

JUNE 2019  
VOL LVII • ISSUE No. 6

# THE *Messenger*

## FEATURES:

*"Ordinary Disciples"*

*Calling All  
Volunteers*

*Summer Camps &*

*VBS*

**AND MORE**



# ***What's Inside***

**GOOD  
NEWS  
IS COMING**

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# Save the dates...

## JUNE

8th-15th - Youth Missions Trips (Please pray for students)

11th-12th - SBC Annual Meeting - Birmingham, AL

18th-21st - Fun In The Son @ Carson Springs

24th - Deadline For Messenger

## JULY

4th - Independence Day (Office Closed)

22nd - Deadline For Messenger



# Ben Brags On The Savior

**“Ordinary disciples making ordinary disciples... Jesus’ extraordinariness shines most brightly through humble ordinariness.” — Ben Sobel**

D.L. Moody once said, “If this world is going to be reached [with the gospel], I am convinced it must be done by men and women of average talent.”

Think about all the church members of “average talent,” all those ordinary disciples. How many are unmotivated, disillusioned, and spiritually sterile... because we let them think it is ok to just sit on the pew till Jesus comes?

Jesus expected a lot from his average-talent, ordinary disciples. He expected them to proclaim the gospel, heal the sick, serve the poor, cast out demons, love people deeply...and to multiply disciple-makers. He expected them to do what he did, and “even greater things.” Jesus had a high bar of expectation for His average-talent, ordinary disciples. We should too.

Jesus disciplined ordinary people, and we are ordinary people. He is calling us to disciple ordinary people, and ordinary people make great disciple makers.

So, how about you? Do you want to help people learn to hear Jesus’ voice and obey his teaching in the power of the Holy Spirit? Do you want to be an ordinary disciple, who makes ordinary disciple-makers...all for the glory of God!

Call 929-1196. Get connected yourself, and connect your church with the Disciple-Makers Network today!



Ben Profit

Associational Mission Strategist

[ben@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:ben@holstonbaptists.org)



# Summer Travel

Who's going on a trip this summer? If you are, by now you have already planned where it will be and reserved your lodging. You may still be working on the details of your trip, and saving your packing until just before you leave. The purpose of your trip and destination will determine what you pack. If it's a mission trip that is your plan for the summer, your suitcase may include VBS lessons along with your Bible, craft supplies and games, as well as sports clothes and plenty of sunscreen.

The Johnson City Baptist Center is gearing up to welcome several mission teams during June and July. As they unpack their suitcases and supplies, we will be ready to experience more of God's love and blessings as they share with us. This year we have teams coming from West, Middle, and East Tennessee, as well as North Carolina. Also, mission teams from our Holston Baptist churches will be answering the call to be on mission, at home, in the community of the Johnson City Baptist Center.

Please pray:

- \*For mission teams preparation, safety in travel, and their health.
- \*For salvation for children, and to grow closer to the Lord.
- \*For adults, for salvation or recommitment to the Lord.
- \*For the Holy Spirit to guide and work among our team at the Baptist Center.

The harvest does not come without the work that goes before it. From teaching and prayers throughout the year, to all the activities planned for the summer, God is working in His time. We need to be faithful to carry out the tasks He has for us, so that the lost can be saved. Wherever you travel this summer, whether it is a designated mission trip or not, be sure to pack and unpack blessings of the Lord to share along the way. If you may find yourself with some open time, then you are welcome to join us in sharing with folks at the JCBC. *"How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"* Romans 10:14-15 (NIV)

Answer the call, and get traveling!

Blessings,

Anna Huggins

Anna Huggins

Director of Ministries

Johnson City Baptist Center

[anna@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:anna@holstonbaptists.org)





# Overcoming Negative Views of Christians/Christianity

How do others know that you are a Christian without you telling them? Do you think most people you interact with have a positive or negative view of Christians and Christianity?

