

# THE MESSENGER of the Sweetwater Baptist Association

*"Seventy-one Churches on Mission Together"*  
Celebrating 182 years, 1830 – 2012

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Check Out Our Website: [sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)

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**Volume 1**

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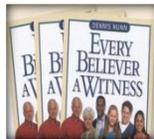
Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**Welcomes Pastor Tim Watson**  
wife Jeanie, son Brandon and daughter Kayla



### Shelton Grove Baptist Church

Our prayers are with this pastor and Church as they work to share the Gospel of Christ with their community.

**Every Believer  
a Witness**  
Training Clinic



**Tuesday, February 7**

First Baptist Church, Sweetwater

For Pastors, Staff, Church Leadership  
and Outreach Leaders

Meal 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Conference 6:30 p.m.

Reservations Required - \$20.00 material fee per church

**Dennis Nunn**, Conference Leader

Sweetwater Baptist Association

**Area Wide  
Youth Crusade**  
March 16–17, 2012  
7:00 p.m.



**Brody Holloway**, Guest Speaker

Special Music: **Snowbird Praise Band**

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

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents  
**Financial Issues Facing  
Churches and Ministers**  
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

**6:30 p.m.**

Hosted by **Watson Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville**

Pastors, treasurers, administrative employees, finance or personnel committees, ministers, church staff, secretaries or interested lay leaders are encouraged to attend.



Sweetwater Baptist Association

**VACATION  
BIBLE SCHOOL**  
2012 Schedule of Events



**Tuesday, February 28**

VBS Preview Clinic for Pastor/Directors 7:00 p.m.

Sweetwater Baptist Association Office, Madisonville

**Tuesday, March 27**

VBS Clinic, Open House 6:00 p.m., Conferences 6:35 p.m.

Vonore Baptist Church, Vonore

*Children and Youth are invited to be part of the Associational VBS Childrens/Youth Choir. This group will practice on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 2-4:00 p.m. at Vonore Baptist Church in Vonore. They will perform at the VBS Clinic on Tuesday evening, March 27<sup>th</sup>.*

LifeWay's 2012 Vacation Bible School Sampler Kits are available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 to reserve your kit or stop by to pick up a kit for your church.

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
Funds Received for *Hope for Haiti* Church/School Building

Cane Creek Baptist Church .....	5,000.00
Tony and Darnell Rutherford .....	1,000.00

**HOPE FOR HAITI**

## Sweetwater Baptist Association, Executive Board Meeting

**Monday, April 23, 2012, 7:00 p.m.** ..... SBA Office Building, Madisonville

According to the SBA Constitution and Bylaws, Article VIII: All Pastors, Associational Council (SBA Officers and Committee Chairman) and one elected Executive Board Member from each participating church are entitled to participate in the Executive Board Meetings.

## Director of Missions



The Christmas season is now behind us. Boxes have been packed away and stored for another year. As we reflect over the special events that came our way, precious moments remain as a lasting memory. As I think of the decorations, it is the lights that linger with me the longest. They are soft, inviting, and bring a sense of peace. We need to be reminded it is the metaphor of the "Light" that leaves a strong impression on the heart of the believer.

It is John that uses the term "Light" to refer to the coming of our Lord Jesus. Jesus is the "Light" that illuminates the heart of humanity. Jesus is the "Light" that shines into the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome the power of the "Light." It is Jesus that refers to His church as being the light of the world, and we are not to hide our lamp. Instead, we are to allow the rays of His glory to come forth.

As planning for the spring "Simultaneous Revival" takes place, we realize it is an occasion for our "light" to shine brightly. The Sweetwater Baptist Association office wants to help your church in sharing that message. As the date and the evangelist for your church revivals are set, please contact the SBA office and we will be happy to include this information in our promotional materials. It will also allow us to pray for these important events, and to share this information with other churches. Asking the Lord's blessings to "Revive Us Again" is a prayer request that God is longing to answer in the affirmative. A successful revival will leave an everlasting impression in the heart of every believer.

