55	0
Island Creek	175	7
Lakeside	74	2
Long Ridge	60	0
Lower Chilhowee	None Reported	
Macedonia	30	1
Madisonville, First	263	5
Maple Springs	40	0
Miller's Chapel	65	0
Mt. Calvary	120	0
Mt. Isabella	None Reported	
Mt. Zion	101	3

Church	Enrollment	Decisions
Murray's	41	0
New Bethany	131	6
New Macedonia	140	1
New Providence	119	0
New Zion	92	1
North Sweetwater	None Reported	
Notchey Creek	177	0
Oak Grove	55	0
Oakland	None Reported	
Old Pond Hill	None Reported	
Old Sweetwater	108	9
Paint Rock	50	0
Piney Grove	None Reported	
Poplar Bluff	92	0
Reed Springs	107	0
Rocky Springs	95	0
Rural Vale	50	0
Shady Grove	45	0
Shelton Grove	72	0
Shoal Creek	119	1
South Madisonville	118	0
Sweetwater, Frist	220	0
Tellico (Ballplay)	None Reported	
Tellico Plains, First	76	0
Tevis Springs	42	1
Towee Falls	50	0
Trinity	72	0
Union Grove	162	0
Union Hall	42	0
Union McMinn	257	7
Unity	None Reported	
Upper Shady Grove	45	7
Vonore	141	1
Walnut Grove	66	0
Watson Chapel	70	0
Westside	None Reported	
Williamsburg	None Reported	

YOUTH, 2026

The *2026 SBA Youth Rally* was held on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at First Baptist Church in Madisonville. The Rally consisted of a concert by the *3 Heath Brothers*; along with comedy by *Bean & Baile*y and a message by Jackson Bailey. Approximately 125 were in attendance.

In September 2026, hundreds of area students participated in the annual prayer event, *See You At the Pole*. The association provided SYATP armbands, flyers and tracts to churches, youth groups and FCA groups. 2027 *See You At the Pole* will be held on September 22.

The *2027 SBA Youth Rally* is scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 13, 2027 at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Pastor Justin Worden (Spirit City Church, Etowah) will be the guest speaker, Bean & Bailey will return to do a comedy show and music will be provided by the Notchey Creek Praise Teams.

2026-2027 ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL/OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rick Harris
Vice-Moderator .....Gerald Lynn
Evangelism Director.....Shane Johnston
Music Director .....Phillip Johnson
WMU/Ladies Ministry Director..... Rachel Thompson
Committee on Nominations Chairman ..... Patrick Dalton
Budget/Finance Committee Chairman ..... Trey Ferguson
Missions Committee Chairman.....Lon Shoopman
Personnel Committee Chairperson..... Scarlett Mashburn
Trustees Committee Chairman ..... Albert Graser

2026 BAPTIST and REFLECTOR

Chris Turner, Editor

The *Baptist and Reflector (B&R)* is 191 years old this year, making it one of the 25 oldest, continuously published newspapers in the United States. Since 1835, the *B&R* has produced news features, and editorials that tell the story of Tennessee Baptists while also informing their biblical worldview.

The *B&R* is an award-winning newspaper frequently recognized by the Baptist Communicators Association for excellence in journalism, and is produced 26 times a year, reaching nearly 40,000 readers.

Additionally, the *B&R* website (BaptistandReflector.org) has grown steadily since it was introduced in late 2015, with more than 400,000 page views. The weekly e-newsletter has 21,000 subscribers and highlights breaking news, top stories from the print edition and news that appears in the online edition. The *Baptist and Reflector* continues to growth in our social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and X.

Over the past year, the *B&R* has added approximately 800 news subscribers. This came following the renewal of *B&R* Day, which was moved from the fall to the spring (April) after a year off for restructuring. Hundreds of TBC churches requested thousands of complementary copies for distribution. The paper has also seen a resurgence in advertising with the addition of several new organizations (including several universities) appearing for the first time ever.

Throughout the year, the *B&R* reported extensively reported the continued efforts of Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers working to rebuild homes for the people of East Tennessee still recovering from the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene in 2024. With the TBC establishing a new ministry course for Tennessee Baptists, the paper has also

reported Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's restructuring of ministries and how those ministries have gained traction in strengthening and multiplying gospel leaders, evangelistic disciples and healthy churches. And of course there is a significant amount of reporting given to how God is at work in and through Tennessee Baptists and their churches in their local communities and around the world.

The *B&R* staff monitors, reports, and distributes the most pertinent stories related to the Southern Baptist Convention and cultural trends that could affect Tennessee Baptists.

The paper continually seeks new subscribers, either through individual subscriptions or through a multiple-subscription church rate plan. Every church needs a subscription and every church's leadership team, like pastors, ministers, deacons, Sunday School teachers, etc., need to stay informed about Baptist life in Tennessee.

For more information about subscriptions, visit BaptistandReflector.org and click subscribe, or call the *Baptist & Reflector* office at (615) 371-2003.

2026 BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Memphis, Tennessee
Jason Little, President and CEO

Baptist Memorial Health Care began as a 150-bed hospital in downtown Memphis in 1912. It was formed by the Southern Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas because they recognized a tremendous need for a health care facility in this part of the country. The hospital eventually grew to become the largest private hospital in the world.

The Baptist Memorial Health Care system was created in 1981 to provide an integrated health care delivery system offering a full continuum of care to communities throughout the Mid-South. Today, a total of 25 hospitals in Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi; an 1,500-member physician group; and dozens of other entities are affiliated with Baptist.

Baptist Memorial Health Care's staff chaplains are a part of the health care team. Patients, family members and employees know they can ask for a chaplain at any time to augment our health care with spiritual or emotional care.

The Rev. Jimmy Terry Preaching Series, hosted by Baptist's Pastoral Care Department, observed its seventh anniversary this year. The series, named in memory of a beloved member of Baptist's Board of Trustees and the founder of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Clarksville, Tennessee, welcomes a speaker each month to deliver an evangelical message from Baptist's flagship hospital. Video recordings of each event are posted on our Facebook page. They have been viewed more than 98,000 times in the past year.

Baptist Memorial Health Care and the Fayette County Board of Commissioners broke ground on Baptist Memorial Hospital-Fayette County. The hospital will include eight emergency department beds and eight inpatient beds with on-site telehealth capabilities, inpatient and outpatient imaging services and lab services. Baptist Fayette County will serve 11 cities and 41,000 residents.

The Leapfrog Group awarded spring 2026 "A" Hospital Safety Grades to Baptist Memorial Hospital-Carroll County and Baptist Memorial Hospital-Union City. This is Baptist Carroll County's seventh A in a row and Baptist Union City's sixth consecutive A. Leapfrog also awarded Baptist Memorial Hospital for Women and the Spence and Becky Wilson Baptist Children's Hospital the 2025 Leapfrog Top Teaching Hospital Award. These awards are among the most competitive in U.S. health care. Thousands of teaching hospitals are evaluated and only a select few meet Leapfrog's rigorous standards for patient safety, reduced infection rates, surgical outcomes, maternity care and advanced technology.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services awarded Baptist Union City five stars for quality – the agency's highest distinction – and cleanliness. It is one of only four hospitals in Tennessee and 290 in the nation to earn five stars for

quality, which is based on 46 measurements from five categories. CMS uses the national, standardized patient experience survey to determine cleanliness ratings.

2026 TENNESSEE BAPTIST ADULT HOMES, INC.

Report to Associations
Mark Anderson, President/Treasurer

THE CENSUS REMAINS ABOVE 95%

Two years ago, we closed one of our group homes. Our census at the time of the closure was 85% of our beds occupied. As regrettable as it was to close a home and reduce our capacity, the result is that we are financially healthier than we were prior to that closure. I am happy to report that our census remains above 95% now! We believe that our downsize has made us "right sized."

COMING TO AN ASSOCIATION NEAR YOU (HOPEFULLY)

We began this year a concerted effort to schedule and host events in as many Baptist Associations as we can over the coming months and years. These events are called "Dinner, Songs, and Stories." We have worked with several Association Ministry Specialists over the past year to help us find (1) an evening, (2) a church that is willing to host the event, (3) a caterer for a meal, and (4) a list of the churches/pastors in their Associations. The evening consists of a complimentary dinner and a short 30-minute presentation to help churches learn more about the ministry of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes. All in all, the entire evening's event lasts 90 minutes or less. I would love to have a conversation with you about bringing a Dinner, Songs, and Stories event to your Association. I can be contacted at 615-371-2067, or manderson@tnbaptist.org.

OUR FATHER'S DAY OFFERING CONTINUES TO GROW

You may recall that in 2024 we set a record of $547,000 in offerings received through the Father's Day Offering! It was the first time we had ever reached $500,000. Well, I'm pleased to report to you that we set another record last year of $567,000 received. We have set our 2026 Father's Day Offering Goal at an ambitious $600,000. As of July 23, 2026, the total of gifts received through the 2026 Father's Day Offering equals $182,730.30. The total of receipts through the Father's Day Offering as of the same date last year was $169,398. If we can stay 7.5% ahead of last year, we will surpass our $600,000 goal. We are amazed and humbled by the generosity of Tennessee Baptists. Our humility is surpassed only by our gratitude.

Thank you, Tennessee Baptists, for your prayers and your financial support! Thank you for… **SHOWING WHAT LOVE IS!**

2026 TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

Defending the Defenseless, Greg McCoy President/Treasurer
tennesseechildren.org 615-376-3140

May 5, 2026 was TBCH's 135th birthday! Literally thousands of children have been cared for by TN Baptists throughout the years. Because of the faithfulness of churches, businesses and individuals who have a heart for children and families who are struggling, we have been able to serve 250 children and their families over the past year. Thank you for your prayers, for your service, and for sharing your financial resources with TBCH. Our ministry operates without the use of government funds. We have chosen to rely on God's provision through His people to supply the resources necessary to meet the needs of the children and families we serve.

