

# THE MESSENGER

HOLSTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## THE LONG HAUL

During our recent move I was reminded once again of the difference between stuff we accumulate and things of value. Over the past two weeks we've filled more garbage bags than anyone dared to count. We've sifted through pieces and parts and wondered whether any of them were worth keeping. This laborious process reminds me of the plight of the local church. Even if your church never relocates, it is faced from time to time with the need to sort things and dispose of some of them. Have you ever noticed how many things go to your church's attic, storage room, etc. only to die a slow death and get discarded years later? And yet, there's a more important sorting to be done.

An accumulation of material junk is usually just irritating and illogical. The accumulation of resource wasting programs and projects can be deadly, because sinners die without Jesus every day. So, what is your church doing with its time, energy, and money? Consider the following questions for your church:

**What is our mission? (Why are we here?)**

**What is our vision for fulfilling that mission? (Where are we called to fulfill the mission?)**

**What are we committing our ministry time to? (Check your church calendar.)**

**What leaders are we recruiting? (Look at your Nominating Committee sheet.)**

**How are we spending God's money? (Analyze your budget.)**

Do the answers to the questions above point in the same direction? Often a church knows its mission and has at least some degree of vision, but has a calendar, Nominating Committee list, and/or budget that contradicts them. If so, it's time to sort and purge. If you are committed to making disciples in the area where God has planted you, then make sure you are using your time and money for that purpose. Choose leaders to advance the vision instead of merely filling fifty-year-old slots on a piece of paper.

Will this process be easy? Not at all. Some long-held programs and "good causes" will end up in the ministry dumpster. Ten pet projects may give way to three intentional ministries. The strength to complete this thorny process lies in the conviction that your church exists to make fruit-bearing disciples of Jesus Christ. Stuff ends up in the storage room permanently because it serves no purpose for the long haul. In a similar way, certain church programs and activities produce no fruit because they don't match your unchanging mission. Do you have the courage and conviction to clean out the ministry storage room?

Our HBA Church Planting & Revitalization Team is developing a tool to lead you through this process. Please let us know if we can help you sort through the priorities of your local church ministry.

With hands to the plow,

Troy

## ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE PICK UP DATES:

Monday - Friday, August 22 - 27 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

207 University Parkway, Johnson City

**ACP DUE DATE: MONDAY, OCTOBER 3**



[pray4studentstn.com](http://pray4studentstn.com)

It's not too late to commit to pray for your local school(s) on August 6 and 7!

Visit [pray4studentstn.com](http://pray4studentstn.com) for resources and contact Haley Wherry (423-676-3585) to schedule your prayer gathering.

## Men's Conference



### Christian Norman

Former MSU Linebacker

Where: Cherry Grove Baptist Church

104 Cherry Grove Rd. Jonesborough, TN 37659

When: July 30

Time: 6pm – BBQ Meal

7pm – Service

## \* HBA CALENDAR \*

### AUGUST - \*Christmas in August

- 4 Appalachian Fair Training - HBA Office
- 6 Church Safety Training - Trinity Baptist
- 6-7 Weekend of Prayer Over Students
- 21 Baptist & Reflector Day
- 22-27 Appalachian Fair Ministry
- 25 Messenger Content Deadline
- 30 TBMB / HBA Small Group Leader Training

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 Labor Day - HBA Office Closed
- 12 Seminary Extension Begins
- 18 East TN Evangelism Rally - Carson Newman
- 26 Messenger Content Deadline

### OCTOBER

- 3 ACP Supplemental Form Due
- 20 Fall Meeting - FBC Baileyton
- 24 Messenger Content Deadline



*Looking for something outside the routine for your annual church and child safety training? Don't miss this special free event!*

**Saturday, August 6  
9AM to Noon**

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, August 3**

**Trinity Baptist Worship Center  
260 Headtown Road, Jonesborough**

*All HBA Church leadership and volunteers are encouraged to attend.*

### Topics will include:

1. Recognizing signs of sexual abuse
2. Being safe online & discussing sexual abuse with your children
3. What Can Your Church Do? (Q&A to follow)

**~Led by ETSU Professor Dr. Chris Rush~**

Dr. Chris Rush is an Associate Professor in the Criminal Justice & Criminology Department at East Tennessee State University. She has published books, chapters, and articles in peer-reviewed journals regarding sex crimes and investigations. She has worked with several federal, state, and local agencies concerning various criminal justice matters such as program evaluation, forensic training, and investigative policies and regulations. She recently published a book entitled Sexual Abuse in the Church: Assessment, Intervention, and Prevention.

