

McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists, Inc.

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From Brother Mike...

Mike Farmer, Director of Missions

As August rolls up on us, it is back to school for our kids and teachers. It may be a relief to some parents for the school-year routine to begin. Pray for our schools, teachers and administrators, students and other staff. Pray that truth will be taught and the worldly agenda trying to capture our kids be frustrated. May this year be a year of great accomplishments for all. As I sit here and read some of the results for the *2022 State of Theology* study, I have come to understand that it is not just the kids who need to go to school. Our church members may need to do some extra work in Bible knowledge.

Among professing Christians, the study found that 43% of evangelicals believe that Jesus was a great teacher, but He was not God. I have a hard time believing what I read. Nearly half of professing Christians surveyed did not believe Jesus was God! Pastors we have a problem. Church members we have a problem. The problem is we do not know or we do not believe what is in the Bible.

Another question in the survey found the 48% of evangelicals agreed with the statement that God learns and adapts to different circumstances. If you agree with these two statements you do not know the Bible and you do not know the living God of the Bible. These are not unbelievers saying this. These are people who claim to be Christians. I could understand numbers like this from the world, but things like this should not come from the pews of our churches. We are failing to educate the people who sit in our pews. How are we going to impact the lost world with the knowledge of Jesus Christ if we do not believe what He taught?

So, this year, I challenge us all to the following: 1. Read through the Bible this year. Don't just read to get through it. Pay attention to what it is teaching us. 2. Get into a Sunday School class that is studying the Scriptures (sadly, not all of them do this). Dig into the Word. Ask questions. Try to learn something new each week about the Bible and its message. 3. Become a teacher. Do not just sit and learn. It is often said that teachers learn more than the students as they prepare to teach. I do not necessarily mean you have to teach a Sunday School class. Become a Christian who can pass along the insight you gain from the Scriptures to others who might learn with you.

May this school year be a time of learning and growing for all of us.





the disabled and elderly. We are a 100% volunteer organization.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Scott Duckworth at 368-3867.



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The Three Words every Church Clerk hates to hear: **ACP's are here!** The Annual Church letters are here and are ready to pick up during regular office hours.

August Celebrations Celebrating Birthdays

- Stan Cantrell Sanford
- Carol Johnson New Beginnings
- Dana Davis Short Creek
- Lavahn Caldwell.....Union Grove Decatur 16.. Stanley LinerHiwassee
- 21.. *Mike Bernard* Central
- 31...Renae CampbellBrookhill

Celebrating Anniversaries

- 06.. Todd & Michelle Humbert .. Greenhouse
- 15.. Ken & Tonya Keaton 1st Baptist Riceville
- 22.. David & Beverly Lones...... Goodsprings
- 25.. Terry & Renae Campbell Brookhill

Church/Association Anniversaries

Josh Cornelius	Walnut Grove	2 years
Terry Campbell	Brookhill	3 years
Bill Henard	First Baptist Athen	ns 4 years
Travis Shaver	Bethsadia	5 years
Jeff Blanchette	Calvary Etowah	17 years
Larry Johnson	Cottonport	21 years
Donald Caldwell.	Union Grove D	1 year

Church Name	<u>Current</u>	<u>YTD</u>	Church Name	Current	<u>YTD</u>	Church Name	Current	<u>YTD</u>
Antioch	152.60	1,795.85	Etowah First	125.00	500.00	Pisgah	605.71	9,924.54
Athens First	2,400.00	14,400.00	Good Hope	300.00	1,500.00	Pond Hill	0.00	800.00
Bethel Springs	0.00	0.00	Goodsprings	0.00	3,059.46	Pope Avenue	276.00	3,045.12
Bethsadia	0.00	0.00	Greenhouse	0.00	0.00	Riceville, First	84.50	144.86
Brookhill	0.00	250.00	Hiwassee	499.20	1,897.54	Rockview	0.00	0.00
Calhoun First	400.00	2,200.00	Idlewild	120.00	1,320.00	Rocky Mount	0.00	450.00
Calvary, Etowah	50.00	500.00	Lakeside	69.04	1,043.99	Rogers Creek	120.00	1,219.33
Calvary Missionary	25.00	250.00	Lakeview	189.95	2,372.15	Sanford	0.00	1,500.00
Central	560.68	4,810.82	Manilla Chapel	0.00	0.00	Shiloh	200.00	2,000.00
Clay Hill	0.00	120.00	Marshall Hill	100.00	800.00	Short Creek	274.00	3,422.97
Clear Springs	441.85	5,295.63	McMahan Calvary	118.00	1,362.27	South Liberty	200.00	1,000.00
Clearwater	300.00	2,640.00	Mnt. Harmony, N	948.00	9,909.00	Stephensville	0.00	0.00
Coghill	50.00	500.00	Mnt. Harmony, R	0.00	498.31	Ten Mile	182.28	1,758.98
Cottonport	0.00	779.65	Mount Pisgah	266.74	2,946.21	Union Grove, D	159.70	881.60
Decatur First	671.20	7,489.88	Mount Verd	100.00	300.00	Union Hill	572.00	5,024.00
Dixon Avenue	110.00	1,100.00	New Beginnings	0.00	0.00	Valley Road	0.00	300.00
Double Springs	50.00	500.00	New Bethel	0.00	0.00	Vally View	321.80	655.75
Eastanallee	100.00	1,000.00	Niota First	0.00	0.00	Walnut Grove	700.97	6,320.78
East Athens	739.49	5,636.97	North Athens	0.00	200.00	West End	190.04	3,075.56
East Niota	197.50	1,975.00	North Etowah	0.00	1,800.00	West View	106.34	1,083.57
East View	0.00	0.00	Oak Grove	356.00	4,087.02	Wildwood	457.05	5,453.80
Englewood First	830.65	8,311.90	Old Salem	480.18	4,613.04	Zion Hill	0.00	225.00

Total Receipts 14,640.79 147,050.55

Contributions received after July 21st will be reflected in next month's report.

Church News

- Rocky Mount August 3rd Homecoming. Everyone is welcome. Everyone is welcome.
 - Food will be served after the service.
- Pope Ave August 6 Homecoming Everyone is welcome. Food will be served after the service.
- Mount Harmony August 13 Community Revival 6PM Everyone is welcome. Come out and worship with us.
- Double Springs homecoming September 24th starting at 10:30 am

Celebrating 175 years. There will be singing and food after. Please come out and celebrate with us.

- Camp Cherokee 10 souls were saved at camp. Camp is a great way to witness to your kids. Next years dates will be released soon.
- Double Springs is seeking a piano player. Please contact Greg Charles at 423-368-4202.
- BCM it is time for school to start back which means BCM. We are needing volunteer churches to help feed the kids. PLEASE CALL US

VACATION BACKYARD BIBLE KIDS SCHOOL CLUB

REACHING EVERY COMMUNITY IN TENNESSEE

Before you turn the page on VBS 2023, would you please take 60 seconds to report your VBS? We all need to be encouraged by how God has been at work through VBS this year!

It's quick and easy! All you have to do is go to <u>vbs.lifeway.com/churchreports</u> and fill in each of the required fields. **Please complete the report regardless of the curriculum used.** There is a space for you to list your curriculum publisher. This info helps us to better serve your church and to celebrate what God has done in Tennessee and around the world! We can't wait to share with you the totals of how many lives were changed for eternity through VBS 2023.