TBCH serves children through two programs. Our **Foster Care** program allows us to place children who are in the state's custody into homes where Jesus is loved and served and where children will have this godly influence in their lives for however long they reside in that home. Our foster care team and volunteers span from Memphis to Kingsport. The other program for providing gospel centered care is our **Residential Care** program. Our campuses in Brentwood, Chattanooga and Millington are all in the process of exciting changes related to our **Firm Foundations Project**. Phase 1

of our construction project in Brentwood is nearing completion. Phase 2 in Millington will consist of a third home for children built over the next year. And in Chattanooga, we are currently constructing three children's homes and a home for our Independent Living residents. The driving force behind these construction projects is to provide individual bedrooms and baths for the added safety and wellbeing of each child.

Thank you to those of you whose church gives faithfully to the Cooperative Program and also makes a direct gift to TBCH through the Mother's Day Offering or through your annual missions offerings!

- 250 children served over the past year
- 18 adoptions in the last fiscal year and 10 so far this year
- 8 spiritual decisions including salvation and baptisms so far this year- Praise the Lord!
- 79 foster homes statewide as of the writing of this report
- 151 children in care as of the writing of this report

Finally, please pray for us! One of our biggest needs right now is a Houseparent Missionary couple at The Ranch in Millington. Will you join us in asking the Lord to send us these frontline missionaries to serve the young people who are need of our care? Thank you.

2026 TBF: TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION

(615)371-2029 www.tbfoundation.org
Serving Tennessee Baptists Since 1938
2026 Annual Report to Associations

Rev. Sam Warner
President-Treasurer
swarner@tnbaptist.org
M 770-371-8050

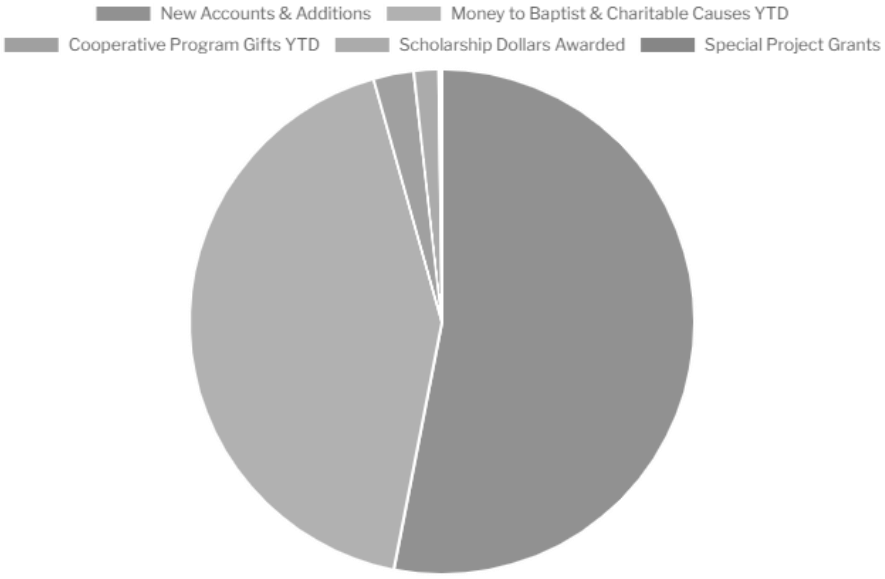
Dr. Tod Tanner
Executive Vice President & Chief Development Officer
ttanner@tnbaptist.org
M 704-430-7214

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation has been serving TN Baptist with excellence since 1938. The assets under management of the Foundation have grown from $6,577 to $233 million during that time. God continues to bless this ministry, and we are pleased to make our report to the associations with highlights for the fiscal year 2025-26 thus far.

TBF Highlights YTD (as of June 30, 2026):

1. As of June 30, 2026, assets under management reached $233 Million, up from $6,577 in 1938, reflecting sustained long-term growth in stewardship.
2. Opened 24 new accounts and added $10.6 Million in new accounts, additions, and growth YTD.
3. Total Client Accounts have eclipsed 1,200.
4. Distributed $516,200 to the Cooperative Program (up 65% YoY) and project it will be over $700,000 by October 31, supporting mission priorities of TBMB, IMB, NAMB, and the SBC.
5. Distributed $8.5 Million to Baptist and charitable causes (up 300% YoY) and project over $10 Million by October 31, significantly increasing impact across our TN Baptist Churches and Ministries.
6. TBF Endowment Portfolio has averaged almost 10% annually for the past 7 years, supporting reliable distribution to ministry and long-term capital growth.
7. Awarded 200+ scholarships of $318,000 for 2026-2027 academic yr, almost $7 Million since 1987.
8. Distributed $41,000 in Special Project Grants, assisting 8 ministry projects across our great state.

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation exists to faithfully steward God's resources, while striving to further God's Kingdom.
www.tbfoundation.org



2026 TENNESSEE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

ANNUAL REPORT

For we are laborers together with God,

Anna Huggins, President Vickie Anderson, Executive Director-Treasurer

Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union (TN WMU) encourages and equips churches and individuals to engage in missions learning and involvement that enables them to fulfill the Great Commission. This report shares information about some of the state events, ministries, and initiatives that have taken place.

Christian Job Corps (CJC) is a ministry of WMU that seeks to help men and women break the cycle of poverty through job and life skill classes, Bible study, and mentoring. There are 13 Tennessee CJC sites in 7 counties. In their 2025 annual ministry reports, these sites reported 1,623 participants across their various programs, 180 graduates, 20 spiritual decisions, and 368 volunteers who served 13,901 volunteer hours.

Tennessee CJC Sites	**Serving**	**Location**
Begin Anew – Madison	Men & Women	Madison
Begin Anew – Crievewood	Men & Women	Nashville
Begin Anew – Franklin	Men & Women	Franklin
Begin Anew – Woodbine	Men & Women	Woodbine
Begin Anew – Online	Men & Women	Online
Champion Recovery Community – Jasper	Women	Jasper
Champion Recovery Community – Dunlap	Women	Dunlap
Gibson County CWJC	Women	Trenton
Greater KY Lake	Men & Women	Paris
Empowered to Hope	Women	Collierville
Moving Forward with CWJC	Women	Chattanooga
SWC Transformation Place	Women	Chattanooga
WEBS	Women	Memphis

TN WMU's missionary care ministries are supported through funds from the Missions for Life Fund and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions (GOTM).

- Missionary Parents Fellowship (MPF): On September 27, 2025, 10 parents of International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries gathered via Zoom for a time of fellowship, information, prayer, and encouragement. TN WMU supports the Tennessee MPF by maintaining its database, distributing communication/promotion materials, and helping to coordinate and host the annual state retreat.
- Encourage Collegiate MKs: Each year TN WMU assigns Missionary Kids (MKs) who attend college in Tennessee to every association so churches can encourage them. Fifteen MKs were assigned to associations for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Former Missionary Fellowships: Former missionaries in West, Middle, and East Tennessee gather several times each year for fellowship, connection, and encouragement. TN WMU provides funds for meals during these gatherings.
- Christmas Gifts: In December 2025, TN WMU sent a $150 gift to 20 MKs whose parents serve with IMB and are from Tennessee.
- MK Re-Entry Retreat: Six missionary kids from Tennessee received travel assistance funds to attend the MK Re-Entry Retreat, hosted by WMU of Texas and the IMB, from August 4-7, 2025.
- Missionary Homes in Mt. Juliet: Tennessee Baptist Mission Board has two missionary homes in Mt. Juliet that provide much-needed rest for missionaries on stateside assignment: the TN WMU Missionary House (Mary's House) and the Missions Mobilization Center (MMC) Missions House. TN WMU handles reservations and hosts missionary families at both houses. Donated gift cards are used to stock pantry staples and other household items.

As part of the prayer advocacy partnership with Denver, TN WMU sent a mission team of eight women to Denver in September 2025. The team met with nine church planters and prayed for them, their ministries, families, and the communities around the churches. TN WMU has sent 11 teams to serve in Denver over the past nine years, meeting with more than 35 church planters to pray and serve their communities.

The 2025 Connection was held in Murfreesboro on September 5–7, 2025, with 96 girls and leaders from 13 churches in attendance. The event featured Bible study leader Kelly Chilcote and IMB missionary speaker Lisa Jungheim.

RA Camp-o-Ree was held on October 17–19, 2025, at Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center with over 300 boys, leaders, and personnel in attendance. Boys participated in a multitude of activities, challenges, and crafts while enjoying the great outdoors, meeting missionaries, and attending two action-packed worship services. This missions camping event for boys in grades 1–12 is hosted by Mid-South Royal Ambassadors and TN WMU.

Over 60 people attended the WMU Gathering at Summit on Sunday, November 9, at West Jackson Baptist Church. TN WMU and Madison Chester Crockett Baptist Association WMU partnered to host this time of fellowship and inspiration.

TN WMU's latest children's missions event kit was released in January 2026 as a free downloadable resource. The theme of the KMX kit is NAME and focuses on eight missionaries from Tennessee who are taking the NAME of Jesus to the North Africa/Middle East (NAME) region, and it also highlights reaching people from those countries living in our state. It includes a Bible story, missions stories, and ideas for games, crafts, food, decorations, and more

TN WMU sent an Olympic Outreach Team of 12 men and women to serve in Milan from February 14-22, 2026, during the second week of the Olympics. The team used three unique souvenir pins to engage with visitors and athletes from around the globe, many of whom have little or no gospel access in their home countries, and to sow gospel seeds.

The 2026 Missions Get-Together was held at First Baptist Church, Dickson, on April 17–18, with a total attendance of 547 people representing over 120 churches. Participants donated over 1,800 items, $40 in cash, and $2,000 in gift cards for TN Christian Job Corps sites across the state through the event's ministry project. An additional $15,516.44 was given through the event's missions offering, benefiting the 2027 MK Re-Entry Retreat (90%) and the TN WMU Tennessee N Touch Endowment (10%).

The 2026 TN WMU Annual Meeting took place on April 18 during the Saturday morning general session of the Missions Get-Together. The meeting included highlights of TN WMU's work and the election of 2026–2027 state officers and new Executive Board Members.

- State Officers: President, Anna Huggins; Recording Secretary, Shelly Mowery; Vice President East, Martha Wilson; Vice President Middle, Cynthia Scott; Vice President West, Julia Binford

- Executive Board Members: Lori Littleton, Amanda Decker, Lisa Kail

TN WMU awarded $42,900 in scholarships to 40 students attending graduate, seminary, and undergraduate programs in Tennessee for the 2026–2027 school year. These scholarships are funded through endowments, invested funds, and the GOTM.

