

# The Messenger

Holston Baptist Association

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NO. 8

## GUEST FEATURE

by Dr. Jonathan Chapman

## The HBA & BCM: Collaboration at its Best

*The first two items featured in this month's edition of The Messenger are about the Baptist Collegiate Ministry at ETSU. The BCM is seeing students on campus come to faith and grow in maturity through faithful teaching and discipleship, made possible by HBA churches. Please read these to see how you can be a part of what the Lord is doing in the ETSU BCM!*

**"Without our HBA churches, we would just be a building on campus".**

This is a familiar phrase you will hear me say on a regular basis. As the director of your BCM here in Northeast Tennessee, I can tell you that this truth rings loudly in the lives of our students who are boldly living out The Gospel of Jesus!

We are grateful for the ongoing partnership and support of our churches in advancing the Gospel among college students in Northeast Tennessee. Thanks to your faithful giving through the Cooperative Program and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions, the Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) at ETSU and surrounding colleges continues to make a profound impact.

### A Fruitful Year of Ministry:

This year, the BCM has experienced remarkable growth and spiritual fruit, thanks to God's grace and your partnership. Here are some highlights:

- Over 1,200 students engaged through outreach efforts.
- 600 students attended various events hosted by the BCM.
- 350 students participate weekly in worship services.
- 155 students are involved in small group Bible studies.
- 82 students are actively engaged in personal or group discipleship.
- 45 students are serving in leadership roles.
- 35 students are actively serving in summer missions or church internships.
- 31 students made professions of faith on campus this year.
- An additional 121 professions of faith came through our spring break mission trip.

These numbers reflect just a glimpse of what God is doing through this ministry—bringing students into a growing relationship with Christ, equipping future church leaders, and planting seeds for eternal impact.

### Looking Ahead: Trusting God for Even Greater Things

Our prayer is that God will continue to move powerfully among college students. We hope to see more students come to faith, deeper discipleship, and increased opportunities for outreach and service. As the new academic year begins, we trust that God will open doors for further ministry, revival, and spiritual awakening on these campuses and in our communities.

*continued on p2*

## In this Edition

- p1 -- Guest Feature: "The HBA & BCM: Collaboration at its Best" from Dr. Jonathan Chapman
- p2 -- Guest Letter: "A Call to Support the ETSU BCM" from David Hankal
- p3 -- From the Desk of the AMS: "A Local Mission Field: Schools" from Dr. Troy Rust
- p4 -- Ministry Update: "From the JC Baptist Center" by Anna Huggins
- p6 -- Announcements and Upcoming Events
- p7 -- Job Board

## The HBA & BCM: Collaboration at its Best (Cont.)

How Churches in the Holston Baptist Association Can Help:

There are several meaningful ways your church can partner with and support the BCM to further its mission...

**Providing Meals:** Hosting Tuesday dinners (feeding 225–275 students) or Thursday lunches (serving 50–60 students) creates a welcoming environment for students to connect, experience Christ's love, and build community. Meal sign-ups on our website; [etsubcm.org](http://etsubcm.org)

**Service Projects & Care Packages:** Organizing service opportunities or providing care packages helps demonstrate Christ's love in tangible ways.

**Donations of Water or Gatorade:** Refreshing students during campus events and outreach efforts.

**Prayer Walks & Prayer Support:** Praying on campus and regularly lifting up the ministry is vital for spiritual empowerment.

**Financial Support:** Participating in giving days in August or providing ongoing financial aid helps sustain and expand BCM's programs.

**Lending Vans & Busses:** Offering vans for events, retreats, and supporting mission trips enhances our ministry's reach.

**Student Connection & Outreach:** Encouraging students to fill out the Student Connection Form ([etsubcm.org/contact](http://etsubcm.org/contact)) ensures they stay connected and engaged with campus ministry.

**Volunteer & Service Opportunities:** Your church members can serve as mentors, small group leaders, or event volunteers to deepen engagement.

### Join Us in Making a Difference:

Partnering with BCM is a strategic and spiritual investment in the next generation. Your church's involvement—whether through prayer, giving, serving, or hosting—can have an eternal impact on students' lives and the future of Christ's church.

If you would like to contact Jonathan to find out more ways to serve and partner with the BCM, you can email him at [etsubcm@gmail.com](mailto:etsubcm@gmail.com) or call 423-794-7455.

**Dr. Jonathan Chapman**

ETSU BCM Director

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## LETTER TO MINISTRY LEADERS

# A Call to Support the ETSU BCM *by David Hankal*

Dear Pastors, Leaders and Friends of the BCM,

As the chair of the Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) Board of Directors, I'm coming to you with a request. Our Board has gained approval from associational leadership to ask for your help in promoting a love offering for the BCM. Campus life is starting up again in August, so we ask that offerings be taken up either August 17th or 24th, or both! We have students prepared to

provide in-person testimony about their BCM experience, so please email us at [etsubcm@gmail.com](mailto:etsubcm@gmail.com) by August 11th if you would like a student to speak briefly at your church. If not, please email and ask for our video link and share with your congregation as additional information about this love offering.

