

# The Messenger

Holston Baptist Association

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NO. 9

## FROM THE DESK OF THE AMS

### What is a Ministry Pipeline?

In recent years you may have heard church or denominational leaders talk about the need for a ministry pipeline. When you turn on the faucet in your kitchen, water is ready to come out and meet your needs. In a similar way, we want to see a pipeline of young men ready to answer God's call to serve in a local church as soon as He opens the door. The rising average age of pastors and the lack of young men ready to serve in local churches prove that over the past decade or two we have not done enough to prepare the next generation of pastors. Wishing and hoping that God will raise up leaders for tomorrow has not gotten the job done. So, what should we do?

**First**, we need to regularly call out the called. Sunday School, small group discipleship, and corporate worship give us weekly opportunities to challenge men to answer God's call to serve His Church. **Second**, we need to provide opportunities for training and experience. All too often, I see resumes of men who have answered the call to serve the Lord but have very little training and very little experience. We can do better! Our churches can provide regularly opportunities for the called to clarify and exercise

their gifts. While I encourage every called man to get all the formal training he can, we can begin basic training at the local church. We simply need pastors and other church leaders to invest time and possibly money in preparing the next generation. Most of our churches could even provide a scholarship for a seminary student! **Third**, we have to send them out. Unless God opens the door for them to serve in their home church, most called men must be sent out. Yes, you must give up some of your most gifted servants for the sake of the Kingdom. Fear not! When your church begins to focus more on sending than receiving, you'll find that God will continue to give you new people to send.

If this new focus seems overwhelming, we're here to help. If your church is not quite ready to begin that process on your campus, we have a pipeline ready to begin this fall. Here's a list of the areas we will cover:

- Calling & Character
- Spiritual Disciplines
- People Skills & Leadership
- Preaching
- Local Church Dynamics
- Training/Ministry Assignment

While the finer points of theology are covered in more

*continued on p2*

**by Dr. Troy Rust**

#### **A MESSAGE FROM THE HBA MINISTRY ASSISTANT:**

*The information for the 2025 Annual Church Profile (ACP) is now out, and should have been distributed to your church my email! If your church did not receive the ACP information, please let us know, so that we can get that to you. **This year, we ask that all churches submit the ACP by September 30<sup>th</sup>.***

*Thank you so much for your willingness to fill out this year's ACP. It helps us immensely as we endeavor to keep up with all 92 of our churches, and it helps inform us and the TBMB on how we can assist our churches more effectively!*

In Christ,  
**Matthew Powell**

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## What is a Pipeline Ministry (Cont.)

formal settings, we want to focus on the make-or-break aspects of successful ministry that don't get sufficient emphasis in seminary. Our pipeline process will appeal to called men who have minimal ministry experience. We will assign reading to match each emphasis, and meet one weeknight each month. Our gatherings will include guest speakers, onsite ministry visits, and practical workshops.

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If someone you know is ready to prepare for vocational ministry, we'd love to help them. If you'd like to start a pipeline ministry in your church, we can connect you to pastors in our association who already have a process in place. We simply want to help prepare the next generation of faithful

leaders who will pastor existing churches, plant new churches, and begin new ministries. If we can help, please give us a call or reach out to me at [troy@holstonba.org](mailto:troy@holstonba.org).

With hands to the plow,

**Dr. Troy Rust**

Associational Mission Director  
Holston Baptist Association

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## MINISTRY UPDATE

### Johnson City Baptist Center

The crisp morning air brings a reminder that the season of fall is almost here. As the summer draws to a close, school has begun and we can look back with thanksgiving on the activities of the last few months. I am grateful to God for the blessings of churches who gave of themselves this summer, to share and teach Bible truths to the children who live in our community.

As the Johnson City Baptist Center starts back with weekly Bible studies in September, please pray for us to continue to "Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage- with great patience and careful instruction." (2 Timothy 4:2 NIV). The Lord has given this ministry to Holston Baptists for over fifty years, and there are always children and adults who have never heard of the saving faith in Jesus. Let us be faithful in sharing His truth.