The 2025–2026 Tennessee Missions Emphasis theme was "All Things Tennessee," with a GOTM goal of $2,700,000. The total amount given was $2,979,189.68. With an additional $265,675 in designated gifts to Golden Opportunity Projects, the grand total given was $3,244,864.68. The offering year was September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026.

2026 CARSON-NEWMAN UNIVERSITY

ASSOCIATIONAL REPORT
Submitted by Charles A. Fowler, President

As we celebrate 175 years of God's providence and provision for Carson-Newman University, we reflect on the instrumental role Tennessee Baptists have played throughout its history. Your partnership and support enable us as Christian educators to help our students reach their full potential as educated citizens and worldwide servant-leaders. Highlights of this past year include:

- We welcomed 2,922 students for the 2025-2026 year, representing 44 states and 49 countries.
- This year, we opened the Tom Elliff Center for Missions on campus, honoring respected longtime pastor and missionary Dr. Tom Elliff. Under the leadership of Dr. Phil Young and Alan Duncan, the Center is already teaching students how to be intentional with the gospel at home and abroad, regardless of their areas of study. The Center is connecting churches, students, and missionaries to advance the Kingdom.
- This fall, the University launches The Sager Center for Preaching and Pastoral Ministry, honoring the life and ministry of Dr. Doug Sager, longtime pastor of First Baptist Concord in Knoxville. The Center, led by Dr. Jonathan Akin, exists to equip, encourage, and empower East Tennessee pastors and ministry leaders for faithful gospel service. Through training, mentoring, and fellowship, the Center combines biblical foundations with practical ministry training to prepare church leaders to grow churches and advance Christ's Kingdom.
- This past year, we had many hallelujah moments, including 33 baptisms of students (including 18 football players), chapel services that led to an additional 31 professions of faith, 132 students wrestling with a call to ministry, and 121 follow-ups for gospel conversations.
- The University opened the new Child Development Lab in the fall. The facility is now home to a teacher-training program for Child and Family Studies majors.
- More than 40 students and staff members went on mission trips locally, nationally, and internationally.
- This year's Serve Day had over 600 students take part in 41 service projects across four counties and pack over 11,000 meals, which were shipped to Syria, reflecting C-N's mission of preparing educated citizens and worldwide servant-leaders.
- Appalachian Ministries of the Smokies' Ministry Center set a record in 2025 for the number of people served: 1,691 families, which encompasses 4,460 individuals; 19 home repair projects completed; and the Samaritan House served 30 families.
- Campus Ministries honored 58 graduating students with the Ministry & Missions cord in recognition of their service while a student at C-N.
- A group of about 20 students who feel called to the ministry began meeting regularly in the fall to be mentored in preaching. Since then, the young men have connected with Baptist associations and preached in over 40 churches across Jefferson, Cocke, and Hamblen counties.

- Campus Ministries chapel services were well attended, with a 22% increase over last year. Several local church pastors have spoken on campus this year.
- We launched a new enrollment campaign entitled “Here & Now.” The theme underscores that C-N students do not have to wait until after graduation to make a difference in the world around them. They can have a lasting impact for Christ while students.
- This year, U.S. News & World Report championed Carson-Newman’s online programs. The publication has C-N leading all Tennessee private universities in two categories and No. 2 among the state's private universities in two other categories. C-N’s online nursing program was named one of the nation’s best by The Princeton Review, while C-N was named “A Christian College of Distinction” by Colleges of Distinction.

2026 THE KING’S ACADEMY

Dr. Fred Eaves, President & Head of School

For 145 years, The King's Academy, a ministry of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, has faithfully served Tennessee Baptists through Christ-centered education. As we begin our 146th year of ministry, we are grateful for God's continued faithfulness and encouraged by the renewed momentum He is providing throughout every aspect of Academy life. As a missional Christian school, we intentionally welcome students from a variety of faith backgrounds while remaining unwavering in our commitment to biblical truth and the transforming power of the Gospel. Every student is invited into a community where they are known, loved, and equipped for life and eternity.

Most importantly, we celebrate God's work in the lives of our students. This past year, 29 students made decisions to follow Jesus Christ. Whether through academics, chapel, residence life, athletics, fine arts, or other co-curricular experiences, every aspect of The King's Academy is intentionally designed to help students grow intellectually, spiritually, physically, and relationally as they discover and prepare to fulfill God's purpose for their lives.

God continues to bless this ministry with encouraging growth. As we continue through the admissions cycle, current projections indicate enrollment growth of approximately 7–9.5% for the 2026–2027 school year, while student retention has reached 93.4%—the highest level in the past five years. Our influence also continues to expand globally, with students from 27 countries expected to be on campus as the school year begins. Our boarding program is projected to increase over 92%, nearly doubling opportunities for daily discipleship, biblical mentoring, cultural enrichment, and Gospel-centered community.

This year we are intentionally strengthening what makes TKA education distinctively Christian. We are placing a renewed emphasis on Christian apologetics within our Bible curriculum while implementing *Teaching for Transformation* to intentionally integrate a biblical worldview across every academic discipline. We are also launching *Catalyst*, an innovative entrepreneurship and leadership initiative that will become one of the Academy's signature programs, while continuing to expand opportunities in STEM and Robotics to prepare students to think critically, lead faithfully, and steward their God-given gifts in an increasingly complex world.

This fall also marks the return of varsity football as The King's Academy begins its 98th season of competition. More than the return of a signature athletic program, this reflects the renewed strength of the Academy while providing another opportunity for students to develop Christlike character, servant leadership, discipline, perseverance, and teamwork.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to advancing the Gospel through Christ-centered education, strengthening discipleship, pursuing excellence in our academic and co-curricular programs, and preparing graduates to faithfully influence their homes, churches, communities, and professions for the glory of God. Thank you for your faithful prayers and partnership as together we continue impacting lives for Christ across Tennessee and around the world.

2025–2026 MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Spiritual Formation

- Twenty-nine students made decisions to follow Jesus Christ.
- Continued emphasis on evangelism and discipleship as a missional Christian school serving students from a variety of faith backgrounds
- Christ-centered discipleship intentionally integrated throughout academics, chapel, residence life, and co-curricular programs

Enrollment & Community

- Projected enrollment growth of 7–9.5% for the 2026–2027 school year (admissions cycle ongoing)
- Student retention reached 93.4%, the highest level in the past five years.
- Students representing 27 countries are expected on campus this year.
- The boarding program is projected to grow over 90%, nearly doubling opportunities for Gospel-centered discipleship and mentoring.

Academic Excellence

- Renewed emphasis on Christian Apologetics within the Bible curriculum
- Launch of *Teaching for Transformation*, intentionally integrating a biblical worldview throughout every academic discipline
- Introduction of the *Catalyst* program, establishing entrepreneurship, leadership, and innovation as signature areas of study
- Continued expansion of STEM and Robotics programming to prepare students for future vocations while reinforcing a biblical worldview

Student Development

- Return of varsity football for the Academy's 98th season, expanding opportunities for character development, servant leadership, and community engagement
- Continued commitment to developing students spiritually, academically, physically, and relationally through intentional co-curricular programming

Looking Ahead

- Entering the Academy's 146th year of ministry with renewed momentum
- Continued commitment to partnering with Tennessee Baptist churches and Christian families to prepare students to faithfully impact their homes, churches, communities, and the world for Christ

2026 UNION UNIVERSITY

Samuel W. “Dub” Oliver, Ph.D., President, Union University



On April 10, Union University broke ground on a new freestanding chapel on the eastern edge of campus. Located next to the existing G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel that has been in existence for 50 years, the new chapel will be clearly visible from the heavily trafficked Highway 45 Bypass.

Demolition of the current chapel took place at the end of the spring semester. Construction is expected to take more than a year, with plans for the new chapel to open in early 2028.

The new chapel will meet the evolving needs of our Union community and will stand as a symbol of our enduring convictions. The steeple will rise above every other building on campus, symbolizing Union’s commitment to keep Christ at the forefront of all we do.

The facility will be a place where students, faculty, and staff gather to worship, to reflect, and to engage with the truths of Scripture. It will also serve as a vibrant center for the arts, hosting concerts, lectures, and other events that enrich the local community.

Cost for the new chapel is estimated at $30 million, and more than $15 million has been raised through current gifts and commitments.

Among other highlights on the Union campus in recent months:

- Union purchased the Mid-American Baptist Theological Seminary property on Appling Road in Cordova, Tennessee. We are in the process of selling our existing Germantown property and have moved our operations to the new Union University Memphis location for the fall 2026 semester.

- We began new academic offerings in the fall of 2026, including a classics major and concentrations in computer and civil engineering.

- We were pleased to host Rosaria Butterfield as the featured guest for this year's Crabtree Family Life Series in February. Speaking to the whole Union community three times, Rosaria told about how the Lord saved her from her former identity as a lesbian activist. Her message was a powerful testimony to God's grace. All three of her addresses are available to view at vimeo.com/unionuniversity.

The Lord has been faithful to Union for more than 200 years, and we continue to trust in his providence today. We are also incredibly thankful for Tennessee Baptists and are honored to be Kingdom partners with you. Thank you for praying for us and for supporting us.

2026 NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD and 2026 INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

Online *2025 Reports* can be found for NAMB or IMB at
https://www.sbc.net/resource-library/ministry-reports/2025-ministry-report/

2026 HISTORICAL REPORT

411 Chapel
Blessing Box: Revamped Blessing Box, Member in charge of project, Special offering the 1st Sunday night each month for this ministry.

Antioch
$2,399 for flooring for fellowship hall.

Beaty's Chapel
Ordained John McDaniel as Deacon. Ordained Hunter Debety (to be Pastor at Hiwassee Union).

