



Links

Office Hours
Monday thru Friday
8:30 am—4:30 pm
Closed for Lunch
from 12:30—1:30 pm

February 2018

Monthly Newsletter of McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists

Volume 18, Issue 2

Mark Your Calendar!

February

True Love Waits Emphasis Month

February 5—Pastor & Preachers Fellowship, Baptist Center, 7:00 pm

February 12-18—Focus on WMU Week

February 17—Disaster Relief Training, Cherokee Heights Baptist Church, Morristown

February 18—National Children's Missions Day

February 23-24—Total Life Encounter, Pigeon Forge

March

March 2-3—Total Life Encounter, Pigeon Forge, TN

March 2-3—Handbell Festival, Carson-Newman University, Jefferson City, TN

March 2-3—"Uniquely You": Ministers Wives Retreat, Dollywood's DreamMore Resort, Pigeon Forge, TN

March 4-11—Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

March 5—Pastor & Preachers Fellowship, Baptist Center, 7:00 pm

March 9-10—Youth Evangelism Conference, Municipal Auditorium, Nashville, TN

March 16-18—Missions Get-Together and Connection, Gatlinburg Convention Center, Gatlinburg, TN

March 30—Good Friday, Baptist Center Closed



Specialized Classes

February 17 ♦ 8:00 am—4:00 pm

**Cherokee Heights Baptist Church
199 Cole Road ♦ Morristown, TN**



Classes offered are:

Shower and Laundry, Ashout Recovery, Chainsaw Operation & Safety, (Classroom), Damage Assessment, Introduction/Recertification of DR (2 hr. class), Flood Recovery, Forklift/Skid-Steer Classroom Training, Bucket Truck Classroom Training (A & B) (3 hr. class), Form Stack (3 hr. class) – (Bring cell phone or laptop – not compatible with iPhones at this time), Spiritual Preparation/Evangelism (3 hr. class)

Introduction to Disaster Relief Training

February 17 ♦ 12:15 pm—3:00 pm

**Cherokee Heights Baptist Church
199 Cole Road ♦ Morristown, TN**



To pre-register, please contact Don Owen dnowen@bellsouth.net.

In order to be fully credentialed, you will need to take at least one specialized class after you have taken the prerequisite course of "Introduction to Southern Baptist Disaster Relief."



Join thousands of kids across the country in hands-on ministry in your community for Children's Missions Day! WMU invites all children in grades 1-6 to participate on Sunday, February 18, 2018.

From feeding hungry people to visiting shut-ins, boys and girls follow God's command to "put your love into action" (1 John 3:18). Church groups create projects that meet needs in their own communities. WMU created Children's Missions Day to move children out of their churches and into their communities to do missions. The first Children's Missions Day was in 2008. Since then, thousands of people have taken part in this special day.



In the event of snow/ice the Baptist Office will be closed.

Remember in prayer our churches without Pastors:
Bethsadia, First Baptist Etowah, Marshall Hill, New Bethel and Pope Avenue.

2 Timothy 3:1 tells us that it will be difficult in the last days. I believe we are in those last days. The church today is dealing with issues that many of us never thought possible a few decades ago.

In the past 2 months there has been several Active shooter training seminars in our area, and more are to come. I am pleased to hear of the large number of churches participating in them. We may not have ever done it before, but welcome to the new life of our modern society.

If you have not been to any of the training seminars, please look into doing so. As we saw in Texas, small churches in a small community can have something bad happen. We have no guarantee about what tomorrow holds for us. You may contact your local law enforcement leader for additional help, or contact the Association office. I do have some resources available for you and can point you to many others. Also, don't forget to talk with your insurance agent. They will have guidelines for you to follow as well.

Have you thought about how your church handles the offerings? Are the funds collected by the church kept safe? I'm not talking just about accounting procedures. Take a close look at how you do things and see if there are times and places where the offerings could be vulnerable.

Is your church going the extra mile to assure parents that their kids are safe when they are on church grounds? If you are not accomplishing this, you will lose families after the first visit. Background checks, children's security, and building access are things we all have to think about now. Sadly, the way some of our building were built make these issues more difficult for us today.

It is sad that we have to worry about these things, but we must be prepared to do our best to ensure the safety of our members and guests every time the church building is open.

Though we live in difficult times, let us always remember that we serve a God who is greater than anything the world can throw at us. Through the power of God's Spirit, may we be a blessing to the community around us and to those we see each day.