Another way we are challenged to let the "Light" shine is in the Haiti project. There are 32 small "reflectors" and staff at the Foundation Yaveh Shamma for the Children's Orphanage in Haiti waiting to be the "mirror" image of the "Light." God has placed His power-source for those lives in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. The churches of the Sweetwater Baptist Association have "adopted" these children and their caregivers as they develop into God's lighthouses for the future in Haiti. This will only be accomplished by the joined effort of our congregations. The office has put together a presentation concerning this mission and ministry opportunity. I would love to come to your church on a Sunday evening or a Wednesday prayer service to share how we can make sure the "Light" remains shining in the land of devastation, Haiti.

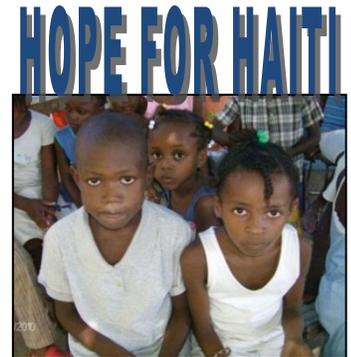
Some churches will take the "Light" on mission opportunities here in the States. There is a growing interest for youth groups, VBS teams, construction teams, and specialty leaders to travel to Iowa. Many different talents can be used by our Lord to simply flip a "switch" in the life of others, and the

discovery of a waiting Christ can change their future. Two of our groups have already made contact with Iowa congregations and planning ways to serve Him. Other opportunities will become available in the near future. If you are interested or need help becoming a "generator" of the "Light" in Iowa, please contact our office.

Christmas is not the only time of the year that the "Light" is to be on display. Its soft, inviting, peaceful glow is to be an appealing attraction emitted by the church of the living God. As our Father has sent the "Light," we are to be a light. God has given us the vision, resources, talent, and the desire to keep the "Light" on. It is up to each of us to "let our light shine."

---Tony Rutherford

**HOPE FOR HAITI:** After the devastating earthquake in January 2010, our associational leadership prayerfully sought God's direction in our work in the nation of Haiti. In the Spring of 2010, our association developed a relationship with a Haitian Baptist Pastor, Gaetan Alcegaire. Pastor Gaetan and his family, along with other Haitian volunteers, serve as caretakers for 32 orphaned children. Since that time, our association has seized the great opportunity to show God's love by caring for these orphaned children. Pastor Gaetan's family owns a home that has been converted into an orphanage for the children. Our association has sent several teams to the nation of Haiti, to work with Pastor Gaetan in providing safe shelter, schooling and stability for these 32 children. Our churches have generously provided items needed for the orphanage and funds to supply food for the children.



Messengers voted at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Sweetwater Baptist Association to enter into a 5-year partnership with Pastor Gaetan, for the dual purpose of purchasing land and constructing a church/school building. Our association will send mission volunteer teams to do construction work on the building project.

After the earthquake, our Missions Committee had set up an associational "Hope for Haiti" Fund. The purpose of this fund was to build a church, school or orphanage in Haiti. We now have the opportunity to help this Haitian Pastor and these 32 children by providing much needed space for these children to have an education as well as provide a place for the community to meet together for worship. The money currently in the "Hope for Haiti" Fund will be used as "start-up" funding to begin the excavation and first stage of construction. Additional funding will be necessary to complete the project. This funding will be provided by donations from our associational churches and individuals. In addition to the building project, our association will still be providing food for the children. This is a separate "Haiti Orphans" Fund. The greatest needs are funding for the building project, funds for the children (food), and mission volunteers to travel to Haiti to participate in the building project. Any church or individual wishing to participate in this great mission work, please contact the associational office.

SWEETWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
**2012 Associational  
 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE**

**Monday, January 23, 2012**

6:45 p.m.

