

The Messenger

Holston Baptist Association

Vol. LXXII

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NO. 4

FROM THE DESK OF THE AMS

Three Ways We Need Your Help *by Dr. Troy Rust*

HBA Summer Internship

Could your church use a little help this summer? We will have four interns serving our association during the months of June and July. The purpose of this internship is twofold:

1. To provide valuable experience to students answering the call to ministry, and
2. To help our HBA churches.

They would be glad to help with VBS, outreach, worship leadership, preaching, mission trips, and more. While some of their weeks are already scheduled, they still have several dates available. Interns are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so call today to find out more!

We are exciting about what God is going to do in each of these ministry areas. If you think serving the Lord is dull, open your eyes, open your hands, and open hearts to what the Lord has in store for you!

With hands to the plow,

Dr. Troy Rust

HBA Associational
Mission Strategist

Wisconsin Vision Trip

At our Spring Meeting last Thursday, we renewed our Mission Partnership Agreement with Bay Lakes Baptist Association through April 24, 2028.

We are planning a vision trip later this summer for pastors and lay leaders who have never seen the missional needs in Northeast Wisconsin. While we have not set exact dates, the 3-4-day trip will include opportunities to meet local pastors and join them for Sunday worship. HBA will cover 50% of the airfare and keep all other costs to a minimum.

Please let us know if you would like to be a part of this trip.

Johnson City Baptist Center

In anticipation of the upcoming summer ministry, we are preparing for an outdoor pavilion. We are hoping to pour concrete in the month of May, so that a mission team can construct the pavilion in late June. Can you help with one of the following?

- Clearing and leveling a 20x24 site for pad.
- Setting up concrete forms
- Helping pour concrete

If you would like to help with any of these steps, please contact our office at your earliest convenience.

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BREAKING NEWS:

Arrowhead Church, Greeneville, joins the Holston Baptist Association

from Matthew Powell

The HBA Spring Meeting 2025 took place last Thursday (4/24/25) at Arrowhead Church in Greeneville, the meeting place of the newest church in the Association. During the meeting, a motion

was made by David Crutchfield (Calvary, Erwin), representing the Association's Credentials Committee, to welcome Arrowhead Church in Greeneville, TN, as the newest cooperating church in the

Association. The motion was voted on and affirmed unanimously by all Holston Baptist Churches represented. In response, an article from Lee Brown, Sr. Pastor at Arrowhead, is featured below.

FEATURED ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

Cooperating with the HBA

by Lee Brown

Cooperation is a staple in Southern Baptist life. From day one of the Southern Baptist Convention, cooperation is what brought us together. However, cooperation goes against our fleshly nature. Apart from Christ and a redeemed nature, we as individuals would prefer to do life the way we want and not have to worry about anyone else. As children, we are taught to cooperate with other kids. We were given projects to work on, and we had to work together; we had to cooperate to get the project done. This extended into college when we were assigned the dreaded "group projects". I have to be honest, I never really liked group projects. There were always those who did nothing and expected to ride the coattails of the ones who actually cared about doing the project well and their grade. When given those assignments, I always just preferred to do it all myself so I knew it was done right and on time.

But I couldn't. I had to rely on others to do their part. This is the essence of cooperation. We have to rely on each other to do what we have been assigned to do.

Jesus expects cooperation among the body of Christ. We are all in different places and different churches, and different communities but yet we are called to the same project. What is that project, you may ask? Well, Matthew records it like this, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt 28:19-20). Mark says it like this, "And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.'" (Mark 16:15). Our project (our commission) is to make disciples! This is a grand project.

There are currently (at the time of writing this article) 8,114,961,580, and counting, people in the world. Of those 8 billion, 3.6 billion are considered unreached with the gospel. That is a lot of people! So, cooperation is the only way this goal of global evangelization will be realized.

It's for this reason that Arrowhead Church Greeneville is proud to partner/cooperate with Holston Baptist Association and its churches in the ministry of reaching East Tennessee and the world with the gospel. The more we cooperate and bring our strengths to the table, the better we will be in fulfilling the goal set out for us by Jesus. We all have to do our part. Arrowhead Greeneville is not going to reach the same people your church is going to reach, and vice versa. This is the joy of being in an area that has multiple good Bible teaching, Jesus-loving churches.

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Cooperating with the HBA (Cont.)

There are many churches to do the work, so let's cooperate to reach the lost in our community, our region, and our world.

Just as the Church of Antioch sent financial aid to the church in Jerusalem (Acts 11:27-20), so too we should seek to help churches in our association and partnering associations to accomplish the Great Commission among those the Lord has led them to shepherd. This help is not always financial, but we should be cooperating by encouraging each other, praying for each other, supporting each other's efforts even when they are different

than our own. The cooperation of the body of Christ should be a testimony of unity and grace to the watching world. Let us be an association that seeks to proclaim the gospel through the way we seek to build up the body of Christ through our cooperation in gospel advancement and the loving and serving of each other. Jesus said, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples by the way you love one another." (John 13:34-35) Jesus is not speaking to the general crowd here, but to these disciples. How will the world know that we are Followers of Jesus? By the way, we love each other.

As I conclude this article, I want to open myself and Arrowhead Church Greeneville to each of you and your churches. If we can ever do anything for you or with you for the edification of the body of Christ or the advancement of the gospel, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We want to cooperate with any church that seeks to carry out our Lord's great commission!