Bro. Mike

**McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists
Pastors Conference**
*Meets every Monday morning at 10:00 am at the
Baptist Center.*



East Athens Baptist Church will host a live simulcast of this Johnny Hunt Men's Conference on Friday, February 2, 2018 at 6:00 pm and on

Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 9:00 am. This event is free to any man who would like to attend!



Macy Small, M.A.
112 Key Kile Road
Sweetwater, TN
865.414.3269

Individual, Marriage & Family Counseling

Pastors & Preachers Fellowship

February 5 ♦ 7:00 pm ♦ Baptist Center

Rev. Victor King, Pastor of Short Creek Baptist Church will be the speaker.

Hope to see you here!

Mission Awareness leads to Mission Involvement

by Judy Luck, Association WMU Director

WMU Focus week and Children's Ministry Day are two ways that your church can know how important missions can impact children, teenagers, men and women here and beyond our borders. Now is the time to tell your story: how you are involved and want others to join you. It can be contagious.

"STAND FIRM", Galatians 5:1A - Mission Get-Together/Connection 2018: Ladies, have you asked any of your teen-age girls if they want to go to Gatlinburg for a fun, new experience weekend? March 16-18 is nearly here. Even if you come up Friday and go back home after the Saturday afternoon conferences, what an opportunity for your girls to experience 'missions ALIVE' in the conferences, missions fair, missionary encounters, etc. Don't forget the missions project: **CITY REACH – NASHVILLE**. The list of contents in a new backpack were listed in the January LINKS. Can our association come up with at least 6 backpacks from our association? In the Association office, one backpack with school supplies is on display. Call me if you have any questions, 423-506-6539.

**McMinn Senior Center
needs your help!**



We are interested in finding out if any of our local church's might be interested in sponsoring a meal a month for our Seniors at the Center. The meal can be potluck and would need to serve around 30. We lost our Federal funding in June for our meal program but have been feeding our community none the less. For more information, please contact Melody Moses at melodymoses@gmail.com or call 423-381-2483.

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Church Name	Current	YTD	Church Name	Current	YTD	Church Name	Current	YTD
Antioch	0.00	429.26	Etowah, First	0.00	0.00	Pope Avenue	119.20	320.35
Athens, First	1,500.00	4,500.00	Good Hope	150.00	600.00	Riceville, First	425.16	1,068.25
Bethel Springs	0.00	0.00	Goodsprings	478.54	848.04	Rockview	0.00	0.00
Bethsadia	0.00	0.00	Hiwassee	0.00	0.00	Rocky Mount	0.00	150.00
Brookhill	0.00	100.00	Idlewild	100.00	450.00	Rogers Creek	113.80	398.03
Calhoun, First	0.00	600.00	Lakeside	204.92	611.84	Sanford	0.00	1,500.00
Calvary, Etowah	50.00	150.00	Lakeview	272.85	806.40	Shiloh	0.00	600.00
Calvary Missionary	25.00	100.00	Manilla Chapel	0.00	200.00	Short Creek	375.96	1,130.07
Central	803.49	2,271.11	Marshall Hill	100.00	300.00	South Liberty	0.00	0.00
Clay Hill	0.00	0.00	McMahan Calvary	307.33	805.77	Stephensville	0.00	0.00
Clear Springs	1,016.52	2,920.76	Mount Harmony, Niota	526.00	1,389.00	Ten Mile	144.94	305.69
Clearwater	0.00	0.00	Mount Harmony, Riceville	0.00	84.87	Union Grove	0.00	250.00
Coghill	175.00	700.00	Mount Pisgah	447.84	1,393.61	Union Hill	190.90	816.10
Cottonport	0.00	195.53	Mount Verd	0.00	100.00	Valley Road	0.00	300.00
Decatur, First	1,307.35	3,175.61	New Beginnings	0.00	0.00	Valley View	0.00	370.00
Dixon Avenue	110.00	330.00	New Bethel	0.00	120.00	Walnut Grove	213.33	930.18
Double Springs	50.00	200.00	Niota, First	59.29	403.17	West End	205.29	758.77
Eastanallee	100.00	400.00	North Athens	225.00	275.00	West View	88.05	367.19
East Athens	1,239.80	3,851.56	Oak Grove	392.00	1,523.00	Wildwood	935.94	3,050.51
East Niota	166.00	498.00	Old Salem	320.07	973.47	Zion Hill	400.00	800.00
East View	0.00	0.00	Pisgah	941.33	3,204.13	Total Receipts	15,128.40	50,997.78
Englewood, First	847.50	3,072.51	Pond Hill	0.00	300.00			

Contributions received after January 24th will be reflected in next month's report.