Theme: *Revive Us Again*

Conference Speaker

**Dr. Don Wilton**

Pastor, First Baptist Church  
 Spartanburg, South Carolina



Evening Session will be hosted by

**Notchey Creek Baptist Church**

Madisonville, Tennessee

Special Music by Sweetwater Baptist Associational Choir under the Direction of

**Phillip Johnson** (Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church)

*Associational Music Director*

**CHRISTIAN COUNSELING:** Macy Small is a graduate of Cornerstone University with a Master's Degree in Christian Counseling. She also holds a Bachelor's Degree from Luther Rice Bible College in Biblical Studies. She specializes in Marriage and Family Counseling and seeks to give Godly counsel for troubled marriages, divorce recovery, pre-marital counseling, and those seeking self-worth and identity in Christ. She has also ministered to children and youth for many years and desires to see young people reach the great plans God has for them. She is a member of the Sarasota Academy of Christian Counselors and the National Christian Counselors Association, and she is commissioned through the National Conservative Christian Church. She is a member of Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church in Sweetwater and sees clients in Monroe and Roane County.



One-on-one counseling sessions, as well as classes, may be scheduled with Macy by calling 865-414-3269 or you can contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604. For more information about Abundant Life Christian Counseling Services, please visit [www.abundantlife4me.org](http://www.abundantlife4me.org).



**Personal Statement - - -**

"I have come that they may have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). This is a favorite scripture of mine and also my personal testimony of how God gave me an abundant life. After many years of "religion" and having only a "head" knowledge of Jesus Christ, I finally experienced Jesus in a personal way. During the guilt and pain of a broken relationship, as well as struggling with self-esteem and purpose in life, God revealed Himself to me and

changed my life. God forgave me and restored me and has given me a peace that I never knew before. I have experienced a radical change in my life and I know that Jesus can do the same for others. My desire is to lead adults, youth, and children to an intimate relationship with Jesus and to realize the abundant life God has for them. Too many people are living defeated lives filled with hopelessness, guilt, and shame, and have been deceived by Satan's lies. But knowing the truth will set you free and Jesus is truth!

God has blessed me with this ministry of healing and restoration through Christian counseling and I am humbled and honored to point others to the love, forgiveness, and joy through Christ.



**Sweetwater  
 Baptist  
 Association**      **Womens  
 Missionary  
 Union**

Ladies, I want to remind you of some important dates for the WMU.

Monday evening, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. will be our WMU Quarterly Meeting.

The meeting will be held at Notchey Creek Baptist Church. Anna Leming from 411 Chapel Baptist Church will be providing our program for the evening and will be sharing about her ministry at local nursing homes. Anna is the daughter of Chad and Kelly Leming.

March 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> is the suggested date for the Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The theme for the 2012 Week of Prayer is "Whatever It Takes" based on Mark 2:1-5. May we all be willing to do whatever it takes to share Jesus with our communities.

March 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> is Missions Get Together and Connection in Gatlinburg. Registration is now available online at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org). The cost is \$50.00 per person, if postmarked or registered by March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Late registration fee is \$60.00 per person.

Don't forget if it is your time to provide a birthday cake for the East Tennessee Health Care. January is Ebenezer, February is Rocky Springs, March is New Providence and April is Altoona. (You will also find these dates listed each month on the Associational Calendar of Events.) Thank you to all of the WMU's that participate in this ministry.

Also, let me remind you to be sure and check [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) and [www.tnwmu.org](http://www.tnwmu.org) for helpful information. Check out our face book page Sweetwater Baptist Association WMU. Remember.....missions will put a smile on your face...Audie... Associational WMU Director, Audrey J. Stephens



## EVERY BELIEVER A WITNESS Training Clinic

For Pastors, Staff, Church Leadership, Outreach Leaders

**Tuesday, February 7, 2012**

**First Baptist Church, Sweetwater**

Meal 5:45 p.m. (fellowship hall)

Conference 6:30 p.m.

**Dennis Nunn, Conference Leader**

**\$20.00 material fee, per church**

Please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association Office at 442-6604 or visit our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com) for further information. Reservations required.