Bethlehem
Hosted, fellowshipped and participated in supporting missions from Ramu Valley Academy, Papua New Guinea; South Sudan and Pioneer Missions; Continued support for the "Inspiration Center", Shepetivka, Ukraine; Ministry in Coatepeque, Guatemala; Other local, state & international ministries. Spring 2026: Participated in disaster relief efforts for East Tennessee flooding, through restoration construction and other means of support. Summer 2026: Hosted Pastor Otto Echeverria from Coatepeque, Guatemala for morning service. Pastor Otto gave ministry activity report involving teams from our area and delivered an encouraging message from God's Word. Mission Trip: 21 individuals participated with individuals from New Bethany, Old Sweetwater and Birchfield on mission in Guatemala, working in the communities and churches of El Canal, La Palmita and Las Mercedes. Conducted a 15-week discipleship class "Walking Worthy". Completed the road moving/construction project.

Calvary
Fall 2025: Roof repair on Fellowship Hall.
Dec 2025: Monroe County Inmate Blessing.
Spring 2026: Painted Fellowship Hall; Remodeled Sunday School Rooms.
June 2026: New air conditioning unit.

Cane Creek
Youth group has increased due to special interest from younger church members.

Cedar Valley
Aug 23, 2026: Elected new Pastor, Sean Musgrove. Official first Sunday as Pastor, Sept 13, 2026.

Christianburg
Renovations to church basement, including painting, new shelving, new baseboards. Removed trees on south side of church. Replaced storm door on Fellowship Hall. Extended overhang on front of church and re-finished wooded front doors. Held first Live Nativity Program. Replaced folding tables in Fellowship Hall with solid top folding resin tables.

Citico
Four church members traveled to Belize on a mission trip (VBS, witnessing, distribute food bags and bibles). Painted the church interior and entrance way. Installed new back doors (2).

Compromise
75th Anniversary of the church.

Fairview Tabernacle
Ordained 5 new Deacons: Brandon Bettis, Chawn Camp, Kyle Makowski, Rob Laurence, Brent Hickey.

Hopewell Springs
Participation in NC hurricane relief; continuing to send monetary donations to assist with needs of families and their communities. Local community commission projects and giving. Support and give monetarily to the Gideons International. Provide a meal and worship service for the "Last Chance Camp". Danny Bowers became an active Deacon, August 2026.

Howard's Chapel
Nearing completion of Fellowship Hall.

Lakeside
Renovated restrooms. Installed new camera system and projector program.

Long Ridge
Elected Mitch Ingram as Pastor, Feb 8, 2026. Replace two A/C units. Held Veteran's Service and VBS.

Macedonia
Called Morgan Peels as Pastor (ordained at New Providence on February 22, 2026). Elected Karley Peels as church secretary. Replaced roof on church building.

Miller's Chapel
Replaced part of the floor in the church.

Notchey Creek
Added Ministerial Staff Positions: Director of Evangelism and Visitation; Assistant Pastor of Family and Student Ministries. Updated office equipment with fire-proof filing cabinets. Purchased 12x24 outdoor storage building. Extended the Pavilion by 40 ft. Voted to proceed with the construction projects with a construction loan to not exceed $3,000,000.00.

Oak Grove
Adjustments were made to the church porch to make the front entrance more handicap accessible. Outdoor carpet was replaced. Church furniture and pews were refinished; new pew cushions. Metal roof at Fellowship Hall was replaced.

Old Pond Hill
Sept 17, 2026: Sanctuary Dedication after Flood Repairs.

Old Sweetwater
Added new classroom; Blessing Box; Support Israel in building mission

Piney Grove
Celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the church. Baby born: Kole Mason.

Poplar Bluff
Jan 25, 2026: Licensed Paul Chapman to preach.
Mar 1, 2026: Deacon Ordination (Cody Yates, Brandon Land, Matthew Bivens).
June 18-23, 2026: Guatemala Mission Trip

Rocky Springs
Call/Messaging system from "One Call Now" was attained to notify church members of events of the church. Resealed and striped the church parking lot. Cleared 10 acres of land adjacent to the church. Several loads of dirt were donated to level the land.

Shoal Creek
Painted the church interior, upstairs and downstairs. Shannon Rose is now over the pantry.

Trinity
Continued remodeling of the sanctuary: Moved sound room into the midst of the congregation; added rock wall accents to stage and back wall; added conference room/office that can also be used as a classroom on the main floor. Plans to add a playground. Had a children's and adult Christmas play; Repaved and widened parking lot to add more parking spaces. Had a full week of VBS using a previous curriculum of "Praise" where the nightly puppet show was a huge success. We changed the leadership style within the church. Continued supporting local and foreign (Zambia) missions. Children's Church has expanded to include a bi-weekly group for school age through 8th grade students.

Union Grove
Repaired the church steeple.

Union McMinn
Men's and Women's Conferences. VBS. Mission trip to Clear Creek Bible College, Kentucky. Mission trip to Uganda.

Upper Shady Grove
Children's Playground. Remodeling in the church and much needed outside upkeep.

Vonore
Opened clothes closet/food pantry building. Installed new playground equipment. Supplied backpacks. Operation Christmas Child. Supplies for college kids. Supply bags for Ronald McDonald House. Prayer quilts and shawls for Baptist Children's Home. Meals and gifts for Springbrook Apartments. Support Wellspring of Honduras. VBS at Navajo Reservation.

Walnut Grove
Oct 2025: Replaced main HVAC unit; Youth building leak repaired, bathroom repairs, porch secured. Feb 2026: Sunday School building HVAC. Mar 2026: Church door locks replaced. June/July 2026: VBS. July 2026: National Night Out, Vonore Baseball Field.

Westside
New addition to the church for Sunday School rooms and possibly a Christian School. Supplied campers for homeless to live in until back on their feet (example: flood victims, house fire, etc). Clothing give-away. Food give-away. Christmas give-away (toys for children, food baskets).

2026 MEMORIAL REPORT

411 Chapel
Suzann Hill
Bob Ingram

Antioch
Sharon Burton

Bethlehem
Margie Atkins
Peggy Atkins
Lonnie Mason
Vicki Stakely Phillips
Kody Scarlett
Bonnie Stutsman
Rita Watts

Bible
Bill Sutton

Cane Creek
Austin Darnes
Rena Nichols

Cedar Fork
Eugene Bettis
Margaret Clark

Christianburg
Charles Lewis Lingerfelt
James (Buddy) Roy

Citico
Carolyn Bivens
Mary Garrett

Conasauga
Ollie Mae Rayburn

Ebenezer
Alice Hawkins

Fairview Tabernacle
Diana Bailey
Clara Lemons
Elizabeth Mincey
Vicki Ogle
Martha Presley
Jean Pruitt
Leon Smith

Glenlock
Jerry Byers
Christine Lankford
Mary Todd

Gregory's Chapel
Oca Crain

Hopewell Springs
Yvonne Steele
Tony Taylor

Howard's Chapel
Mary Cox
Richard Hembree
Wayne Peters

Island Creek
John Kelly
Mitchell Maynard
Pat Presley
Mildred Houston Stinnett
Randall Tallent

Lakeside
Alice Barefield
Betty Carey
Charles Frank
Darrell Gardner
Linda Beth Cansler Helms
Mary Sue McKee

Long Ridge
Jesse Davis
Christine Freeman
Kim Freeman
Louise Holder
Arrie Mae Shaw

Madisonville, First
Steve Berrong
Lynn Draa
Freda Hardestie
Ernest Haynes
Nancy Hudson
Ernie Plemons
Bruce Sloan
Frances Smith
Joe White

Maple Springs
Christine Freeman

Miller's Chapel
Francis Duckett
Cecil Shell

Mt. Zion
Norman Arp
Carl Miller

Murray's
Aileen Cody

New Bethany
Frances Layman

New Macedonia
Carol Blankenship

New Providence
Mary Brown
Dean Kelly
JC Valentine
Rex Yates

New Zion
Jennifer Bowman
Archie Campbell
Zane Gibson
Elaine Stewart
George Watkins
Sherman Williams

North Sweetwater
Betty Ledford
Wanda Tilley

Notchey Creek
Joyce Alman
Clarence Gibson
Henrietta Johnson
Amy King
Henry King
Ricky McDaniel
Cody Neal
Nelda Peak
Pat Raper
Issac Reed Stephens
Alberta Watkins
Kim Woods

Oak Grove
Cynthia Brickey
Barbara Brown
Ulysses Summitt
Donnie Wolfe

Oakland
Paul McDaniel
Freida Queen

Old Sweetwater
Amber Bagley
Bennie Lane
Helen McKee
Bobby Nichols
Michelle Worley

Paint Rock
Hula Easter
Bonnie Estes

Piney Grove
Bob Grier

Reed Springs
Margaret Bryant
Lydia Gibby
Zackery King
Patricia Laudermilk
Wanda Yates

Rocky Springs
Margaret Pickett

Rural Vale
Kathleen Cain
Rebecca (Becky) Franklin

Shady Grove
Madell Bunch
Sonya Holt

South Madisonville
Judy Guyer
Ruel Tallent

Sweetwater, First
Kenny Archer
Louise Davis
Claude Lance
Mary Richesin
Janette Sloan
Don Weiss
Robert Wheeler

Tellico Plains, First
Samuel Todd

Trinity
Ann Hopper Griffis
Mike Whitmire

Union McMinn
Roberta Runyon

Vonore
Steve Baker
Shay Farnsworth
Don Johnson
Mary Etta Millsaps
Lydia Salvador
Sandra Skinner
Shirley Smith
Carolyn Williams