The month of August also gave opportunity to be present in sharing the Gospel at the Appalachian Fair. Thank you to these churches, who each took a day's shifts, to give "cold water in Jesus's name": Boone Trail, Boone's Creek, Ninth Street, Mount Zion, Hulen, Calvary Erwin, and Mountain View. There might have been fewer people that attended the fair this year, but I know many who came by our booth were engaged in Gospel conversations. Thank you for the faithfulness of these churches to share God's love. Even our neighboring vendors noticed the intentional sharing and openness of the love and truth of God's word being sent out. I am grateful for the opportunities to meet people during this time, and to be able to share our journeys of faith in Jesus Christ. Please pray that the Lord will water and grow the seeds that were planted.

Thank you for your gifts during

**by Anna Huggins!**

We are also still accepting funds to help replace our playground equipment. If your church is able to contribute, we would be very grateful.

During this change in seasons, we look toward the harvest. Jesus tells us to "...open our eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:35 NIV). There is always a work to do, in our community and the world, to tell others of Jesus and the salvation He brings. We would be glad for your prayers and volunteering to help in the ministry at the Baptist Center. "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Matthew 9: 37-38 NIV).

Blessings

**Anna Huggins**

Director of Ministries  
Johnson City Baptist Center



## 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.

August  
Birthdays

15th -- Garrett Butcher  
16th -- Roy Lowe

24th -- Mike Depew  
27th -- Mike Oaks





## UPPER EAST TN Who's Your **ONE?** RALLY

Sullivan Baptist  
Church  
4152 Maplewood St  
Kingsport, TN  
37660

**6:00 PM**  
**SUN, SEP 14**  
**2025**

To encourage pastors, church leaders and church members to pray for the lost people of our communities and engage them with Gospel over the next year using the Who's Your One prayer and evangelism strategy.

Dr. Roc Collins  
Special Assistant  
to the Ex. Dir &  
Team Lead for  
Evangelism  
TBMB




s



Dr. Tim Dowdy  
VP Evangelism  
NAMB

Contact John Butler for Questions: 912/381-0909 or [john@erbc.org](mailto:john@erbc.org)  
Sullivan Baptist Church Contact: 423/349-6288 or [church@sullivanbaptist.org](mailto:church@sullivanbaptist.org)





## **Women's One-Day Conference**

### **The Courage to Rebuild**

**September 20      9am - 2pm**

Have you ever wondered if you're on the path God has chosen for your life? If so, please join us for a day of fellowship and worship as speaker, author and photographer Marcie Seither shares with us about "The Courage to Rebuild".

Registration \$15 due September 14 (lunch included)  
Register at [www.upbaptist.org](http://www.upbaptist.org). Select Women's Ministry and indicate "conference" in the note; or call the church office at 423-926-5841.

University Parkway Baptist Church  
219 University Parkway  
Johnson City, TN 37604

#### **Free Music!**

A couple thousand dollars worth of choral music, accompaniment, cds, and rehearsal traxs are available for free to a church with an **ACTIVE CHOIR** program. If interested, please call or text David Clark at (423) 278-2810.

## HBA Job Board

### **Clark Street Baptist Church**

#### **Senior Pastor**

*Johnson City, TN | Bi-Vocational*

Clark Street Baptist Church, Johnson City is seeking a bi-vocational pastor.

Resumes may be emailed or mailed to: [clarkstreetbc@gmail.com](mailto:clarkstreetbc@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).

### **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).

### **Choptack Baptist Church**

#### **Pastor**

*Rogersville, TN | Bi-Vocational*

Choptack Baptist Church in Rogersville, TN is searching for a Bivocational Pastor. Five years of pastoral experience is preferred. Resumes may be submitted to Choptack Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, 5456 Hwy 66N, Rogersville, TN 37857. For more information and to receive a list of duties and requirements, you may contact the search committee at (423) 306-4058 or [choptackmbc@gmail.com](mailto:choptackmbc@gmail.com).

### **Oak Street Baptist Church**

#### **Director of Music**

*Elizabethton, TN | Part Time*

Oak Street Baptist Church in Elizabethton, TN is seeking a part time Director of Music. This purpose of this position is to lead the corporate praise section component of the worship services at Oak Street. The Director of Music will lead and conduct music and may also be asked to get involved occasionally with youth activities on Wednesday nights. For more information and to apply for the position, please contact Jack Greenoe at 972-365-5114 or [jackgreenoe@gmail.com](mailto:jackgreenoe@gmail.com).

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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
- Clark Street, JC
- Muddy Creek, Piney Flats
- First Baptist Church, Piney Flats
- Southwestern, JC
- Tennessee Avenue, Bristol
- Sulphur Springs, Jonesborough
- Shallow Ford, Erwin