You have most likely heard of the fable titled, "The Boy Who Cried Wolf". Just in case you haven't, let me tell you the story:

A young boy was asked by his father to watch over their flock of sheep while he went away on business. He gave him instructions on how to take care of the flock and warned him of a wolf he had seen lately that had tried to kill some of the sheep. He told his son that if he saw the wolf to yell "WOLF! WOLF!" as loud as he could and the villagers would come to the rescue. It didn't take long for the boy to get bored watching the sheep roam around the fields. He began to wonder what would happen if there really was a wolf threatening the flock. So, at the top of his lungs he yelled, "WOLF! WOLF!" Within minutes, several villagers arrived with pitchforks ready to take on the dangerous animal. The boy thought the villager's reaction was hilarious, and couldn't stop laughing at the look on their faces when they realized there was no wolf.

Soon after the villagers returned to their homes and work, the boy got bored again and thought he would have some more fun. Again, he yelled, "WOLF! WOLF!" And the villagers returned, ready for the fight. This time, the boy thought it was even funnier, and the villagers were really angry at being tricked again. They scolded the boy and stormed back to the village.





While the boy was still chuckling over having tricked the villagers a second time, out of the forest came a huge wolf with dinner on his mind. The boy panicked and began yelling ""WOLF! WOLF!" over and over. However, this time, no one came to the rescue. The villagers had grown weary of the boy's tricks, and they refused to fall for them a third time.

Without the help of the villagers, the boy watched helplessly as the wolf killed several of the sheep, then turned on him.

The moral of the story is that we should not lie. A liar will not be believed, even when he tells the truth.

Many people have negative impressions of Christians and Christianity. These negative attitudes have many different causes, but one of the main reasons for their negative views is that they perceive Christians to be "liars" ...we do not live out what we preach. We have "cried wolf" by saying one thing and doing another. Now, when we are serious about sharing the gospel, our words are seen as hollow.

How can we overcome some of these negative views of Christianity in our community so that non-believers will take us seriously when we talk to them about the gospel? Let's look at three areas that the Bible says are important ways others can know we are Christians and that we are serious about our faith. We will start our look at each area by asking a question.

Question #1: Are we, as Christians, united in purpose and lifestyle in our home, church and community?

Jesus asked the Father for unity among believers. In John 17:20-21 NIV Jesus prays: "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."





Jesus asked that we would be “one” with each other and “one” with god because He knew that by being united, people would know that He was sent by the Father and that we are His true followers.

Why do sports teams have uniforms? Because they want everyone to know that they are on the same team and are working together to accomplish a goal...winning. What can we do as The Body of Christ that would identify us as a team that is working together to accomplish a goal...The Hope of Christ in every person?

It all starts with us wearing the same “uniform”: "So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3: 26-28

Question #2: Do we truly love each other and love every person in our community?

Jesus summed up the entire Law of the Old Testament in one sentence: Love the Lord your God and love your neighbor. In John 13:35 NIV he told the disciples that, “everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

As Christians, we could teach the Bible and speak the gospel 24/7/365, but if we do not do so in love, we are only making noise. Unbelievers will either learn to ignore the noise, or it will irritate them into responding unpleasantly. The best way to avoid simply being noise, is through relationship evangelism. If your goal is to build a relationship with someone first, then you develop a friendship and a trust that can lead to opportunities to share the gospel. You’ve heard the saying: People don’t care what you know until they know that you care. We must love those who we share the gospel with and avoid being noise makers.

Question #3: Do our words and actions proclaim Christ or deny that we know Him?



Jesus set the standard for what it means to be a Christian. In Matthew 10:35 (ESV) he tells us, "whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven."

We, as Christians, are not likely to stand up and public and say, "I deny Jesus and all He stands for", but remember our actions speak louder than our words. The people in our communities are looking more at what we do than what we say.

It's easier to deny Christ with our actions than you might think. We can be disrespectful to a neighbor or a boss. We can say we follow Christ yet let something or someone else rule over us. We can claim to be a Christian yet not love the "untouchables" in our community. When we say we are Christians and we do not act like Christians, we are denying that our faith is real...and ultimately that we don't believe Christ is who we say He is.

So, how do we overcome negative views of Christians and Christianity?

It starts with us being united. Being here together is part of that unity, as is sharing a desire to see the Hope of Christ in every person. We must support and encourage one another across denominations and among different churches. We must come together on what we all have in common...the Cross. We are united in our message...the message of the gospel.