Walnut Grove
Ione B. Allen
Georgia Hood

Watson Chapel
Dwayne Hammock
Mildred Martin

Westside
Charles Anthony
Randy Gracy

MESSENGERS TO THE 2026 ANNUAL MEETING

411 Chapel	Michael McLemore	Blake Disspain	Kayla Disspain	Allen Ingram
	Sara Ingram	Tige Taylor	Samantha Taylor	
Antioch	Danny Roberts	Crystal Roberts	Wilburn Aikens	Phyllis Aikens
	Johnny Matoy	Wilma Matoy		
Beaty's Chapel	NONE REPORTED	(Larry Walker)		
Bethlehem	Zad Tomberlin	Jesse Bunch	Albert Graser	Donna McKee
	Steve Moore	Ron Richardson	Donald Torbett	
Bible Baptist	Kevin Miller	Harvey McDaniel	John McKenzie	Christopher Miller
	Jeff Moses	Dustin Perrine	Doug Walker	
Big Creek	Michael Jacobs	Deanna Jacobs	Allen Manville	Mary Ellen Manville
	Kalieb Skinner	Tara Skinner		
Calvary	Jon Foster	Darby Frerichs	Drew Frerichs	
Cane Creek	Cody Dalton	Rachael Dalton	Ronnie Dalton	Rebecca Fuller
	Jared Hudgins	Ronnie Lynn	Rebecca Pearson	
Cedar Fork	Steve Gamble	Kenny Keller	Pat McGinnis	Brenda McGinnis
Cedar Valley	Sean Musgrove	Greg Allen	Josh Gourley	Mike Howard
	Bill Kollock	David McHan	Josh Stovall	
Christianburg	Darrell Cardin	Pete Baker	Elaine Dotson	Johnny Gibson
	Darrell McKee	Tommy Saint	Mack Wilson	
Citico	David Lane	Brannon Davis	Sarah Davis	Debbie Gentry
	Brent Loveday	Janie Loveday	Gordon Self	
Clifton	Ronnie Rhea	Carol Rhea	Jay Spurling	Melinda Spurling
Community	Dennis Atkins	Jerry Jaynes	Jack Russell	Matthew Yearwood
Compromise	Delbert Umphrey	Marvin Umphrey		
Conasauga	Tony Curtis	DeLane Stiles		
Concord	Haden Browder	Jessica Godsey	Robert Livingston	Jim Roper
	Jane Roper	Anthony Smith	Ashley Smith	
Druid Hill	NONE REPORTED	(Ronnie Davis)		
Ebenezer	Mike Blair			
Fairview (Tellico)	Phillip Laney	Charlie McCallister	Justin Roberts	Thomas Standridge
	Tim Standridge	Billy Taylor		
Fairview Tabernacle	Jason Robertson	Nick Farrell	James Jenkins	Ron Mincey
Fellowship	NONE REPORTED	(Derek McCosh)		
Glenlock	Lon Shoopman	Debbie Allen	Dean Babb	Rodney Bowers
	Karen Bowers			
Gregory's Chapel	T.J. Wattenbarger	Tim Wattenbarger		
Hopewell Springs	Sean Patton	Craig Ledord	Beth Ledford	Stephen Self
Howards Chapel	Ronnie Best	Tangie Best	Ginney Denham	Roger Denham
	Ron Stewart	Wanda Stewart	Jeff Summey	
Island Creek	Lewis Jones	Mike Isbill	Danny Lingerfelt	Dennis Lingerfelt
	Ronnie Moses	Tracy Maxwell	Jason Thompson	
Lakeside	Gerald Atkins	Vivian Atkins	Doug Blankenship	Rhonda Blankenship
	Barbara Brown	Harry Brown		

Long Ridge	Mitch Ingram	James Graves	Wayne Moser	William O'Dell
	Denver Roberts	Steve Thompson		
Lower Chilhowee	NONE REPORTED	Joey Bivens		
Macedonia	Morgan Peels	Chris Belcher	Craig Stewart	
Madisonville, First	Chris Moore			
Maple Springs	Vernon Webb	Larry Britton	Ryan Duncan	James Gentry
Miller's Chapel	Micah Collins	Roger Lovin	Kraig Miller	Omar Miller
	Jerry Miller	Robert Miller		
Mt. Calvary	Gerald Lynn	Janet Lynn	David Dobbins	David McDaniel
	Kaye McDaniel	Scott Teague	Trisha Teague	
Mt. Isabella	NONE REPORTED	(Josh Butler)		
Mt. Zion	Andy Franklin	Holly Franklin	Louise Couch	Bruce Millsaps
	Donna Millsaps			
Murray's	Dakota McLemore	David Edgmon	Donnie Wilkens	
New Bethany	Matthew Johnson	Lisa Allen	Margie Gray	Judy Webb
New Macedonia	Mitch Isbill	David Allmond	Kyle Allmond	Ben Curtis
	Jordan Isbill	Toby Massey	Taylor Morris	
New Providence	Rick Atkins	Amy Ferguson	Trey Ferguson	Steven Patton
	Tia Patton	Gary Williams	Pam Williams	
New Zion	Brandon Wilcox	Marla Wilcox	J.J. Carson	Dale Radford
	Michael Radford	Don Stewart	Scott Stewart	
North Sweetwater	Bill Wilson	Judy Wilson	Claretta Crosby	Gary Crosby
Notchey Creek	Shane Johnston	Doug Alexander	Dennis Cagle	Ronny Jones
	Doug McKenzie	Doug Stephens	Steve Teague	
Oak Grove	Wayne Trentham	MaryAnn Trentham	Steve Carringer	Barbara Carringer
	Kevin Harris	Felisha Harris	Russell Tallent	
Oakland	Jim Swabe	Tracy Swabe	Martha Bush	Jason Hicks
	Cheryl Hicks	Sandi Seacrest		
Old Pond Hill	Josh Sloan	Fred Egan		
Old Sweetwater	Richard Lane	Josh Croft	Dickie Harrill	Lee Swaim
	Danny Thornburg	Mark Wilson		
Paint Rock	Keith Kile	Marie Selvidge	Heather Sharp	
Piney Grove	Ollie Lankford	Wanda Lankford	Melvin Martin	Jeanette Martin
Poplar Bluff	Roman Hamilton	Jeff Dalton	Lori Dalton	Brandon Land
	Erica Land	Roger Powers	Lorene Powers	
Reed Springs	Steven McDonald	Casey Newberry	Hannah Newberry	Joe Malone
	Becky Malone	David Mashburn	Scarlett Mashburn	
Rocky Springs	Greg McCosh	Claudia Belcher	Russell Kinser	Debbie Massengill
	Mike Moses	Marilyn Moses	David Winters	
Rural Vale	Carroll Hamilton	Cynthia Hamilton	Allen Cain	Madeline Lynn
	Nickey Lynn	Danny Martin	LeAnne Martin	
Shady Grove	BJ Wall	Diane Wall	Richard Derrick	Gail Derrick
	Justin Wear	Paige Wear		
Shelton Grove	Tim Watson	Bryan Carter	Andy Edgemon	Lee Roy Edgemon
	Dewey Henry	Will Thompson	Brandon Watson	

Shoal Creek	Steve Strickland	Daniel Cline	Brandon McClure	Bill Jones
	Jerry Moses	Braden Strickland	Trey Strickland	
South Madisonville	Rick Harris	Connie Harris	Brian Ferguson	Jessica Ferguson
	Joe Guyer	Robert Koontz	Patricia Koontz	
Sweetwater, First	Jason Pounds	Todd Colbert	Cindy Lemmonds	Tommy Lemmonds
Tellico (Ballplay)	NONE REPORTED	Chris Crowder		
Tellico Plains, First	Richard Parker	Marilyn Parker	Randy Fulbright	Phyllis Fulbright
	Susan Newman	Lesley Zavracky	Matthew Zavracky	
Tevis Springs	Sam Baines	James Bright	Chris Lankford	
Towee Falls	NONE REPORTED	(Steven Stone)		
Trinity	Jarrod Johnson	Mark Woods	Rebecca Woods	Bryant Woods
Union Grove	Isaac Sparks	Steve Hanely	Jamie Hanley	Bobby Sparks
	Phyllis Sparks	Malinda Thomason	Tim Thomason	
Union Hall	Austin Gourley			
Union McMinn	Gabe Brannon	Jack Ingram	Veronica Ingram	David King Jr.
	Jody Moser	Howie White	Colton Wallis	
Unity	NONE REPORTED	(Mike Blair)		
Upper Shady Grove	NONE REPORTED	(Noah Russell)		
Vonore	Dustin George	Mike Akins	Gary Kirkland	
Walnut Grove	Jonas Turpin	Leonard Blevins	Angela Burgess	Mike Burgess
	Teresa Guffey	Kris Treadway	James “Bo” Wheat	
Watson Chapel	Jason Blair	Hunter Blair	Grant Davis	Alan Lovin
Westside	NONE REPORTED	(Dwight Torbett)		
Williamsburg	Chris Holloway	Melissa Holloway	David Miller	

2026 MESSENGERS - ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF/COUNCIL (not otherwise listed as Church Messengers)

Tony Rutherford (SBA Staff)
Sheri Stephens (SBA Staff
Becky Jones (SBA Staff)

2025-2026 Council (non-pastors, non-church messengers)

Phillip Johnson (SBA Music Director)
Wendi Stakely (Budget/Finance Committee Chairperson)
Donita Moore (Personnel Committee Chairperson)
Rachel Thompson (WMU/Ladies Ministry Director)