- Federal Reporting: Excess Benefit Transactions - DON'T do this! - What to report as income - IRS Forms and Publications - When to use W2 and 1099 - Form 944
- Benefits Programs: Insurance - Retirement - Matching Contributions
- Charitable Contributions: Designated Giving - Is the gift deductible? - Non-cash Gifts - Appraisal Rules - Donation of Vehicles
- Other Financial Issues: Housing Allowance - Expense Reimbursements

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 2012:** Dear fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greetings and excitement from your new VBS Director! I am looking forward to serving all of our association events this year, as I hope that you are as well!



I would like to say an extensive thank-you to Donna McKee for all she has done for me personally, and our Sweetwater Association. She is truly a blessing to so many and I thank God for her dedication and commitment over the years for His glory.

My prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless our efforts as we share Him with others through our VBS missions. Having said that, believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about VBS, 2012. I know what you are going to say, "Katrina, I just got my Christmas tree put away and you want me to start thinking about summer Vacation Bible School!" Absolutely!

By reason, the earlier you start planning the less stressed you will be when the time comes! So, to help you get motivated and off to a good start, we will be having our annual **PREVIEW CLINIC** for pastors and directors on **February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** at the SBA office. I would personally like to meet you there so that together we learn many new things. After all, we have a very exciting and versatile theme this year that I think most everyone can work with. So, write it on your calendar and plan to attend! Please send me an email or contact the SBA Office with your church name and RSVP number on all who plan to attend. Hence, I am personally encouraging each and every one to come join us as we take a sneak peak at Amazing Wonders Aviation! Yours in Christ, *Katrina Umphrey*, Associational VBS Director, [katrinadiann@yahoo.com](mailto:katrinadiann@yahoo.com) 865-250-9620

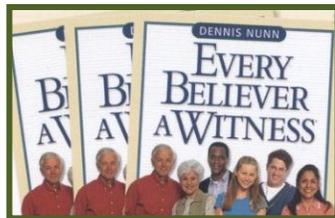
**VBS SAMPLER KITS:** We now have LifeWay's 2012 VBS Sampler Kits, *Amazing Wonders Aviation* (based on Psalm 147:5) available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office. Please call the SBA Office at 442-6604 to reserve a Sampler Kit or please stop by our office at your convenience to pick up a Sampler Kit for your church.



In mid-January, we plan to have all VBS materials, t-shirts, supplies and resources available at the Sweetwater Baptist Association office. We will be happy to help you with your 2012 order for materials and supplies, or even a team of VBS workers. We are praying for our churches and for your Vacation Bible Schools.

### EVERY BELIEVER A WITNESS CLINIC, Tuesday, February 7, 2012:

The Sweetwater Baptist Association is hosting a conference which will aid pastors in training and motivating the Sunday morning attendees in sharing their faith.



The average Sunday morning worshiper often fails to recognize the opportunity God brings their way in making Him known to others. Dennis Nunn has captured the vision of how to encourage our people to take advantage of every day experiences to share the love of God. The SBA has invited Dennis to lead a conference for our churches at the First Baptist Church, Sweetwater. In order to get the maximum from this conference, the material Dennis uses can be ordered in advance and gives the pastor a chance to review it before the conference. Therefore, we need to know an estimate on the number attending in advance. The cost of the material is \$20.00. A few copies of the material will be there for some who register at the door. Please contact the associational office to make your reservations today. The early contact will also help in providing a meal which will be provided at 5:45 in the fellowship hall. Hopefully, this will give our bivocational pastors an extra opportunity to attend.

Tennessee Baptist Convention presents

### Financial Issues Facing Churches and Ministers

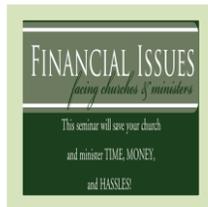
Seminar for any person interested in church finance. No registration required.