We come together in unity, but we must reach out in love. If the Church is known only as that group of people that loves everyone, we are living out our faith and impacting the world. Unconditional love is something that very few of people have ever experienced. We must be intentional about loving others.

It all comes together with us living out our faith, and letting our actions proclaim Christ and not deny Him. When we are united as the Body of Christ, loving others unconditionally and living out our faith, we will have opportunities to share the ultimate in unity and unconditional love...the Gospel!



Here are three challenges I leave each of you with today:

**Unity:** Is there a brother or sister in Christ that you have wronged or that you do not get along with? If so, repair that relationship. Start by apologizing, and then work to mend the wounds and rebuild the relationship.

**Love:** Begin a relationship with someone that most people ignore or are afraid of. You will be an example of unconditional love and might just find a new best friend in the process.

**Proclaim:** Identify one area of your life where you are not acting as God wants you to. Ask God to reveal it to you and then give you the strength and wisdom to correct it.

Soli Deo Gloria, Haley

Note: Special thanks to Adam Birchfield, former First Priority Student Leader at Unicoi County High School, for the ideas and concepts that helped develop this article.

*"These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus." Acts 17:6-7*



Haley Wherry - HBA Evangelism  
Training Coordinator /  
First Priority





# Development of Church Renewal Network

Pg.11

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to read up on the latest news related to church health. For our June issue of The Messenger I am choosing to present an idea that will assist us in the task of equipping our churches with leaders for today and the next generation.

For the past year, we have been working diligently to pull together a team whose responsibilities are to lay the groundwork for a network where the focus is on churches in need of renewal whether through a process of revitalization or replanting. Most of this team has been assembled and has begun its work. The two main purposes of this group are as follows:

- 1) To develop the process that assists church leadership from the point of Discovery (a time of assessment to determine a “starting point”) to renewal (a functional congregation of Christ followers who practice healthy evangelism methods and replicable discipleship, to name a few traits).
- 2) To develop the creation of a Leadership Pipeline. This “pipeline” will be made up of those individuals called to various areas of who desire a learning path that will best equip them for their calling by seeking out every resource, then help them utilize these resources. Our pipeline is being designed to assist those feeling called to serve in the revitalization/replanting ministry of our churches.

The various learning paths available are the role of pastor, worship pastor, and small groups/education/connections pastor. Each “recruit” will be assessed for their acceptance in the program. Upon successful completion of the assessment, the student will receive a syllabus which includes all the necessary requirements to complete the program which consists off a learning cohort related to their ministry pathway, personal coaching, and a 6-12-month apprenticeship.

Pastors and church leaders, we need your assistance in identifying recruits for this pipeline. We also want to hear from you if you want to learn more about how we can come alongside your ministry if you are finding yourself losing ground. It's a pleasure to serve you and I look forward to hearing from you!



Bryan Smith  
Church Development Specialist  
[bryan@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:bryan@holstonbaptists.org)



# TO YOUR HEALTH

The human back can quickly become such a problem. We say "put your back into it", but it is so easy to have your back go out! When we resort to surgical repairs it seems to go on and on and on. More surgeries follow too often. Regardless of our age or muscularity, here are some precautions to take to preserve the life of a healthy back. (This list is far from complete.)

1) Stretch. Always before heavy lifting or athletic endeavors. In fact, when you first wake up in the morning lay on your back in bed and pull your knees to your chest. With hands on your shins, pull your thighs tight against your chest and hold for five seconds. Do this several times before you start your day. Never raise up in bed and then spin to the edge; rather, roll to your side first and then sit up from that position. Such a simple thing can save you great pain! I always stretch before shower and shave time. I sit on the floor making a V with my legs. Walk your fingers down the tops of each leg to your toes. Try to keep your knees locked, but that may not happen at first. Do this several times with each leg. Then reach straight ahead and walk your fingers on the floor as far as you can reach. These simple exercises will loosen up your lower back and make you start your day in better condition.





2) Warm up. Bowling, golf, swimming and weight lifting really need stretching before engaging in the activities. Resist the temptation to get in a hurry and skip that part! You will enhance your performance and save your back.

