

**Mark Your Calendar!****March****Annie Armstrong Easter Offering****March 1-2**—Total Life Encounter,  
*Pigeon Forge, TN***March 1-2**—Handbell Festival, *Carson-  
Newman University, Jefferson City, TN***March 3-10**—Week of Prayer and  
Mission Study for North American  
Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter  
Offering**March 4**—Pastor & Preachers  
Fellowship, *Baptist Center, 7:00 pm***March 15-16**—Youth Evangelism  
Conference, *Municipal Auditorium,  
Nashville, TN***March 15**—Retired Ministers and  
Wives Luncheon—*Baptist Center,  
12:00 pm***April****April 1**—Pastor & Preachers  
Fellowship, *Baptist Center, 7:00 pm***April 5-7**—Missions Get-Together/  
Connection, *Gatlinburg***April 7**—Cooperative Program Sunday**April 8**—McMinn-Meigs Association  
VBS Clinic, *First Baptist Athens,  
6:00 pm***April 12-14**—RA Wilderness Challenge,  
*Boxwell Reservation, Lebanon***April 14**—McMinn-Meigs Association  
Bible Drill, *East Athens Baptist  
Church, 2:00 pm***April 16**—Executive Board Meeting,  
*Baptist Center, 7:00 pm***April 19**—Good Friday, *Baptist Office  
Closed***April 21**—Easter**April 27**—Regional Youth Bible Drill  
and Speakers Tournament, Children's  
Bible Drill, *Broadway Baptist Church,  
Maryville*Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North  
American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter  
Offering—March 3-10

100%  
of your gifts to the  
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
supports North American missionaries.

ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM

ANNIE ARMSTRONG  
EASTER OFFERING  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

North American  
Mission Board

2019 National Goal: \$70 million

SENDING  
HOPE

**Attention VBS lovers:  
Save the Date!  
April 8, 2019  
First Baptist Athens**

Get ready for your *Amazing Encounter  
with Jesus* at the VBS planning clinic!  
Dinner @ 5:30 pm ♦ Conference begins  
@ 6:00 pm.

Classes provided: 3 year/Pre-K;  
Kindergarten; 1st/2nd Grade; 3rd/4th  
Grade; 5th/6th Grade; Youth; Crafts; Snack/Rec; Music; Missions;  
Security; Pastors and Directors.

*Please register by April 4th with Kathy at the associational office so we will  
know how many will eat and which classes they will attend, so we can have  
materials properly prepared for them.*



**Remember in prayer our churches without Pastors:  
First Baptist Athens, First Baptist Calhoun, Eastanallee,  
Lakeview, Marshall Hill, New Bethel, Old Salem and  
Short Creek.**

There are a lot of things that bring pleasure to our senses. The smell of flowers, a beautiful sunset, a melodic voice singing praise to God, or the taste of your favorite food. I once had someone apologize for kids making noise while I was preaching. To me the noise of children in the church service is a wonderful sound. It may be distracting to some, but we should be glad for those kinds of distractions.

Reaching children should be a priority for all churches. Each year about 1,000 churches close their doors and cease to exist. It happens to many of them because they quit reaching out and bringing in kids. We should rejoice when kids are making noise during the service. It should be comforting to see kids messing up a clean building. These are the signs of life and hope for the future.

The greatest outreach program for Southern Baptist churches is Vacation Bible School. We see more baptisms from this event throughout the convention than anything else we do. The sad point of the day now is that a number of churches are no longer having VBS. They think it is too much trouble, there aren't enough workers, or maybe we are too old to do that anymore. Sadly, some churches just do not want to reach the kids in their neighborhood.

We have churches in our association that no longer do VBS. For 2019, I would like to see every church have Vacation Bible School at some time during the year. Whether it is a one day event, a weekend or a full week, there is much to be gained by providing VBS for your community. If your church falls into the category of thinking you don't have the resources or people to have VBS, then I have help for you. Every year I have had churches tell me they would like to help a church in our association have VBS.

The VBS clinic will be April 8 at First Baptist Church in Athens. Even if you do not think you will have a VBS now, I hope every church will have some people come just to start getting ideas and think about possibilities for your church to reach out to children. If you need help with an outreach to children, please give the Association office a call.

In Mark 9:37 Jesus reminded his disciples that those who welcome a child in His name were welcoming Him. Let's reach the children in McMinn and Meigs counties!

Bro. Mike

### Clearwater Baptist Church's Upward Basketball program sets a record!

In a Slam Dunk Community Challenge on Saturday, February 9, the Clearwater Upward Basketball League hosted the largest food drive event ever in the history of Coordinated Charities!

Ron Starr, the director of the local Upward Basketball League, likes to call this Upward League "Sunday School with a basketball". He explains that teams practice once a week to learn and improve on the basics of basketball as well as be challenged to memorize scripture and apply biblical truths in real life situations.