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026-2027 LEADERSHIP SUMMARY

*As reported via 2026 ACP Reports

Congregation	Pastor	Chairman of Deacons	Youth Pastor/Director
411 Chapel	Michael McLemore	Horton Dawson	Horton Dawson
Antioch	Danny Roberts	Wilburn Aikens	Geraldine Rogers
Beaty's Chapel	Larry Walker	Ronnie Belcher	None Reported
Bethlehem	Zad Tomberlin	Steve Moore	Trey Helms
Bible	Kevin Miller	Dustin Perrine	Andrew Ewing/Dustin Perrine
Big Creek	Mike Jacobs	None Reported	Kalieb & Tara Skinner
Calvary	Jon Foster	None Reported	Drew & Sunny Frerichs
Cane Creek	Cody Dalton	Ronnie Lynn	Cody Dalton
Cedar Fork	Steve Gamble	Pat McGinnis	Steve Gamble
Cedar Valley	Sean Musgrove	Josh Stovall	Craig McKenzie
Christianburg	Darrell Cardin	Mack Wilson	None Reported
Citico	David Lane	Gordon Self	James Davis
Clifton	Ronnie Rhea	None Reported	Melinda Spurling
Community	Dennis Atkins	None Reported	Loretta Russell
Compromise	Delbert Umphrey	Marvin Umphrey	None Reported
Conasauga	Tony Curtis	None Reported	None Reported
Concord	Haden Browder	Anthony Smith	Logan & Seleana Roper
Druid Hills	Ronnie Davis	James Monger	Patrick Underwood
Ebenezer	Ethan Thompson	Willard Anderson	Leanne Tallent
Fairview Tabernacle	Jason Robertson	Rodney Boruff	Nick Farrell
Fairview (Tellico)	Phillip Laney	Thomas Standridge	Billy Taylor
Fellowship	Derek McCosh	None Reported	Bernard Ackah
Glenlock	Tony Rutherford, Interim	Michael Harrison	Michael Byrum
Gregory's Chapel	T.J. Wattenbarger	Tim Wattenbarger	None Reported
Hopewell Springs	Sean Patton	Shane Schaffer	None Reported
Howard's Chapel	Ronnie Best	Robert Costner	None Reported
Island Creek	Lewis Jones	Tracy Maxwell	Jason Thompson
Lakeside	Gerald Atkins	Doug Blankenship	Tanner Thomas
Long Ridge	Mitch Ingram	Clifford Holder	None Reported
Lower Chilhowee	Joey Bivens	None Reported	None Reported
Macedonia	Morgan Peels	Claude Stewart	Karley Peels
Madisonville, First	Chris Moore	Scott Boring	Logan Blackwell
Maple Springs	Vernon Webb	Larry Britton	Adam & Megan Martin
Miller's Chapel	Micah Collins	Kraig Miller	None Reported
Mt. Calvary	Gerald Lynn	David McDaniel	David/Kay McDaniel, Jeb/Morgan Best
Mt. Isabella	Josh Butler	James Butler	None Reported
Mt. Zion	Andy Franklin	Jason Miller	Staci Dean
Murray's	Dakota McLemore	Carl Richesin, Jr.	None Reported
New Bethany	Matthew Johnson	Robert Hill	Chad Johnson
New Macedonia	Mitch Isbill	Ben Curtis	Ben Curtis
New Providence	Rick Atkins	Trey Ferguson	Kevin Ervin

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026-2027 LEADERSHIP SUMMARY

*As reported via 2026 ACP Reports

Congregation	Pastor	Chairman of Deacons	Youth Pastor/Director
New Zion	Brandon Wilcox	None Reported	None Reported
North Sweetwater	Bill Wilson	Danny Sledge	None Reported
Notchey Creek	Shane Johnston	Josh McDaniel	Billy Harrill
Oak Grove	Wayne Trentham	Steve Carringer	Ashley Fischer
Oakland	Jim Swabe	None Reported	Cheryl Hicks
Old Pond Hill	Josh Sloan	None Reported	None Reported
Old Sweetwater	Richard Lane	Danny Thornburg	Mistie Ladd
Paint Rock	Keith Kile	None Reported	Deborah Kile
Piney Grove	Ollie Lankford	Melvin Martin	Wanda Lankford
Poplar Bluff	Roman Hamilton	Randy Wear	Jeff Dalton
Reed Springs	Steven McDonald	None Reported	Cody Hill
Rocky Springs	Greg McCosh	Bryan Williamson	None Reported
Rural Vale	Carroll Hamilton	Nickey Lynn	Ethan Curtis
Shady Grove	B.J. Wall	None Reported	None Reported
Shelton Grove	Tim Watson	Dewey Henry	Kristin Hill
Shoal Creek	Steve Strickland	Jerry Moses	Beth Brooks
South Madisonville	Rick Harris	Kevin Brown	John Patterson
Sweetwater, First	Jason Pounds	Mark Houston	Jordan Lopez
Tellico Plains, First	Richard Parker	None Reported	None Reported
Tellico (Ballplay)	Chris Crowder	Harold Sloan	Michael Hunt
Tevis Springs	Sam Baines	John Swabe	Karen Hagen
Towee Falls	Steven Stone	None Reported	None Reported
Trinity	Jarrod Johnson	Mitchell Wicker	None Reported
Union Grove	Isaac Sparks	Steve Hanley	Kelly Hensley
Union Hall	Austin Gourley	None Reported	None Reported
Union McMinn	Gabe Brannon	Gerald Wilson	None Reported
Unity	Mike Blair	Lance Belcher	None Reported
Upper Shady Grove	Noah Russell	Goley Hollinghead	None Reported
Vonore	Dustin George	Scott Frank	Steve Giles
Walnut Grove	Jonas Turpin	Leonard Blevins	None Reported
Watson Chapel	Jason Blair	Alan Lovin	None Reported
Westside	Dwight Torbett	Terry O'Dell	Larry Watson
Williamsburg	Chris Holloway	David Miller	Patrick Flanary

Sweetwater Baptist Association
2026-2027 CHURCH CLERKS

Congregation	Church Clerk	Mailing Address
411 Chapel	Mrs Kelly Leming	302 Old Loudon Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Antioch	Ms Wilma Matoy	186 Williamsburg Rd, Vonore, TN, 37885
Beaty's Chapel	Mrs Shania Debety	529 Barney Creek Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Bethlehem	Mrs Donna McKee	248 Big Creek Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Bible	Mrs Lillie Miller	PO Box 574, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Big Creek	Ms Donna Rucker	132 Houser Dr, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
Big Creek	Mrs DeAnna Jacobs	4885 Caldwell Rd, Loudon, TN 37774
Calvary	Mr Joe Frerichs	515 Ironsburg Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Calvary	Mrs Tonya Frerichs	261 Akins Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Cane Creek	Ms Rebecca Pearson	120 Hartland Dr, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Cedar Fork	Mrs Gail Farrell	423 Big Sandy Rd, Philadelphia, TN 37846
Cedar Valley	Ms Cheryl Young	1295 Hwy 68, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Christianburg	Ms Leslie McKee	605 N Price St, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Citico	Ms Debbie Gentry	243 Smokey Branch Rd, Vonore, TN 37885
Clifton	Ms Melinda Spurling	264 County Rd 267, Niota, TN 37826
Community	Mrs Loretta Russell	926 Hwy 11 S, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Compromise	Mr Marvin Umphrey	122 County Rd 202, Athens, TN, 37303
Conasauga	Mr Bobby Triplett	148 County Rd 622, Etowah, TN, 37331
Concord	Mrs Jessica Godsey	23385 Hwy 58 N, Decatur, TN 37322
Concord	Mrs Seleana Roper	135 Pulliam Ln, Decatur, TN 37322
Druid Hill	Ms Jodie Underwood	256 Old Mill Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
Ebenezer	Ms Lora Hope McMahan	3749 Hwy 360, Vonore, TN, 37885
Fairview Tabernacle	Mrs Ramagene Barnes	123 Duseth Dr, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Fairview (Tellico)	Mrs Sherrie Taylor	PO Box 394, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Fairview (Tellico)	Ms Gladys Standridge	2418 Fairview Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Fairview (Tellico)	Mrs Teresa Swaney	931 Ballplay Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Fellowship	Mr John Teutimez	405 Central St W, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Glenlock	Mr Rodney Bowers	105 Young Dr, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Gregory's Chapel	Mrs Lisa Wattenbarger	979 Creek Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Hopewell Springs	Mr Ritchie White	125 Coleman Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Howards Chapel	Mr Ronnie Summey	1811 Big Gulley Rd, Maryville, TN 37801
Island Creek	Mrs Shanna Isbill	5177 Hwy 411, Madisonville, TN 37354
Lakeside	Mrs Rhonda Blankenship	457 Summit Rd, Vonore, TN 37885
Long Ridge	Mrs Celina Lintemuth	PO Box 97, Coker Creek, TN 37314
Lower Chilhowee	Mr Monty (Kenny) Lewis	718 Dailey Ave, Loudon, TN 37774
Lower Chilhowee	Mrs Rhonda Koons	7445 Happy Valley Rd, Tallassee, TN 37878
Macedonia	Mrs Karley Peels	414 Unicoi Lakes Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Madisonville First	Mr Alan Sloan	139 College St, Madisonville, TN 37354
Maple Springs	Mrs Lori Ellis	193 Big Creek Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Miller's Chapel	Mrs Tammy Miller	PO Box 744, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
Mt Calvary	Ms Angela Davis	225 Sawmill Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Mt Calvary	Mrs Kaye McDaniel	PO Box 222, Englewood, TN 37329
Mt Isabella	Mrs Candice Butler	1269 Rafter Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
Mt Zion	Mrs Elaine Hawkins	1022 Highway 360, Vonore, TN, 37885
Murray's	Ms Melissa Edgmon	160 Edgmon Road, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
New Bethany	Mrs Emily Johnson	868 Head of Creek Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
New Macedonia	Mr David Allmond	218 Starrett St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
New Providence	Mrs Becky Peels	404 Unicoi Lakes Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385