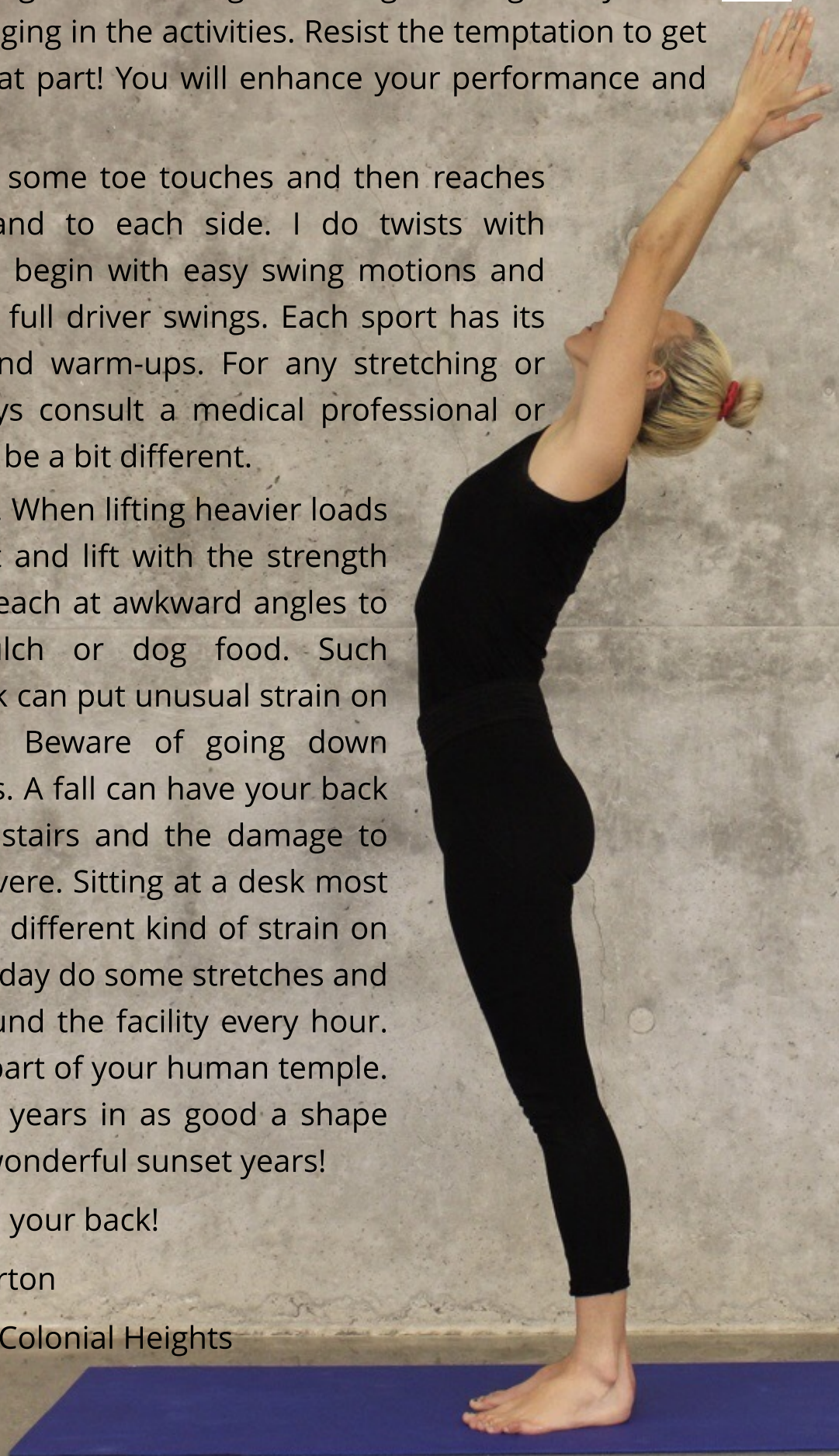
For golf, I typically do some toe touches and then reaches through my stance and to each side. I do twists with increasing distances. I begin with easy swing motions and eventually build up to full driver swings. Each sport has its own best stretches and warm-ups. For any stretching or exercise routine always consult a medical professional or trainer. Each body can be a bit different.