**February 21, 2012**

**6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Hosted by: **Watson Chapel Baptist Church**

Those encouraged to attend are treasurers, administrative church employees, finance or personnel committees, ministers, church staff, church secretaries, or interested lay leaders. For further information, please contact the Sweetwater Baptist Association at 442-6604 or visit our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)



### TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Updated Reporting Requirements: Due to Healthcare Reform

Sweetwater Baptist Association  
**High School Scholarship Applications must be completed and returned to SBA Office by March 1<sup>st</sup>**



2012 Applications for SBA high school scholarships have been mailed to pastors and youth leaders. Applications are also available through the month of February on our website at [www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com](http://www.sweetwaterbaptistassociation.com)

**YOUTH NEWS:** Please pray for the Associational Youth Committee as we prayerfully seek the Lord's will in putting together the programs and events that are being planned for the youth of our churches for 2012. Please mark the following dates on your calendar, and make plans now for you and your youth to attend these events.



**March 16-17, 7:00 p.m. Area Wide Youth Crusade**

Hosted by: Notchey Creek Baptist Church, Madisonville  
 Guest Speaker: Brody Holloway, with music by Snowbird Praise Band

**July 20-21 Youth Reach, 2012**  
 Smoky Mountain Convention Center, Pigeon Forge

We have been blessed to see many of our young people saved at our youth events over the years. We draw strength by worshipping together and working together. We invite you to please come be part of our worship time together. Clayton Taylor, *Associational Youth Committee Chairman*

**SBA Church Gifts through December 30, 2011**

Church	Total
411 Chapel	0.00
Altoona	1,000.00
Antioch	75.00
Beaty's Chapel	0.00
Bethlehem	2,131.00
Big Creek	500.00
Calvary	194.99
Cane Creek	330.00
Cedar Fork	646.64
Cedar Valley	604.79
Chestua	300.00
Christianburg	331.56
Citico	327.13
Clifton	75.00
Community	424.50
Compromise	150.00
Druid Hills	0.00
Ebenezer	312.00
Fairview	0.00
Fairview Tabernacle	2,546.57
Glenlock	400.00
Gregory's Chapel	0.00
Hilltop	0.00
Hopewell Springs	1,743.00
Howards Chapel	0.00
Island Creek	600.00
Lakeside	0.00
Long Ridge	0.00
Lower Chilhowee	400.00
Macedonia	0.00
Madisonville, First	999.99
Maple Springs	500.00
Miller's Chapel	300.00
Mt. Calvary	464.78
Mt. Isabella	100.00
Mt. Pleasant	400.00
Mt. Zion	1,321.97
Murray's	2,627.00
New Bethany	896.72
New Macedonia	420.00
New Providence	1,567.00
North Sweetwater	738.04
Notchey Creek	1,097.22
Oakland	200.00
Oak Grove	658.45
Old Sweetwater	0.00
Paint Rock	330.00
Piney Grove	0.00
Poplar Bluff	479.43
Reed Springs	939.06
Rocky Springs	1,444.00
Rural Vale	518.21
Shady Grove	0.00
Shelton Grove	0.00
Shoal Creek	444.00
South Madisonville	300.00
Sweetwater, First	1,050.00
Tellico	0.00
Tellico Plains, First	1,509.00
Tevis Springs	196.20
Towee Falls	300.00
Trinity	0.00
Unicoi	208.29
Union Hall	45.66
Unity	0.00
Upper Shady Grove	150.00
Vonore	2,308.99
Walnut Grove	561.18
Watson Chapel	1,250.00
Westside	0.00
Williamsburg	152.00
TBC/Miscellaneous	2,499.99
Total Income	\$40,069.36

This is the SBA Church Gifts received through December 30, 2011.



**Youth Evangelism Conference, Nashville**  
**March 9-10, 2012**

Clayton King, Evangelist      Sean McDowell, Evangelist  
 Starfield, Worship Band      The Skit Guys      Jon Tyner, Worship Leader  
 Online registration is available at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)



**Bible Fun Field Day (grades 1-6) March 24, 2012**

Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Newport  
 Online registration is available at [www.tnchildhood.org](http://www.tnchildhood.org)

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST**

**CHURCH:** We are attempting to organize a summer mission project for male college students. Missionaries Kevin and Florinda Jones are needing volunteers to come to Whittier, Alaska to minister to international cannery workers. The workers come in every summer to work in the local cannery in Whittier. The mission volunteers would participate in outreach, support, and all kinds of different activities. Volunteers must be mature Christians and willing to work hard. If enough volunteers are interested in this project, we will continue with further planning. More details will be provided at a later date. Any young men who might be interested in spending their summer in Whittier please contact Jarrod Johnson, the Youth Pastor at Bethlehem Baptist Church at [pastorjarrod55@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjarrod55@gmail.com).