This is the second year that the league has added a new dimension to the season by challenging participants to look outside themselves and the sport of basketball to serve others.

This season the league chose to partner with Coordinated Charities for their Slam Dunk Community Challenge. Coordinated Charities is a non-profit social and human care agency created by area churches to provide limited emergency assistance to individuals in need. For the challenge, each team or cheerleading squad selected one player/cheerleader and weighed them. This player's weight became the goal for the team. The object was for each team or squad to contribute to Coordinated Charities more than that player's weight in canned goods or nonperishable items. With the challenge in place, the entire league was to collect at least 2,600 pounds of food. On Saturday, February 9, Kevin Lane, director of Coordinated Charities, was amazed and deeply moved by the generosity of the Upward family. By the end of the day almost 6,000 pounds (3 tons) of food was collected! Over the next few months, this food will be distributed to hundreds of needy families as well as the homeless community in our area. Mr. Lane also stated that this tremendous donation will allow Coordinated Charities to do multiple other things that may have originally been put on the back burner. The Clearwater Baptist Church Upward league will never know the ripple effect of their kindness. Sandy Starr, the organizer of the event, said that this is just another example of what wonderful things can be accomplished in our community when we join forces and do it together!

Clearwater would like to thank Niota Elementary School for providing a location for Upward to take place each season. A special thanks also goes out to AgCentral Co-op for providing the scales necessary to make the event such a huge success.

### **McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists Pastors Conference**

**Meets every Monday morning at 10:00 am at the Baptist Center.**

### **BCM Lunch Schedule**

- March 7—Spring Break
- March 14—Central
- March 21—First Baptist Decatur/Walnut Grove
- March 28—East Niota/First Baptist Niota
- April 4—First Baptist Etowah
- April 11—First Baptist Englewood
- April 18—Mount Harmony Niota



**Christian Builders needs YOUR Help!**

We build handicap ramps for the disabled and elderly. We are a 100% volunteer organization.

**For more information or to volunteer, please Contact Scott Duckworth at 263-1989**

# CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Church Name	Current	YTD	Church Name	Current	YTD	Church Name	Current	YTD
Antioch	321.24	740.48	Etowah, First	0.00	250.00	Pope Avenue	109.25	585.45
Athens, First	1,500.00	7,500.00	Good Hope	150.00	750.00	Riceville, First	0.00	262.68
Bethel Springs	0.00	0.00	Goodsprings	252.54	1,855.07	Rockview	0.00	0.00
Bethsadia	0.00	0.00	Hiwassee	0.00	0.00	Rocky Mount	0.00	300.00
Brookhill	0.00	100.00	Idlewild	110.00	440.00	Rogers Creek	68.48	533.82
Calhoun, First	0.00	800.00	Lakeside	72.10	804.02	Sanford	0.00	1,500.00
Calvary, Etowah	50.00	200.00	Lakeview	192.68	736.10	Shiloh	0.00	800.00
Calvary Missionary	25.00	125.00	Manilla Chapel	0.00	200.00	Short Creek	362.63	1,527.27
Central	0.00	2,538.86	Marshall Hill	0.00	400.00	South Liberty	0.00	0.00
Clay Hill	0.00	60.00	McMahan Calvary	80.72	696.50	Stephensville	0.00	0.00
Clear Springs	447.07	1,905.79	Mount Harmony, Niota	396.00	2,540.00	Ten Mile	108.39	500.65
Clearwater	0.00	0.00	Mount Harmony, Riceville	50.87	208.92	Union Grove	250.00	250.00
Coghill	175.00	700.00	Mount Pisgah	282.42	1,430.06	Union Hill	203.00	889.00
Cottonport	203.24	413.68	Mount Verd	0.00	100.00	Valley Road	0.00	300.00
Decatur, First	750.44	2,821.99	New Beginnings	0.00	0.00	Valley View	0.00	795.00
Dixon Avenue	110.00	550.00	New Bethel	0.00	0.00	Walnut Grove	227.58	995.39
Double Springs	50.00	250.00	Niota, First	0.00	0.00	West End	344.50	1,317.06
Eastanallee	100.00	500.00	North Athens	200.00	200.00	West View	115.82	470.00
East Athens	0.00	4,336.28	Oak Grove	300.00	1,801.00	Wildwood	465.06	2,126.31
East Niota	395.00	790.00	Old Salem	278.10	1,245.45	Zion Hill	400.00	400.00
East View	0.00	0.00	Pisgah	0.00	2,309.68			
Englewood, First	0.00	4,237.50	Pond Hill	0.00	0.00			
						<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>9,147.13</b>	<b>58,089.01</b>