3) Use common sense. When lifting heavier loads keep the back upright and lift with the strength of your legs. Do not reach at awkward angles to lift weights like mulch or dog food. Such extensions into a trunk can put unusual strain on an unprepared back. Beware of going down smooth, wooden steps. A fall can have your back land on sharp-edged stairs and the damage to your back could be severe. Sitting at a desk most of the day can place a different kind of strain on ones back. During the day do some stretches and get up for a walk around the facility every hour. Take care of this vital part of your human temple. Enter your retirement years in as good a shape as possible for some wonderful sunset years!

We have your back!

Greg Burton

Pastor - Colonial Heights







## Are you looking for a way to engage children in missions learning and hands-on ministry opportunities?

JAM, a one-day missions event for boys and girls in grades 1-6, allows children to experience the excitement of missions learning through Bible study, meeting missionaries, games, ministry projects, interactive missions fair activities and so much more!

Adult leaders and parents are given the exclusive opportunity to attend a training conference designed to help them as they work with children in the church and ministry setting. Make your plans to join us this fall as we seek to learn what it means to "Go into all the world and tell the Good News to everyone." (Mark 16:15)

## Want more information?

Go to [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org) for more information about the JAM nearest you!  
Questions? Call 615-371-2038 or email [jwilson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:jwilson@tnbaptist.org).

Early registration fee is \$15 per person then \$18 per person after September 20.  
Exact registration deadlines vary per location; registration opens August 1.



We would love to **SERVE** you at one of our TBMB Youth Summer Camps! Here are 3 options to choose from. We make much about Jesus at each of our Camps! Join in what the Lord is doing.

**-Jay Barbier, TBMB Evangelism Event Specialist**



## **Super Summer**

**Monday, June 24th-Friday, June 28th**

**Theme: Rooted (Colossians 2:7)**

**Camp Pastor: Drew Murphy**

**Worship: Riverside Band**

**Location: Carson Springs Baptist  
Conference Center**

**Cost: \$250 per person**



## **Impact Camp**

**Monday July 1-Friday July 5**

**Theme: Retro Faith (Galatians 3:13)**

**Camp Pastor: Stephen Dervan**

**Worship: Jason Lovins Band**

**Location: Linden Valley Baptist Conference  
Center**

**Cost: \$250 per person**

## **Impact Weekend**

**Friday July 5th-Sunday July 7th**

**Theme: Retro Faith (Galatians 3:13)**

**Camp Pastor: Danny Hardy**

**Worship: Jason Lovins Band**

**Location: Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center**

**Cost: \$175 per person**





## **2019 Weekday Early Education Conference**

**The Weekday Early Education Conference will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2019 9AM to 4:30PM First Baptist Church Hendersonville.**

**106 Bluegrass Commons  
Blvd. Hendersonville, TN  
37075**

**The Conference  
offers six (6) full  
hours of  
continuing  
education credit!**

**This Weekday Early Education Conference is for directors and teachers of any part-time or full-time preschool program. Valuable training is available for anyone working with preschoolers, regardless of the type of program or curriculum used. Directors and teachers will have an elective track to choose from for both the morning and afternoon sessions.**



Students from our association participated in the Children's State Bible Drill and the Youth and High School Regional Bible Drill at First Baptist Greeneville on April 27.



# Congratulations

To **all** of the Children, Youth, and High School drillers who represented Holston well!



Amanda Higgins (High School Drill) and Alyssa Bailey (Youth Drill) each won their Drill at Regionals and participated in the State High School Drill and Youth Drill respectively. The drills were held at the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Mt. Juliet, TN on May 4.



# Isaiah 117

## Volunteers Needed!!!

Exciting times! We are officially opening our 2nd house! The Washington County House will open on September 17, 2019! With that being said, **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!** We are looking for volunteers for both the Carter and Washington County Houses! If you are interested in becoming a trained volunteer for either of these locations

I **MUST** have your information by **June 7th**! (Even if you have already submitted a volunteer form!) Please use the link below!

<https://forms.gle/wcuNqEw4XKE6hV578>

There will be 3 training session at the beginning of September.  
More details to follow.





# Renovations have begun on our new Washington County House!

Isaiah<sup>117</sup>

Isaiah<sup>117</sup>



A special thank  
you to everyone  
who made this  
year's golf  
tournament a  
huge success!!