**CEDAR VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH:**

Reflecting back on the past year, we are so very thankful for being blessed beyond measure. In the past few months, we have seen 5 precious souls baptized and 4 others join our congregation.



Our Acteens have been really busy, attending Acteens Day, Girls of Grace conference and participating in "Bags of Hope" at KARM. They are also continuing to serve meals to the homeless each month at KARM. Our WMU ministered to the CWJC by making Christmas bags and also enjoyed a night of singing Christmas carols to the convalescent homes. The youth attended "Hearts on Fire" and one came to know Jesus as their personal Savior on that trip. The RA's had a great time racing in their Pinewood Derby and money was collected for world hunger by the GA's.

Our hearts were blessed by the Children's Christmas Program. They did a wonderful job. If you don't think Senior Saints can still enjoy life, you should have seen them at their Christmas Party. Great fellowship and meal was enjoyed by all.

Thanks to our good Pastor Larry for leading us and feeding us the Word. We feel so blessed to have Brother Larry and Lana to lead us in God's work! Please pray for our church this new year as we try to minister and lead people to Christ.

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST TABERNACLE CHURCH:**

On January 8, 2012, Chris Hollinghead began serving as the new Youth Pastor of Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church. Chris, his wife Tina and their three children come to us from New Providence Baptist Church in Tellico Plains. Please join us as we welcome Chris and his family to our church.



*A message from our new Youth Pastor: After 8 years of having been blessed to be the Youth Pastor at New Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Tellico Plains, God has called me and my family to the Fairview Baptist Tabernacle Church family in Sweetwater. We are so sad to say goodbye to the sweet people of New Providence, but very excited for what God has in store for us with the Fairview Student Ministry (FSM). I ask your prayers for myself, my family and for the students of New Providence and Fairview Tabernacle.*

**MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH:**

Each Sunday in December was extra special at Mt. Zion. On the 4<sup>th</sup> a "widows banquet" was given by our WMU for the most special ladies of our Church....rumor is a certain older man dressed in a red suit showed up to visit with them. On Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> our children and youth presented the play "Candy Cane Lane" and on the 18<sup>th</sup> the adult program "Wings of Christmas" was done. (A special "Thank You" for all the time each person involved gave to make these plays possible). And who can forget the MOST special Sunday – December 25, when we were gathered at his house to celebrate the Savior's birth!



Our WMU – well, they did it again! In the last newsletter, we shared about their successful "peanut butter drive", this time it was a "gift drive". During December they involved the Church in purchasing Christmas gifts to donate to children served by the Good Shepherd Center. On December 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> a total of 196 gifts were given out by the ladies and Acteens at the Good Shepherd Center. These ladies continue to do fantastic work and have issued another "goal challenge" to us for the month of January. **Goal:** To have a total of 400 cans of food brought in for our food pantry. God bless each of you with a very Happy New Year! --Sheila Miller



**ROCKY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH:**

We are offering a Valentines Dinner to benefit our mission trip to Brazil. The Dinner will be held at the church on Friday evening, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Menu includes your choice of Roast Beef or Chicken Alfredo, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Roll and Dessert. To-go orders will also be available. Cost is \$20 per couple, \$15 per single, \$8 per child. Free childcare will be provided. To make reservations, call 865-389-6540.