Lee Brown

Lead Pastor

Arrowhead Church, Greeneville
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MINISTRY UPDATE

Johnson City Baptist Center

"To Know Him and To Make Him Known", this has been a phrase used often when speaking of sharing the Gospel. In the Bible, we read of Jesus praying before his death that the Father would be glorified in it, "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John 17:3 NIV).

After just celebrating Easter, it has been a reminder of what our Saviour has done for us, and what we are to do. In accepting Jesus's gift of salvation through his death and resurrection, we are not to keep it to ourselves. He commanded us, before his return to the Father, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you;

and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8 NIV).

Being Jesus's witnesses is what we are about at the Johnson City Baptist Center. In a world that is in need of a Saviour, how can we not share who Jesus is? This year we have continued to be a consistent presence in the neighborhood of Hopson Street and the Tyler Apartments. Each week the love of Jesus is shared through Bible studies and outreach ministries. The children and youth have been growing in their understanding of who God is. There is an average attendance of twelve children, and four youth each week. Several new children

from Anna Huggins

have moved into the apartments and are now joining our Bible studies. We pray that each one will come to know Jesus as Saviour.

Recently, I had the mother of one of our youth to share a testimony with me. She thanked me for the presence of the Baptist Center, and the work that we do. But, more importantly, she shared that since her son had been baptized last year, she and the whole family have been attending church. Sometimes we do not know how God is working, but I am thankful to hear that he moves in ways we cannot imagine.

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Johnson City Baptist Center Ministry Update (Cont.)

"Even though we are diligent to share the Word in spirit and in truth, there are struggles. Many children come from broken homes, or homes where the economic struggle is great. Satan, too, is always at work to distract and pull away those who are growing closer to the Lord. Please pray with us that the Holy Spirit would bring the desire in the families for them to follow God.

In a short time we will be starting our summer mission emphasis. Many of you are already committed to join us in

teaching VBS/Backyard Bible Clubs.

We do have a couple of spots in July that are yet to be filled. Please pray about helping us one of those times, and contact me.

Also, we do have a project to work on during the month of May. We are planning to pour a concrete pad, for our picnic tables, then later to add a covering. If you have a skill in framing, or prepping space for concrete, we could use your help. Please contact me about this soon.

As always, we thank you for the ways you support us at the Johnson City Baptist Center. And, thank you for our tireless volunteers and teachers that love and help our folks. We cannot do this without all of you. Continue praying and serving as we strive "To Know Him and To Make Him Known"

Anna Huggins

Ministry Director

Johnson City Baptist Center

WMU[®] God's mission.
Our passion.

Associational WMU Meeting

The meeting will take place Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 10:00 AM. We will meet downstairs at the HBA Office.

Please join us for this opportunity, as we learn about the many ways we can work together to reach the lost and support missions.

MAY
birthdays

May 24 -- Tony French



Are we missing your pastor's birthday? Contact the HBA Office and let us know!



Trail Ministry Spring Schedule

Trail Worship Service & Meal

- Sunday, May 4, 2025
- 11:00 a.m.-12:00p.m.
- At Chestoa Picnic Area (subject to change)

If you are unable to attend but still want to participate in this service or any AT ministry opportunity, please call Sam Dalton (423)895-2487

Pray for Churches Without Pastors

- Blountville First Baptist
- Cherokee, Jonesborough
- Clifton View
- Friendship Chapel
- Muddy Creek
- Piney Flats First Baptist
- Southwestern Baptist
- Tennessee Avenue



Cohort Meeting #4 Tuesday, May 27th, 2025
11:30-1:00 p.m. at West Hills Baptist Church

HBA Job Board

Cherokee Baptist Church

Senior Pastor

Jonesborough, TN | Bi-Vocational

Please send resume, references and cover letter (experience and vision) to Cherokee Baptist Church, 143 Mayberry Rd. Jonesborough, TN 37659. ATTN: Pastor Search Committee or via email: cherokeepastorsearch@gmail.com.

Oak Grove Baptist Church

Music & Worship Leader

Gray, TN | Part-Time

We are looking for someone with experience and preferably Music Education to help us develop a blended style worship service.

First Baptist Church, Fall Branch

Minister of Music

Fall Branch, TN | Part-Time

First Baptist Church of Fall Branch seeks a part-time Minister of Music to lead Christ-centered worship, blending traditional hymns and contemporary praise. Responsibilities include directing the choir, overseeing musicians, recruiting volunteers, and planning worship services in collaboration with the Pastor. Candidates should have a strong faith, a clear calling to music ministry, and leadership experience in worship and choir direction. To apply, submit a resume and cover letter to FBFBMusicCommittee@gmail.com or mail to First Baptist Church of Fall Branch, 1525 TN-93, Fall Branch, TN 37656.

Boones Creek Bible Church

Administrative Assistant

Johnson City, TN | Part-Time

Looking for a hybrid (On-site and Remote) Administrative Assistant at \$18-20/hour. Accepting applications immediately. Contact Andrew Isbell at andrew.isbell00@gmail.com for more information.

Woodlawn Baptist Church

Youth Director

Bristol, TN | Part-Time, Bi-Vocational

Woodlawn Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a bi-vocational part-time Youth Director starting immediately. Send resume to 1400 Southside Avenue, Bristol, TN 37620, ATTN: *Personnel Committee* or email to woodlawnbaptistbristol@btes.tv

Pinecrest Baptist Church

Worship Leader

Johnson City, TN | Part-Time

Pinecrest Baptist Church (2129 Old Lewis Road, Johnson City, TN) is seeking a part-time Worship Leader. Interested applicants may contact Pastor Garry Edwards (423-543-5662) or the church office (423-926-9394) for more information.