Looking  
forward to  
May 2020!



# Ways To Serve

Christ Reconciled Church (CRC) is in need of committed volunteers who are willing to serve as child care workers during our Sunday evening service (approximately 5:00-6:45pm) each week. Please contact us at (423) 388-9037 for more information

## Full-Time Daycare Director Needed at Mountain View Baptist Church

The Director has the overall responsibility for all operations within the center, the education, health, safety, and welfare of all children and teachers. The Director is responsible for ensuring the highest customer satisfaction and keeping enrollment at its highest without sacrificing quality of education and Christian values. The ideal candidate will be a consummate professional at all times while promoting a positive attitude within the center and outside the center.

Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education is needed with at least 2 years field experience. Must be a devoted Christian and willing to become an active member of our church.

Please send resume to [sandy@mtnviewbaptist.com](mailto:sandy@mtnviewbaptist.com)

Central Baptist Church of Johnson City Tn. <https://cbcjc.org/> , phone 423 926 7121 is actively seeking resumes for the position of Outreach and Congregational Care Pastor. In brief this person will be responsible for the coordination of the Outreach and Congregational Care Ministries of Central Baptist Church. Interested persons should send resumes to Central Baptist Church, 300 North Roan Street, Johnson City Tn. 37601 attention Kirsten Borger or via email [kborger@cbcjc.org](mailto:kborger@cbcjc.org) on or before June 30, 2019.

## Interested in a ministry internship?

HBA is looking for interns in several areas. Are you considering the ministry or are you young in the ministry and looking for experience? We may have a solution for you! Over the next several months HBA will have several opportunities where you will be able to gain valuable experience.

For more information, send your email to [bryan@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:bryan@holstonbaptists.org) and type internship in the subject line. Bryan will get back with you and explain the details.



**Central Baptist Church** currently supports ANAM, the **African National Academy of Music** in Monrovia, Liberia. They exist to train church musicians, which are almost non-existent in Liberia. Their director, **Samson Tarpeh**, will be in the area in **July and August** and would love to do some piano concerts in churches for a love offering that would go entirely to support this ministry.

*For more information, or if your church would be interested in hosting a concert please contact Tony Martin at 423-426-3280.*



**June 14th**

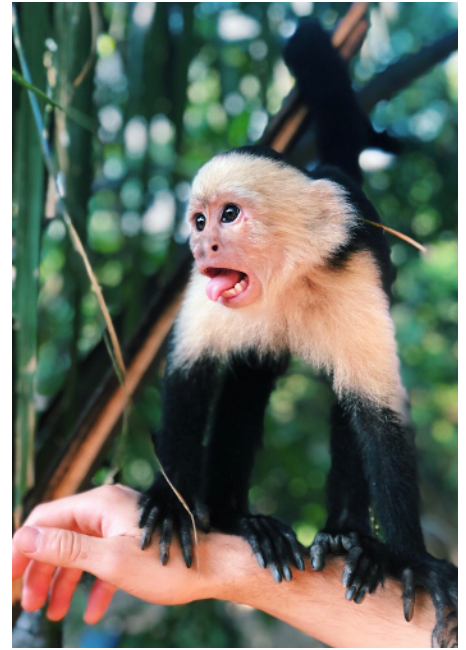
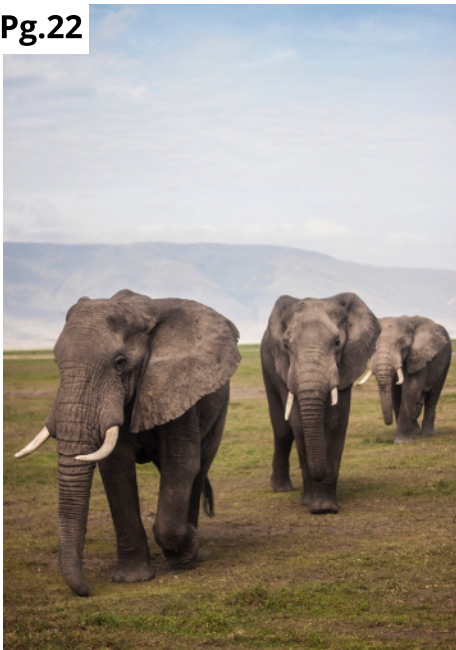
**9 AM to 2 PM**