I realize that there is always a

lot on your plate as a ministry leader and wanted to make this a brief message. If you have any questions or would like to know more, please reach out to me or Jonathan Chapman, BCM Director, in the coming weeks. Some of your congregants may have a huge heart for college students and we'd love to have them come alongside us as

*continued on p3*

## A Call to Support the ETSU BCM (Cont.)



monthly support partners as well. Anyone can give through our website at [etsubcm.org](http://etsubcm.org) or by sending a check made out to "BCM" to 1012 Seminole Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604.

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- 31 students made professions of faith on campus this year.
- An additional 121 professions of faith came through our spring break mission trip.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the ministry or the approaching "Associational giving days".

In Christ,

**David Hankal**

Chairman

ETSU BCM Board of Directors

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE AMS

### A Local Mission Field: Schools

*by Dr. Troy Rust*

*This timely article comes from the desk of the AMS. With school starting just around the corner, Dr. Rust challenges us to consider a mission field we probably haven't thought much of - local schools. How can you and your church work to make a gospel impact in our local schools?*

*Monday is launch day! After weeks of summer vacation, school will be back in session. For faculty, staff, and students, the new school year brings both joy and pain. But what are the thoughts of everyone else that graduated and never looked back? Aside from the education of their own*

*children, most people give little thought to what goes on in their local schools.*

As in most every other place where people gather, school is a collision between the spiritual realms of light and darkness. While the darkness seems to have the prevailing influence much of the time, I am very grateful for Christian teachers, staff, and students that shine their lights into the darkness.

So, what can we do to help them? First, we can support organizations like **First Priority** and **Child Evangelism Fellowship** who work to take the gospel to the students.

They need your prayers AND your financial support! They can also use your personal influence with school leaders to launch these clubs where they currently don't exist.

As a former teacher, I regularly encourage churches to minister to a school's faculty and staff. Not only are they often overlooked as a ministry focus, but they are also usually the most long-term people in the school. They frequently find themselves somewhere between begging the system and spending their own money for resources.

*continued on p4*

## A Local Mission Field: Schools (Cont.)

Consider the following ways your church could partner with local school leaders:

- Provide snacks/meals for faculty & staff.
- Purchase specific materials or technology needed by faculty, staff, or students.
- Become a tutor.
- Read to elementary students.
- Paint a classroom.

Remember, these opportunities do not typically meet “one and done” needs. Some of these connection points (and there are many more) are helpful every month, every week, or every day.

As you begin to share the love of Jesus and meet needs in one classroom, you might be surprised who else wants to be “adopted” by your church! If you have never attempted this kind of ministry, step out in faith and see what God does. If you have tried in the

*past and it didn't work well, try again at the same location or pick another school! Yes, it is hard work that demands intentionality, but Jesus is worthy of servants that persevere for His glory. After all, the best gospel opportunities come to the*

*people who invest in people, not just in events.*

With hands to the plow,  
**Dr. Troy Rust**

Associational Mission  
Strategist  
Holston Baptist Assoc.



## MINISTRY UPDATE

### From the JC Baptist Center

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” Romans 10:17 (ESV).

*The past two months at the Johnson City Baptist Center have been full of activity. Several summer missions teams joined us in sharing the love of Jesus through Vacation Bible School with the children in the community of Tyler Apartments. Through our outreach, many children new*

*to the apartments, and mostly unchurched, attended during the summer. We had fifty-four children registered, with attendance averaging in the mid twenties. There were a number of preschoolers and younger grade-school age, who were introduced to Jesus and the Bible.*

*Our thankfulness to the Lord for allowing these churches to share with us this year:*

**by Anna Huggins**

Mountain View Baptist, Central (Erwin), Boone Trail, Lantana Road (Crossville, TN), Fordtown, Calvary (Erwin), Mount Zion, Weakley County Baptist Association, HBA Interns, Trinity, and Beulah Baptist. They gave of their time, energy, resources, and love for Jesus, to make a difference in the lives of the children and families we serve. We pray for the seeds that were planted in these young lives to grow, that

## Update from the JC Baptist Center (Cont.)

they will come to know Jesus as their Saviour. Also, we pray that the children and their families might be led to attend one of these churches, and continue to be discipled.

A couple of the churches were involved as well with sending teams to do disaster relief work in the area. Those were folks from Lantana Road Baptist, Crossville, and the team from Weakley Association out of West Tennessee. We also had school supplies and backpack distribution by Trinity Baptist.

I listed our HBA interns with our churches who served, because they also spent a few weeks with us, serving and leading. Katie, Matt, Zeke, and Silas were all a blessing as they ministered alongside us in our community. May God continue to bless them as they seek to follow Him in ministry.