**\*Free event, but registration required\***

Register with link:

[Church Safety Seminar - Register Below \(ages 12 and up\) Deadline to Register is Wed., Aug. 3 | Trinity Baptist Church \(trinity3e.org\)](http://trinity3e.org)

or with QR code below:



**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER / SMALL GROUP LEADER  
TRAINING CONFERENCE**

**Tuesday, August 30**

**Towering Oaks Baptist Church  
1985 Buckingham Road, Greeneville**

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, August 24**

**Tennessee Baptist Mission Board Team led by  
Discipleship Specialist Mark Miller will provide age-graded teaching  
helps. A variety of other topics will be addressed:**

**Small Group formation focused on Sunday and Wednesday nights**

**Reaching families post-Covid with both in-house  
and off campus Bible Study groups**

**Beginning small groups for students and parents**

**Engaging those who attend only Sunday Worship to join a small  
group/Sunday School class**

**SCHEDULE:**

**6:00pm - Supper will be provided for conference attendees**

**6:30 - Welcome, worship, and challenge**

**6:50 - TBMB introductions and send off to breakouts**

**7:00 - Breakouts**

**8:30 - Dismissal**

**All HBA church staff and leadership are invited!  
We look forward to seeing you on August 30!**

**For more information, contact**

**Mark Ellison**

**Associate Pastor of Family Ministries at Towering Oaks Baptist Church**

**Phone: 423.638.7464**

**Mobile: 931.206.0948**

**Web: [www.toweringoaks.org](http://www.toweringoaks.org)**

**Email: [mellison@toweringoaks.org](mailto:mellison@toweringoaks.org)**

**Please contact the HBA Office to register your group.**

**(423) 929-1196**

# APPALACHIAN FAIR CARNIVAL WORKERS MINISTRY

**Donations Needed by August 10**

The Appalachian Fair Carnival Workers Ministry provides three meals a day, a clothes closet, free haircuts, etc. to the carnival workers. With your help, this is an opportunity to both show and tell about the love of God. Donations of the following items are appreciated:

Coffee (Any Brand)  
Any Pre-Sweetened Cereal  
Honey Buns  
Peanut Butter  
Grape Jelly  
Pre-sweetened Kool Aid in Canisters  
Little Debbie Cakes  
Snack Size Assorted Chips  
Bottled Water  
Styrofoam Bowls  
Plates  
16 ounce Cups  
Plastic Utensils (Forks & Spoons)  
Toiletry Items  
Towels & Wash Cloths  
Sheets, Blankets, Pillows  
Jeans  
Shorts  
T-shirts  
Socks  
Tennis Shoes  
Work Boots  
Underwear  
Hats  
Ponchos  
Black pants or shorts for work

Please call us if you or someone in your church...

- Would be interested in doing a cookout
- Would like to work in clothes closet and talk with the carnival workers
- Knows of a restaurant that would like to donate a breakfast or lunch
- Have tables we could use during the two-week ministry.

If you would like for someone to come and share with your church what we do during this two-week ministry, we would love to share what God is doing with your help.

Please begin praying as we prepare for this very important time! Contact Randy Scalf at (423) 431-8283 or Kay Scalf at (423) 341-6239 for more information.

Thank you for helping us be the hands and feet of Our Sweet Jesus !

# JOHNSON CITY BAPTIST CENTER

**Christmas in August**

This mission opportunity benefits the Johnson City Baptist Center, as you provide school supplies and hygiene items for the children we minister to in our community. At the beginning of the school year, and all year long, your gifts help meet needs.

We would like to be able to give children personal hygiene packets, along with their school supplies, when school begins this year. Also, listed hygiene items are given at our clothes closet each month.

This lists our needs at the current time:

•colored markers •wide-ruled spiral notebooks •bound composition books  
•shampoo •deodorant •bars of soap  
•toothbrushes •toothpaste •hairbrushes  
•combs •facial tissue •toilet paper.

Thank you for being involved in these mission opportunities, as we strive to share the love of Jesus by meeting physical needs.

Psalm 103:8 (NIV) "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love."

Anna Huggins  
Director of Ministries JC Baptist Center

**Please Pray for Our  
Churches Without Pastors**

Bethany  
FBC Fall Branch  
Friendship Chapel  
Loveland  
Oakdale  
River Bend

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Recently the HBA office was contacted by a year-round Media Relations Volunteer with the Tri-Cities Area Team for Operation Christmas Child requesting that we share information about the 2022 Project Leader Workshop (details below). She also provided videos of HBA Pastor Greg Burton who participated in a shoebox distribution event with Samaritan's Purse a few years ago and shared his testimony about the ministry. We invite you to take a look at what Pastor Greg has to say about his experience with Operation Christmas Child.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGXzL7nf1SY&t=241s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNYKsT26O7c&t=78s>

We hope you will give consideration to becoming involved in the Operation Christmas Child ministry. Join us for the Leader Workshop on Saturday, September 10.