**LAKESIDE SINGING**

February 24, 2012, 7:30 p.m.  
February 25, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
Hiwassee College, Butcher Auditorium

Advance Tickets: \$10.00  
\$12.00 at the Door  
Ages 11 & Under Free  
Tickets available at  
Heaven Bound Bookstore  
For more information,  
call 423-420-9408  
[www.lakesidegospel.com](http://www.lakesidegospel.com)

**LakeSide 4th ANNUAL SINGING**  
Butcher Auditorium • 225 Hiwassee College Drive • Madisonville, TN  
February 24th, 2012 @ 7:30 PM  
Regional Artists: Paul Family, Journey Home & Rocky Flats  
February 25th, 2012 @ 7:00 PM  
Regional Artists: Singing Hammys and Watson Bros. Trio  
The Gibsons, The Roarers, The Singing Cooks  
Regional Artists will begin one hour from concert start time, each night.

**SHOAL CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH:**

I can't believe 2012 is already here. God has done many great things at Shoal Creek in 2011. We have had 36 baptisms, 37 join the church and 62 professions of faith. God also blessed our Christmas program, where we saw 16 professions of faith. Several people have been saved through our jail ministry.



We have been discussing a building expansion project and plan to begin that process over the next few months. We are very excited about this expansion and ask that you help us pray for God's guidance in this project.

God had given us a great start to 2012. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, we saw 6 people join the church, 2 by baptism that day. We praise God for all He has done thus far. Our goal for 2012 is "Let your resolution be God's solution". We hope everyone has a great year and God bless you all. *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.* 2 Corinthians 5:17. --Jessica Hill

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SWEETWATER:**

On November 28th, a group of 28 volunteers left from Sweetwater to go to the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Atlanta. It was a long day, but very productive and gave us all an opportunity to participate in something



DEFINITELY larger than ourselves! There was a job for everyone--from handling the heavy boxes to stuffing candy



in little bags. The processing center was very organized and the day we were there, over 40,000 boxes were sent out. Their goal was to send out over 8 MILLION boxes to places all over the world. What a great way to share Jesus' love!

We want to wish each of you a Happy New Year and may we all serve our Lord in a way that pleases Him in 2012. --Cindy Lemmonds

**2011 PASTOR AND WIFE CHRISTMAS BANQUET:**

Thank you to all who attended our 2011 Pastor and Wife Christmas Banquet. This is always a special time for our pastors, seminary extension students, associational officers, retired pastors and their spouses to gather for a time of food and fellowship.



We all had a great time as guest speaker Dr. Hugh McCampbell shared heart-warming stories and songs.



Thank you, Brother Johnny, Patty and Emily Carr for blessing us with the special music of the Christmas season. Each year we also look forward to Brother Johnny leading us in the Christmas singing, and the Christmas story being shared from the Scriptures. We also want to thank Pastor Dennis Cagle and Vonroe Baptist Church for allowing us to use their wonderful family life center again this year for this event.

Tennessee Baptist Convention  
**Bivocational Pastors and Wives Retreat**  
 February 2-4, 2012, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Cost \$175.00 per couple which includes your hotel, meals and breaks. Registration and schedule is available online at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org).

**HOSPICE TRAINING DATES**  
 Sunday, January 22, 2012  
 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
 and  
 Sunday, February 19, 2012  
 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
 Location: New Providence Baptist Church, Tellico Plains  
 For more information, contact, Martha Hammond,  
 Volunteer Coordinator with Amedisys Hospice at  
[martha.hammond@amedisys.com](mailto:martha.hammond@amedisys.com)

**February, 2012** "I will not leave you comfortless,  
I will come to you." --John 14:18

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 TBC Bivocational Pastor/Wife Banquet Music Road Hotel, Pigeon Forge, Feb 2-4	3	4
5	6 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. WMU Quarterly Meeting, Notchey Creek 7:00 p.m.	7 <i>Every Believer A Witness</i> Training Clinic, Sweetwater First, 5:45 p.m. Reservations Required	8	9	10	11
12	13 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Youth Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m.	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 <b>Pastor Conf.</b> 10:00 a.m. No School - MCBE President's Day	21 TBC Regional Financial Seminar, Watson Chapel, 6:30 p.m.	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 YBS Preview Clinic for Pastors/Directors, SBA Office 7:00 p.m.	29			East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake <b>February:</b> Rocky Springs