*In the month of May, we began preparations for a new project on the property of the Baptist Center. We are very thankful for Keith Malone, pastor of Enon Baptist, helping dig the ground, then pouring the rock to ready for a pavilion in our*

*backyard. We are so grateful that the pavilion was completed by the mission team from Lantana Road Baptist, in June, when they built the structure and poured the concrete. What a difference this pavilion has already made in the ongoing ministry of the Baptist Center! We now have a shaded space for our picnic tables, and we have already used it in teaching VBS. This will allow many more opportunities for ministry to our community.*

With all the activities that are ongoing at the Baptist Center, we have recognized a need for a new playground structure. One of our churches has begun a plan to help us replace the damaged playground structure. Another church has already contributed to this endeavor. We are grateful for both churches seeing our need, and acting to help rectify the situation. But, we want to ask for other churches to help us be able to make a safer situation for the children for their outdoor play. **Would your church be willing to donate to help build the new playground structure?**

We have two more upcoming opportunities to help in ministry, "Christmas in August" and the "Appalachian Fair". Please note the listed items elsewhere in this newsletter with items needed for the Christmas in August. Also, we are in need of churches to serve with the carnival workers at the fair, and to serve giving out water at the Jacob's Well booth. The date of the fair is Monday August 18- Saturday August 23. Please contact us if you are interested in serving in one of these ministries.

There will always be a work to do to share the Gospel, until Christ returns. Please answer His call on your life to reach out, for His Glory, so others may know our Lord Jesus. From the hymn by Steve Fry, "...Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song, til the likeness of Jesus be through us made known, Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song."

Blessings

**Anna Huggins**

Director of Ministries  
Johnson City Baptist Center

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# CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST

The following items are still needed for the "Christmas in August" Donation Drive:

### School Supplies:

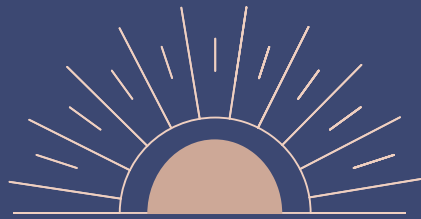
Colored pencils, crayons, glue sticks, erasable pens, markers, bound composition books, spiral notebooks, notebook paper, pencils, erasers, and pencil sharpeners

### Hygiene:

Deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes

Contact Anna Huggins at [anna@holstonba.org](mailto:anna@holstonba.org) for more information

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*Monday*  
MANNA  
AUGUST 25TH  
10:30 - 12:30

Monday Manna has postponed over the summer, but we will resume meeting this month! Monday, August 25, 2025.

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## Southwestern Baptist Church

1112 Cherokee Rd.  
Johnson City, TN 37604

September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
8:00am - 12:00pm

Southwestern Baptist Church in Johnson City, Tennessee will be hosting a 4-hour **Tactics & Firearms Handling class for Armed Protectors on Saturday, September 6th, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** This dry practice (non-live fire) course is designed for anyone currently carrying a firearm or interested in learning how to handle one safely in a crowded environment. The class takes place indoors at the church and is suitable for all skill levels, including (but not limited to) church security team members, law enforcement, beginners, or interested congregation members.

Participants will explore realistic response strategies tailored to church environments and learn how to reduce risk through proper training. No handgun license is required, and you do not need to be on a security team to attend. Training guns and holsters will be provided, and class size is limited to 35 participants. If the morning class fills up, we will run an additional class at 1pm.

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**August Birthdays**

1st -- Saul Delgado  
2nd -- Lester Morelock  
6th -- Claude Babb  
12th -- Nathan Reynolds  
13th -- Jason Royston  
16th -- Greg Salyer

19th -- Tommy Clark  
22nd -- Dwight Hobbs  
24th -- David Smith  
24th -- Reggie Weems  
24th -- Mike Taylor



## HBA Job Board

### **Trinity Baptist Church**

#### **Director of Children & Family Ministries**

*Jonesborough, TN / Bi-Vocational*

Trinity Baptist Church in Jonesborough is searching for a Director of Children and Family Ministries. This full-time position calls for someone with good relational skills, a heart to care for families, and organizational skills in team building. Anyone interested should contact Dr. Mark Harrod at [mharrod@trinity3e.org](mailto:mharrod@trinity3e.org).

### **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](mailto:cherokeepastorsearch@gmail.com).

### **Piney Flats First Baptist Church**

#### **Senior Pastor**

*Piney Flats, TN / Full Time*

For job description(s) and more information, please visit [holstonba.org/jobs](http://holstonba.org/jobs) or contact the church. Please send information to apply to Piney Flats First Baptist Church, 100 Cherry Rd, Piney Flats, Tn 37686. ATTN: Kathy Smith. or via email to [mkbarnes357@gmail.com](mailto:mkbarnes357@gmail.com).

### **Piney Flats First Baptist Church**

#### **Senior Pastor**

*Piney Flats, TN / Full Time*

For job description(s) and more information, please visit [holstonba.org/jobs](http://holstonba.org/jobs) or contact the church. Please send information to apply to Piney Flats First Baptist Church, 100 Cherry Rd, Piney Flats, Tn 37686. ATTN: Kathy Smith. or via email to [mkbarnes357@gmail.com](mailto:mkbarnes357@gmail.com).

### **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](mailto:FBFBMusicCommittee@gmail.com) or mail to First Baptist Church of Fall Branch, 1525 TN-93, Fall Branch, TN 37656.

Visit [holstonba.org/jobs](http://holstonba.org/jobs) to view more information or apply for the listed openings.

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## Pray for Churches Without Pastors

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