## August Senior Pastor Birthdays

- 1 Saul Delgado
- 2 Lester Morelock
- 6 Claude Babb
- 11 Koby Strawser
- 12 Nathan Reynolds
- 13 Jason Royston
- 16 Greg Salyer
- 19 Tommy Clark
- 22 Dwight Hobbs
- 24 David Smith
- 24 Reggie Weems
- 24 Mike Taylor

*Happy Birthday, Pastors!*



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

**2022 PROJECT LEADER WORKSHOP & KICKOFF EVENT**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10  
9-11:30 A.M.**

**GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH  
1 FELLOWSHIP POINT  
KINGSPORT 37660**

Workshop Opportunities . . .

Enjoy meeting others who are passionate about spreading the Gospel through Operation Christmas Child!

Share ideas, be inspired, and learn about new resources that will help you reach your goals as you lead Operation Christmas Child for your church or group.

*"Declare His glory among the nations."  
Psalm 96:3*

Hosted by the Tri-Cities Area Team, this event will offer a deeper understanding of Operation Christmas Child and equip Project Leaders with resources, key messages, project updates, and strong local relationships.

Questions?  
Call 870-384-4021 for additional information.



### TBMB EAST TENNESSEE WORSHIP SUMMIT

Saturday, August 13  
9 am-2:30 pm

First Baptist Church, Dandridge  
951 TN-92, Dandridge, TN

Cost: \$40 each  
or \$30 for 10 or more group rate,

Lunch included

Breakout sessions for:  
Worship Leaders, Worship Bands & Teams, Keyboard Ministry, Children's Choir Leaders/Helpers, Audio-Visual Ministry, Creativity in Worship

For more details visit:  
[www.worshipsummits.com](http://www.worshipsummits.com)

## **\*CHURCH STAFF NEEDS\***

### **PART-TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR**

**Beulah Baptist Church, Kingsport**

Please send resumes to: [beulahbaptistkingsport@gmail.com](mailto:beulahbaptistkingsport@gmail.com)

### **FULL TIME PASTOR**

**Fall Branch First Baptist, Fall Branch**

Prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor who possesses the biblical qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3. We are searching for a godly man dedicated to evangelism, teaching God's word, and ministering to the needs of the church family and community. We fully adhere and support Southern Baptist principles as well as the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. If the Holy Spirit leads and you meet these qualifications, please e-mail resume to [office@fbfbc.org](mailto:office@fbfbc.org) with "Attention to Pastor Search" in the subject line. Video links of sermons are also appreciated. Resumes can also be mailed to FBFBC, PO Box 82, Fall Branch, TN 37656, ATTN: Pastor Search Committee.

### **PART-TIME YOUTH PASTOR OR YOUTH DIRECTOR**

**Clark Street, Johnson City**

Contact Pastor Willie Lunsford at 423-342-7007.  
Email resume to [clarkstreetbc@gmail.com](mailto:clarkstreetbc@gmail.com)

### **PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTER**

**Harmony Baptist, Jonesborough**

Salary negotiable based upon experience and time devoted to fulfillment of job description. Full job description available upon request. If you are or know of a Godly man with a love for youth and their spiritual growth, please send a resumé to: Pastor Steve Pate, 1177 Harmony Rd., Jonesborough, TN 37659.

### **PART-TIME YOUTH DIRECTOR & PART-TIME CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR**

**Ninth Street Baptist, Erwin**

For full job description or to submit a resume contact [nsbchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:nsbchoffice@gmail.com).

### **PART-TIME PAID WORSHIP MINISTER**

**Oak Hill Baptist, Jonesborough**

Sing, lead choir, and lead musicians.  
Contact Toby Brown at (423) 348-5176

### **FULL TIME CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR**

**Heritage Baptist, Johnson City**

Full job description available upon request. Please send resume / experience, and references to Debbie at [Debbie.hamm@hbcjc.org](mailto:Debbie.hamm@hbcjc.org).

### **FULL TIME CHILDREN'S MINISTER**

**Cherry Grove Baptist, Jonesborough**

For more information, visit our web site: <https://www.cherrygrovetn.org>.