Sweetwater Baptist Association
2026-2027 CHURCH CLERKS

Congregation	Church Clerk	Mailing Address
New Zion	Ms Peggy Martin	118 County Rd 660, Athens, TN 37303
New Zion	Mr Scott Stewart	319 County Rd 616, Athens, TN 37303
North Sweetwater	Mrs Claretta Crosby	805 Fair St N, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Notchey Creek	Mrs Linda Gregory	529 Monroe St, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Oak Grove	Mrs Barbara Carringer	1320 Oak Grove Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Oakland	Mr Jason Hicks	106 Meadow Ln, Vonore, TN, 37885
Old Pond Hill	None Reported	
Old Sweetwater	Ms Lesa Shultz	606 Childress Ave, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
Paint Rock	Mrs Janice Parks	162 Paint Rock Rd, Kingston, TN, 37763
Piney Grove	Mrs Charity Standridge	3322 Old Hwy 68, Madisonville, TN 37354
Poplar Bluff	Ms Kelli Wear	PO Box 815, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Reed Springs	Mr Joseph Lovin	500 Glenlock Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Rocky Springs	Mrs Marilyn Moses	104 Chapel View Dr, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Rural Vale	Ms Misti Pike	155 Dry Creek Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
Shady Grove	Mrs Gail Derrick	900 County Rd 461, Englewood, TN 37329
Shelton Grove	Mrs Kari Watson	1632 Sweetwater Vonore Rd, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Shoal Creek	Mrs Glenna Moses	544 Lick Creek Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
South Madisonville	Mrs Patricia Koontz	591 Rausin Hollow Rd, Philadelphia, TN 37846
Sweetwater, First	Mrs Janet Collins	303 Wright St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
Sweetwater, First	Mrs Diane Ridgell	303 Wright St, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
Tellico Plains, First	Mrs Heather Hall	706 Bethlehem Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Tellico (Ballplay)	Mrs MaShell Hunt	249 Old Athens Rd, Madisonville, TN, 37354
Tevis Springs	Mrs Ashley Bright	1991 Ballplay Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Tevis Springs	Mrs Rhonda Baines	374 Badger Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Towee Falls	Ms Robbie Jones	1143 Towee Falls Rd, Tellico Plains, TN, 37385
Trinity	Mrs Rebecca Woods	152 Tango Dr, Madisonville, TN 37354
Union Grove	Ms Jamie Hanley	342 County Rd 313, Sweetwater, TN, 37874
Union Hall	Mrs Ethel Bivens	330 Bank St, Apt 2, Tellico Plains, TN 37385
Union Hall	Mrs Janis Jenkins	2609 Ballplay Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Union McMinn	Mrs Jane Wilson	PO Box 214, Niota, TN, 37826
Unity	Mrs Lori Ann Morgan	1334 Hwy 68, Sweetwater, TN 37874
Upper Shady Grove	Mrs Carol King	2212 Highland Rd, Maryville, TN, 37801
Vonore	Mrs Teresa White	1644 Bay Creek Dr, Vonore, TN 37885
Walnut Grove	Mrs Angela Burgess	147 Ponderosa Dr, Madisonville, TN 37354
Watson Chapel	Mrs Michelle Lovin	220 Kinser Rd, Madisonville, TN 37354
Westside	Mrs Debbie Atkins	148 Atkins Ln, Madisonville, TN 37354
Williamsburg	Mrs Mary Bivens	500 Trigonia Rd N, Greenback, TN 37742

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 *Annual Church Profile Summary*

MEMBERSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

***as reported via the 2026 ACP REPORTS**

Congregation	*Total Members*	*Baptisms*	*Other Additions*	*Worship Attend.*	*SS Average*	*VBS Enroll.*	*DT Enroll.*
411 Chapel Baptist Church	231	7	2	100	49	97	0
Antioch Baptist Church	50	1	0	17	17	0	0
Beaty's Chapel Baptist Church	152	2	0	50	50	30	0
Bethlehem Baptist Church	654	8	9	300	222	224	165
Bible Baptist Church	112	2	0	60	36	58	0
Big Creek Baptist Church	0	7	0	65	65	100	0
Calvary Baptist Church	52	3	0	18	18	55	0
Cane Creek Baptist Church	227	3	0	68	56	40	0
Cedar Fork Baptist Church	0	1	4	40	23	0	0
Cedar Valley Baptist Church	350	2	0	120	120	88	35
Christianburg Baptist Church	129	0	1	50	25	37	0
Citico Baptist Church	206	3	1	48	41	36	0
Clifton Baptist Church	45	4	0	30	23	21	0
Community Baptist Church	247	0	0	35	18	20	0
Compromise Baptist Church	80	0	1	18	15	0	0
Conasauga Baptist Church	0	2	0	0	33	56	0
Concord Baptist Church	54	5	0	34	28	69	20
Druid Hill Baptist Church	NOT REPORTED						
Ebenezer Ballplay Baptist Church	146	1	0	30	30	35	0
Fairview Baptist Church	45	0	0	37	43	76	0
Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	1,244	50	28	744	380	350	200
Fellowship Church	117	6	0	75	32	0	0
Glenlock Baptist Church	249	3	5	124	82	142	0
Gregory's Chapel Baptist Church	56	0	0	49	24	40	0
Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	NOT REPORTED					80	
Howards Chapel Baptist Church	337	9	4	50	40	55	0
Island Creek Baptist Church	419	5	4	88	68	175	0
Lakeside Baptist Church	200	5	4	80	40	74	0
Long Ridge Baptist Church	306	2	0	40	40	60	0
Lower Chilhowee Baptist Church	76	10	2	35	0	0	0
Macedonia Baptist Church	40	0	5	12	9	30	0
Madisonville First Baptist Church	873	20	40	350	461	263	71
Maple Springs Baptist Church	230	17	1	51	32	40	0
Miller's Chapel Baptist Church	145	0	2	37	29	65	0
Mt Calvary Baptist Church	206	2	2	0	67	120	0
Mt Isabella Baptist Church	59	3	0	25	0	0	0
Mt Zion Baptist Church	447	0	3	85	80	101	62
Murray's Baptist Church	211	0	5	31	15	41	14

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 *Annual Church Profile Summary*

MEMBERSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

***as reported via the 2026 ACP REPORTS**

Congregation	*Total Members*	*Baptisms*	*Other Additions*	*Worship Attend.*	*SS Average*	*VBS Enroll.*	*DT Enroll.*
New Bethany Baptist Church	422	11	2	70	50	131	20
New Macedonia Baptist Church	539	1	9	133	109	140	0
New Providence Baptist Church	700	0	14	150	73	119	0
New Zion Baptist Church	297	9	11	95	42	92	22
North Sweetwater Baptist Church	147	1	0	0	20	0	0
Notchey Creek Baptist Church	1,015	10	13	279	165	177	148
Oak Grove Baptist Church	284	3	4	70	65	55	13
Oakland Baptist Church	47	0	0	15	11	0	0
Old Pond Hill Baptist Church	**NOT REPORTED**						
Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	279	4	1	140	93	108	0
Paint Rock Baptist Church	297	3	1	70	38	50	0
Piney Grove Baptist Church	50	9	0	50	41	0	0
Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	150	11	0	120	86	92	55
Reed Springs Baptist Church	455	3	0	110	96	107	0
Rocky Springs Baptist Church	297	1	2	75	45	95	60
Rural Vale Baptist Church	161	0	5	45	33	50	0
Shady Grove Baptist Church	77	0	0	50	16	45	0
Shelton Grove Baptist Church	166	4	0	60	41	72	0
Shoal Creek Baptist Church	358	10	0	75	55	119	0
South Madisonville Baptist Church	108	0	0	100	64	118	0
Sweetwater First Baptist Church	440	6	17	258	452	220	143
Tellico Baptist Church	**NOT REPORTED**						
Tellico Plains First Baptist Church	273	4	5	65	63	76	0
Tevis Springs Baptist Church	109	7	0	35	25	42	0
Towee Falls Baptist Church	70	0	0	40	36	50	0
Trinity Baptist Church	173	3	10	71	29	72	28
Union Grove Baptist Church (N)	194	7	2	91	82	162	20
Union Hall Baptist Church	145	0	0	23	15	42	0
Union McMinn Baptist Church	314	7	4	175	115	257	0
Unity Baptist Church	23	0	0	20	20	0	0
Upper Shady Grove Baptist Church	276	10	0	74	50	45	9
Vonore Baptist Church	568	5	0	212	119	141	0
Walnut Grove Baptist Church	81	0	0	36	27	66	0
Watson Chapel Baptist Church	1,406	2	0	200	130	70	50
Westside Baptist Church	400	28	22	100	70	0	45
Williamsburg Baptist Church	50	0	0	13	10		0
SBA TOTALS	**18,366**	**342**	**245**	**6,116**	**4,697**	**5,491**	**1,180**

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 Annual Church Profile Summary

FINANCIAL AND MISSION GIVING

*VIA 2026 ACP, SBA, TBMB Records

Congregation	*Total Receipts*	*Cooperative Program*	*Association Gifts*	*Annie Armstrong*	*Lottie Moon*	*Golden Offering*	*Total Mission Gifts*
411 Chapel Baptist Church	93,677	0	1,500	1,000	1,815	1,621	16,281
Antioch Baptist Church	23,715	200	275	0	0	0	800
Beaty's Chapel Baptist Church	3,000	0	200	0	0	0	100
Bethlehem Baptist Church	396,441	0	10,800	0	0	0	57,075
Bible Baptist Church	0	0	700	0	0	0	700
Big Creek Baptist Church	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calvary Baptist Church	40,558	0	1,455	0	0	0	2,655
Cane Creek Baptist Church	74,740	900	1,200	0	0	0	2,300
Cedar Fork Baptist Church	0	2,259	6,144	0	0	1,537	23,987
Cedar Valley Baptist Church	200,000	9,553	11,509	5,616	4,808	3,927	38,000
Christianburg Baptist Church	66,661	1,925	2,254	1,350	1,118	0	2,685
Citico Baptist Church	0	189	2,724	0	0	0	5,821
Clifton Baptist Church	25,148	0	300	0	77	0	538
Community Baptist Church	62,000	1,008	1,887	0	0	163	3,241
Compromise Baptist Church	16,430	0	600	0	333	0	609
Conasauga Baptist Church	173,715	0	3,600	0	250	0	4,100
Concord Baptist Church	0	752	1,755	0	0	0	0
Druid Hill Baptist Church	0	0	1200	0	0	0	0
Ebenezer Ballplay Baptist Church	20,607	0	770	0	0	0	770
Fairview Baptist Church	0	0	0	0	0	0	500
Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	1,481,897	33,000	13,000	12,635	20,773	11,298	166,183
Fellowship Church	0	2,281	1,750	0	0	0	0
Glenlock Baptist Church	209,688	6,680	4,008	1,300	1,775	0	23,472
Gregory's Chapel Baptist Church	61,690	0	1,200	0	0	0	8,978
Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	0	5,289	500	0	0	0	0
Howards Chapel Baptist Church	0	0	1,200	200	200	0	0
Island Creek Baptist Church	192,820	1,800	4,200	0	8,989	0	27,596
Lakeside Baptist Church	111,039	0	2,400	2,000	2,224	0	12,524
Long Ridge Baptist Church	123,060	0	1,000	0	0	0	48,961
Lower Chilhowee Baptist Church	35,282	0	2,970	1,000	0	0	6,000
Macedonia Baptist Church	0	0	600	0	0	0	400
Madisonville First Baptist Church	0	72,039	5,000	21,025	62,041	0	210,487
Maple Springs Baptist Church	0	0	750	0	0	0	0
Miller's Chapel Baptist Church	38,013	105	1,200	0	0	0	7,108
Mt Calvary Baptist Church	57,159	0	1,507	0	0	0	5,598
Mt Isabella Baptist Church	5,252	0	0	0	0	0	500
Mt Zion Baptist Church	193,193	6,657	8,552	4,783	3,372	0	29,004
Murray's Baptist Church	39,336	0	2,359	50	75	0	7,922