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

## March Celebrations

### Birthdays

- 01..... *Stacy Wilcox* .....Clay Hill
- 02..... *Linda Smith* .....Valley Road
- 04..... *Larry Arwood* .....Antioch
- 06..... *Scott Packett* .....Idlewild
- 13..... *Jamie Lones*.....Rogers Creek
- 15..... *James Morgan*.....Stephensville
- 18..... *Titus Snyder*.....Oak Grove
- 19..... *Bob Kerr* .....North Athens
- 20..... *Tina Abernathy*.....Pisgah
- 21..... *Mike King* .....Shiloh
- 23..... *Tammy Fansler* .....Clear Springs
- 30..... *Patty Pearman* .....Good Hope

### Anniversaries

- 01.....*Jamey & Elizabeth Davis*.. First Baptist Decatur
- 09.....*Jamie & Stefanie Lones*.... Rogers Creek
- 15.....*Allen & Carolyn Watson*... Dixon Avenue
- 31.....*Bill & Patty Pearman*..... Good Hope

### Church/Association Anniversaries

- Johnny Underwood* ....Pope Avenue..... 1 year
- Van Elkins* .....Rocky Mount ..... 1 year
- Jamey Davis*.....First Baptist Decatur ... 7 years



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

## New in the Library

### Books

By Tamera Alexander

- Christmas at Carnton
- From a Distance
- Beyond This Moment
- Within My Heart
- Rekindled
- Revealed
- Remembered
- To Whisper Her Name
- To Win Her Favor
- To Wager Her Heart
- A Lasting Impression
- A Beauty So Rare
- A Note Yet Unsung
- With This Pledge

- Where Shadows Meet *by* Colleen Coble
- Chosen People *by* Robert Whitlow
- Fatal Mistake *by* Susan Sleeman
- Kill Shot *by* Susan Sleeman
- Mending Fences *by* Suzanne Woods Fisher
- Under the Midnight Sun *by* Tracie Peterson & Kimberley Woodhouse

### Videos

- Brother White
- God Bless the Broken Road
- Indivisible
- Waiting for Butterflies

## Church News

- **The 2018 Annual Minutes** are ready and can be picked up during regular office hours!
- **East Athens Baptist Church** is seeking a full-time Pastor of Families. Send resume to: [jrobertson423@me.com](mailto:jrobertson423@me.com).
- **First Baptist Calhoun** is seeking a part-time associate Pastor of Youth and Families. Send resume to P.O. Box 175, Calhoun, TN 37309.
- **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 Missions Mosaic or Mature Living.**

## Pastors Prayer Meeting

Every Thursday at the  
 Baptist Center  
 12:00 noon

# McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists, Inc.

350 Congress Parkway North  
Athens, TN 37303

Phone: 423-745-2248

Fax: 423-745-7693

Website: [www.mcminnmeigsbaptists.org](http://www.mcminnmeigsbaptists.org)

Email: [mmab@truevine.net](mailto:mmab@truevine.net)

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**Return Service Requested**

## Association Staff:

**Director of Missions:** Rev. Mike Farmer

Email: [mikefarmer@truevine.net](mailto:mikefarmer@truevine.net)

**Ministry Assistant:** Kathy Fain

Email: [mmab@truevine.net](mailto:mmab@truevine.net)



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## Pastors & Preachers Fellowship

March 4, 2019 ♦ 7:00 pm

*Come and see who your speaker will be!*

## Free Labor Law Posters

[tennessee.gov/workforce/article/required-posters](http://tennessee.gov/workforce/article/required-posters)

You can also print out your Federal Posters from this site. Companies with 2 or more employees are required to have state and federal posters. This also applies to non-profit and family-owned businesses.

*Make sure your Labor Law Posters are up-to-date!*

## Disaster Relief Training

March 9, 2019 ♦ First Baptist Church Athens



**Registration/Breakfast** – 8:30 am

**Introduction to Disaster Relief** – 9:00 am taught by Mike Farmer

**Break** – 11:00

**Specialization Classes** – 11:15-12:45

**Damage Assessment** – taught by Scott Duckworth

**Chainsaw Operation & Safety (Classroom)** – taught by Mike Farmer

The credentialing fee is \$36. This fee will cover not only the cost of the ID and background check but also the cost of any of the basic training courses a volunteer wants to take over the next 3 years.

*For additional information or to pre-register for class contact Mike Farmer at 745-2248 or [mikefarmer@truevine.net](mailto:mikefarmer@truevine.net)*

Save  
the  
Date!

April 5-7, 2019

Tennessee WWJ

Unshakable  
PURSUIT  
GET-TOGETHER  
& CONNECTION

Summer  
Fun

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!

CHILDREN'S  
BIBLE  
DRILL

The Associational Bible  
Drill will be on Sunday,  
April 14th at East  
Athens Baptist Church  
at 2:00 pm.