Church News

- Our sympathy to **Rev. Stan Hammonds** and family during the loss of his brother.
- Our sympathy to **Rev. Darren Fansler** and family during the loss of his father.
- Our sympathy to **Rev. Joe Hatcher** and family during the loss of his mother.
- **The 2017 Annual Minutes will be ready on February 5th and can be picked up during regular office hours!**
- **Don't forget to Recycle your old Sunday School Literature.** We also take Christian Books, Bibles and Devotionals (Our Daily Bread, Open Windows, etc.). **Do not bring Parent Life, Home Life, Missions Mosaic or Mature Living.**

- **East Athens Baptist Church** is seeking a part-time preschool/children's leader. If interested, please send a resume to jrobertson423@me.com.
- **First Baptist Riceville** is seeking a part-time Music Director. Please send resume to: Sam Gentry ♦ PO Box 3344 ♦ Riceville, TN 37370
- **Calhoun First Baptist** is seeking a part-time associate Pastor of Youth and Families. Send resume to brocheatham@gmail.com or P.O. Box 175, Calhoun, TN 37309.
- **Short Creek Baptist Church** is seeking a Pastor of Students & Families. Send resumes to Rev. Victor King, 1190 County Road 750, Athens, TN 37303 or call him at 920-7365.

February Celebrations

Birthdays

- 12....**Carrie King**..... Shiloh
- 13....**Doris Jordan**..... Old Salem
- 14....**Amanda Cunningham**... Ten Mile
- Van Elkins**..... Rocky Mount
- 15....**Stephanie Brown**..... Zion Hill
- 17....**Jylann Sneed**..... Rockview
- 19....**Debbie Coffman**..... Valley Road
- 21....**Stacy Gennoe**..... New Beginnings

Anniversaries

- 22....**Bill & Vicki Vest**..... Wildwood

Church Anniversaries

- Danny Singleton**... Clearwater 1 year
- Justin Brown**..... Zion Hill 6 years
- Scott Packett**..... Idlewild..... 10 years
- Mike Rymer**..... Walnut Grove 12 years
- Donnie Dalton**..... Mount Verd 24 years

Willie Bryant is looking for you!



On April 21, 2018 at East Niota Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, we will celebrate 20+ years of being "**On Mission**". 1996—present. If you have been on Mission with us at any time, please contact Willie Bryant at 423-920-8667 (call or text), or 1128 Jones Street ♦ Athens, TN. We have taken mission trips to Tennessee, Kentucky, Maine, Iowa and West Virginia.



You are invited to meet with us at **Old Salem Baptist Church** on **Saturday, February 10, 2018** at 10:00 am. Our guest will be Kim Harmon, author of "**Fall Forward**". Kim is the wife of Randy Harmon, former pastor of Double Springs Baptist Church and daughter of Herman and Doris Jordan.

FALL FORWARD is a story of struggle, strength and true forgiveness. The book was written with the desire to help others with crisis in their life.

For more information, please call 336-6050.

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New in the Library

Book's

In This Moment *by* Karen Kingsbury
Blue Ridge Sunrise *by* Denise Hunter
A Stranger at Fellsworth *by* Sarah Ladd
A Measure of Mercy *by* Lauraine Snelling
No Distance too Far *by* Lauraine Snelling
A Heart for Home *by* Lauraine Snelling
Out of the Ashes *by* Tracie Peterson and Kimberley Woodhouse
Summer of the Midnight Sun *by* Tracie Peterson
Under the Norther Lights *by* Tracie Peterson
Whispers of Winter *by* Tracie Peterson

DVD's

The Investigator
The Secret Handshake
Lucky's Treasure
Appalachian Trial
WWJD: the Journey Continues
The Ultimate Legacy



**Have you reserved
Camp Cherokee for your
church or youth retreat?
Or maybe you need the
Block Party Trailer for
your church function?
Call 745-2248 to reserve
your dates today!**

**Uniquely You—Ministers Wives Retreat
Youth Evangelism Conference
Mission Get-Together & Connection
For more information or to register for
these events—go to www.tnbaptist.org.**