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 Annual Church Profile Summary

FINANCIAL AND MISSION GIVING

*VIA 2026 ACP, SBA, TBMB Records

Congregation	*Total Receipts*	*Cooperative Program*	*Association Gifts*	*Annie Armstrong*	*Lottie Moon*	*Golden Offering*	*Total Mission Gifts*
New Bethany Baptist Church	134,828	2,787	3,773	1,046	1,496	0	39,458
New Macedonia Baptist Church	0	0	2,400	0	17,240	0	0
New Providence Baptist Church	240,798	8,842	10,702	0	5,086	0	61,656
New Zion Baptist Church	0	0	650	0	0	0	0
North Sweetwater Baptist Church	50,889	933	1,206	0	0	0	2,866
Notchey Creek Baptist Church	762,150	33,809	10,164	18,095	17,885	8,477	124,059
Oak Grove Baptist Church	107,661	3,445	4,006	346	866	0	11,828
Oakland Baptist Church	30,007	0	800	0	720	0	4,648
Old Pond Hill Baptist Church	0	0		0	0	0	0
Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	3,000
Paint Rock Baptist Church	50,000	0	1,320	0	0	0	4,328
Piney Grove Baptist Church	0	0	400	0	0	0	0
Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	101,000	0	1,200	0	0	0	14,086
Reed Springs Baptist Church	168,433	0	0	0	0	0	6,962
Rocky Springs Baptist Church	182,977	5,247	4,200	0	0	2,352	52,778
Rural Vale Baptist Church	107,279	4,449	5,364	1,240	1,449	0	9,443
Shady Grove Baptist Church	101,355	0	1,000	2,000	1,150	0	10,041
Shelton Grove Baptist Church	109,307	0	2,800	0	0	0	6,347
Shoal Creek Baptist Church	73,367	553	1,343	0	0	0	10,313
South Madisonville Baptist Church	176,434	700	1,800	0	330	0	34,959
Sweetwater First Baptist Church	770,993	27,849	4,200	0	10,012	0	78,107
Tellico Baptist Church	0	0	1500	3,070	6,296	0	0
Tellico Plains First Baptist Church	161,104	11,342	5,599	1,745	1,605	790	44,050
Tevis Springs Baptist Church	0	0	600	0	0	0	1,351
Towee Falls Baptist Church	60,785	0	1,800	0	0	0	8,391
Trinity Baptist Church	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,500
Union Grove Baptist Church (N)	137,006	12,256	1,440	1,692	3,377	1,054	12,446
Union Hall Baptist Church	17,698	0	908	0	0	0	908
Union McMinn Baptist Church	310,402	5,250	4,800	0	2,312	0	46,052
Unity Baptist Church	0	0	300	0	0	0	0
Upper Shady Grove Baptist Church	140,890	0	600	0	0	0	7,200
Vonore Baptist Church	736,924	17,496	20,610	0	0	0	101,768
Walnut Grove Baptist Church	47,443	500	1,750	0	0	200	3,209
Watson Chapel Baptist Church	218,198	0	0	0	0	0	16,911
Westside Baptist Church	0	0	300	0	0	250	0
Williamsburg Baptist Church	15,082	84	503	127	72	0	292,540
SBA TOTALS	**8,758,131**	**280,179**	**200,107**	**80,319**	**177,745**	**31,669**	**1,730,100**

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 Annual Church Profile Summary

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY

*as reported on the 2026 ACP Reports

Congregation	*Music Ministry*	*WMU*	*Men*	*MIssion Project Participation*
411 Chapel Baptist Church	23	10	5	60
Antioch Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Beaty's Chapel Baptist Church	43	0	0	0
Bethlehem Baptist Church	75	0	45	85
Bible Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Big Creek Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Calvary Baptist Church	10	0	0	0
Cane Creek Baptist Church	17	13	8	8
Cedar Fork Baptist Church	12	4	0	0
Cedar Valley Baptist Church	30	25	23	0
Christianburg Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Citico Baptist Church	0	4	0	4
Clifton Baptist Church	2	0	0	0
Community Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Compromise Baptist Church	14	0	0	0
Conasauga Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Concord Baptist Church	16	0	0	0
Druid Hill Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Ebenezer Ballplay Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Fairview Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church	128	0	85	76
Fellowship Church	8	0	0	0
Glenlock Baptist Church	28	0	0	70
Gregory's Chapel Baptist Church	17	0	0	0
Hopewell Springs Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Howards Chapel Baptist Church	6	0	0	4
Island Creek Baptist Church	33	0	0	0
Lakeside Baptist Church	50	14	0	0
Long Ridge Baptist Church	24	1	0	1
Lower Chilhowee Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Macedonia Baptist Church	4	0	0	12
Madisonville First Baptist Church	56	38	0	391
Maple Springs Baptist Church	11	0	0	0
Miller's Chapel Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Mt Calvary Baptist Church	47	0	0	0
Mt Isabella Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Mt Zion Baptist Church	19	18	0	0
Murray's Baptist Church	12	12	0	0

Sweetwater Baptist Association

2026 Annual Church Profile Summary

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY

*as reported on the 2026 ACP Reports

Congregation	*Music Ministry*	*WMU*	*Men*	*MIssion Project Participation*
New Bethany Baptist Church	30	22	8	330
New Macedonia Baptist Church	47	0	0	0
New Providence Baptist Church	0	15	0	9
New Zion Baptist Church	31	0	0	0
North Sweetwater Baptist Church	16	1	0	0
Notchey Creek Baptist Church	118	29	25	37
Oak Grove Baptist Church	45	0	16	0
Oakland Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Old Pond Hill Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Old Sweetwater Baptist Church	40	0	0	4
Paint Rock Baptist Church	26	0	0	0
Piney Grove Baptist Church	32	50	0	50
Poplar Bluff Baptist Church	1	0	20	20
Reed Springs Baptist Church	61	0	22	0
Rocky Springs Baptist Church	34	0	0	155
Rural Vale Baptist Church	0	0	0	15
Shady Grove Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Shelton Grove Baptist Church	18	0	0	0
Shoal Creek Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
South Madisonville Baptist Church	60	0	10	0
Sweetwater First Baptist Church	104	359	34	359
Tellico Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Tellico Plains First Baptist Church	16	0	12	40
Tevis Springs Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Towee Falls Baptist Church	20	0	0	0
Trinity Baptist Church	7	10	10	10
Union Grove Baptist Church (N)	29	89	12	4
Union Hall Baptist Church	13	0	0	0
Union McMinn Baptist Church	22	0	15	42
Unity Baptist Church	20	0	0	0
Upper Shady Grove Baptist Church	0	0	0	0
Vonore Baptist Church	38	12	0	214
Walnut Grove Baptist Church	4	0	0	17
Watson Chapel Baptist Church	45	90	25	20
Westside Baptist Church	45	0	20	40
Williamsburg Baptist Church	9	0	0	0
SBA TOTALS	**1,616**	**816**	**395**	**2,077**

2027 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS TO THE ASSOCIATION

***As reported to the Association via the 2026 ACP Report**

Pastors are automatic Executive Board Members

In addition to the Pastor, each church is entitled to (1) additional Executive Board Member

411 Chapel .....Chad Leming
Antioch.....None Reported
Beaty's Chapel.....Ronnie Belcher
Bethlehem.....Jesse Bunch
Bible .....Dustin Perrine
Big Creek .....None Reported
Calvary.....Darby Frerichs
Cane Creek .....Racheal Dalton
Cedar Fork.....None Reported
Cedar Valley .....Josh Stovall
Christianburg.....Darrell McKee
Citico .....Gordon Self
Clifton.....Carol Rhea
Community.....Jack Russell
Compromise.....Marvin Umphrey
Conasauga.....DeLane Stiles
Concord.....None Reported
Druid Hills.....None Reported
Ebenezer .....Willard Anderson
Fairview (Tellico) .....Thomas Standridge
Fairview Tabernacle .....James Jenkins
Fellowship .....Jeremy Malone
Glenlock .....Herbert Hicks, Jr.
Gregory's Chapel.....Tim Wattenbarger
Hopewell Springs .....Stephen Self
Howard's Chapel.....Robert Costner
Island Creek.....Tracy Maxwell
Lakeside.....Doug Blankenship
Long Ridge.....Barry West
Lower Chilhowee .....Kenny Lewis
Macedonia .....Craig Stewart
Madisonville, FBC.....None Reported
Maple Springs .....Larry Bivens
Miller's Chapel .....Kraig Miller
Mt. Calvary.....David McDaniel
Mt. Isabella .....None Reported
Mt. Zion.....Dwight Williams
Murray's.....David Edgmon
New Bethany .....Chad Johnson
New Macedonia.....Toby Massey
New Providence.....Gary Williams
New Zion.....Scott Stewart
North Sweetwater .....Danny Sledge
Notchey Creek .....Doug Stephens
Oak Grove .....Barry Self
Oakland.....Jason Hicks
Old Pond Hill .....None Reported
Old Sweetwater .....Josh Croft
Paint Rock .....Deborah Kile
Piney Grove.....Melvin Martin
Poplar Bluff .....Randy Wear
Reed Springs .....Cody Hill
Rocky Springs.....David Winters
Rural Vale.....Nickey Lynn
Shady Grove.....None Reported
Shelton Grove .....Dewey Henry
Shoal Creek .....Trey Strickland
South Madisonville .....Kevin Brown
Sweetwater, FBC.....Todd Colbert
Tellico Plains, FBC ..... Marilyn Parker
Tellico (Ballplay).....Mark Best
Tevis Springs .....James Bright
Towee Falls .....None Reported
Trinity.....Mitchell Wicker
Union Grove.....Steve Hanley
Union Hall .....Leon Jenkins
Union McMinn.....Gerald Wilson
Unity .....Lance Belcher
Upper Shady Grove.....Goley Hollinghead
Vonore .....Scott Frank
Walnut Grove.....Angie Burgess
Watson Chapel.....Hunter Blair
Westside .....Terry O'Dell
Williamsburg.....David Miller