**Pray for April Simultaneous Revivals**

**March, 2012** "Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil  
with good." --Romans 12:21

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	SBA High School Scholarship Applications due March 1			1	2	3
4 East TN Healthcare WMU Birthday Cake: <b>March</b> New Providence	5 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Youth Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	6	7	8	9 No School MCBE Youth Evangelism Conference, Nashville	10 Youth Evangelism Conference, Nashville Municipal Auditorium
11	12 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. No School-MCBE	13	14	15	16 Area Wide Youth Crusade, Notchey Creek Baptist Church, 7:00 p.m.	17 Area Wide Youth Crusade, Notchey Creek Baptist Church, 7:00 p.m. Brody Holloway/Snowbird
18 YBS Clinic Choir Practice, 2-4:00 p.m.	19 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m. Scholarship Committee Meeting, 4:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	20 Spring Begins	21	22	23 WMU Missions Get-together and Connection, Gatlinburg Convention Center, March 23-25	24 WMU Missions Get-together and Connection, Gatlinburg Convention Center, March 23-25
25 YBS Clinic Choir Practice, 2-4:00 p.m.	26 Pastor Conf. 10:00 a.m.	27 YBS Clinic Yonore Baptist Church Open House, 6:00 p.m. Conference, 7:00 p.m.	28	29	30	

**Information for the next newsletter must be  
received by March 10, 2012.**

**Sweetwater Baptist Association**  
696 Anderson Street  
Madisonville, TN 37354

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**ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICERS**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>MODERATOR</b><br>Mike Williams                              | <b>VICE MODERATOR</b><br>Mike DeLand                  | Mission Committee<br>Steven McDonald, Chairman       |
| Pastor Advisor<br>Frank Hicks                                  | Church Growth & Leadership Director<br>Frank Crawford | Marriage and Family Director                         |
| Disaster Relief Co-Directors<br>Tony Curtis & Bill Westphal    | Historian Co-Directors<br>Kay James & Angie Johnson   | Media Ministry Director<br>Betty Wolfe               |
| Men's Ministry Co-Directors<br>Clint Brackett & Randall Patton | Music Director<br>Phillip Johnson                     | Prayer Ministry Director<br>Svitlana Self            |
| RA Director<br>Phil Roy  | WMU Director<br>Audrey Stephens                       | Vacation Bible School Director<br>Katrina Umphrey    |
| Preschool/Mission Friends Director<br>Savonna Chambers         | Girls/GA Director<br>Michelle Spradlin                | Acteens Director<br>Connie Gardner                   |
| Annuity Committee<br>Director of Missions                      | Bivocational Pastors Council<br>Jim Manis, Chairman   | Christian Life Committee<br>Darrell Cardin, Chairman |
| Committee on Nominations<br>Chris Farmer, Chairman             | Constitution Committee<br>Vance Bivens, Chairman      | Evangelism Committee<br>Dwayne Leming, Chairman      |
| Finance Committee<br>Bill Johnson, Chairman                    | Personnel Committee<br>Jim Stakely, Chairman          | Program Committee<br>Mitch Isbill, Chairman          |
| Scholarship Committee<br>Rhonda Sarshuri, Chairperson          | Trustees<br>Joe Saffles, Chairman                     | Youth Council<br>Clayton Taylor, Chairman            |

**NEWS FROM AROUND THE ASSOCIATION**

**Welcome New Pastors:**

Gregory Chapel Allen Tyler (Info/Photo will appear in next newsletter)  
Shelton Grove Tim Watson

**Director of Mission Visits:**

Clifton, Rural Vale, Beaty's Chapel, Calvary, Upper Shady Grove,  
Lower Chilhowee, Paint Rock, Mt. Isabella, Macedonia, Miller's Chapel,  
Hilltop, New Bethany, Howard's Chapel, South Madisonville, Oakland,  
Fairview Tabernacle, Watson's Chapel, 411 Chapel, Bethlehem, Sweetwater First

**Please pray for our churches without pastors:**

Fairview, Glenlock, Hilltop, Oak Grove