**Training will be held at FBC Manchester and teams will then go to Bonnaroo to love, serve, and share Christ with people at the Jesus Tent.**

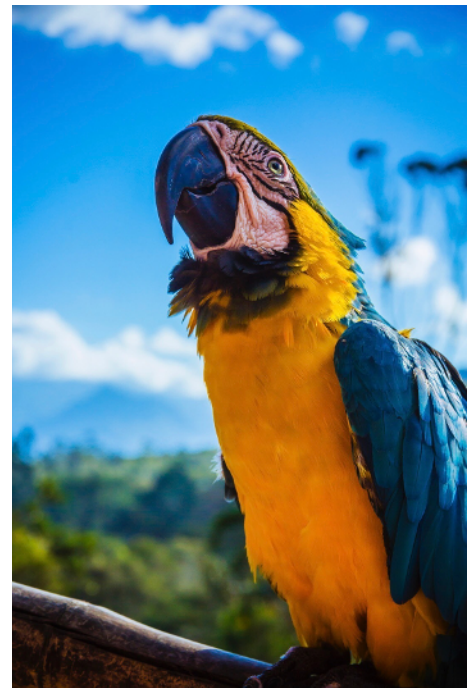
**Afterward we will have lunch together and debrief about the day.**

**The cost is free!**





Throw on your camera strap and buckle your seatbelt! VBS 2019 takes you on a wild adventure—with elephants and egrets, polar bears and penguins, cockatoos and crocodiles. As you seek out exotic animals, you'll also find snapshots of real-life encounters with Jesus in Scripture. Kids go from bewildered to believing as they get "In The Wild" at this summer's VBS! Southwestern Baptist will host their VBS June 17-21! VBS will run 5:30-8:30 each night, with a meal provided. Open for children 3-year old's - 6th grade, plus an adult class! Call the church office for more info!





# TN Baptist Regional Worship Conferences

[www.mmlcTN.com](http://www.mmlcTN.com)

**REGISTER  
SOON!**



## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

LOCATIONS/DATES	BREAKOUT SESSIONS
<p><b>LOWER EAST TENNESSEE</b>            Saturday, July 20  <i>White Oak Baptist Church, Chattanooga</i></p> <p><b>UPPER EAST TENNESSEE</b>            Saturday, July 27  <i>First Baptist Church, Morristown</i></p> <p><b>WEST TENNESSEE</b>            Saturday, August 10  <i>Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson</i></p> <p><b>MIDDLE TENNESSEE</b>            Saturday, August 17  <i>Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon</i></p> <p>For specific information regarding            clinicians for the Regional Music            Ministry Leadership Conference            nearest you, visit:  <a href="http://www.mmlcTN.com">www.mmlcTN.com</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Worship Leaders/Ministers of Music</b> (Full-time, Bivocational, and Volunteer)</li> <li><b>Worship Bands/Worship Teams</b> (Band Members, Vocalists, and Leaders)</li> <li><b>Choirs</b> (Choir Members and Directors)</li> <li><b>Keyboard Ministry</b> (Pianists, Keyboardists, and Organists)</li> <li><b>Children's Choir</b> (Children's Choir Leaders and Helpers)</li> <li><b>Audio-Visual Ministry</b> (Church Sound, Projection, and Video)</li> </ul>

  
JON AND EMILY MARTIN

  
PEPPER CHOPLIN

  
KIRK KIRKLAND

  
PAM ANDREWS

  
ZEB BALLENTINE

  
BRAD MOFFETT

  
CRAIG ADAMS

  
DENNIS WORLEY

  
PAUL RANDLETT

  
DAWSON HULL

  
JOHN KINCEN

  
JEFF BURNHAM



Join us at one of our four regional Music Ministry Leadership Conferences!

Visit [www.mmlcTN.com](http://www.mmlcTN.com) for more info!



Text to join!  
Text: JOINHBA to 84576

\* no password is required

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy & terms at [flocknote.com/txt](http://flocknote.com/txt).



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AND on Instagram



### WANT TO INCLUDE SOMETHING IN THE MESSENGER?

To submit your information for July 2019, please email [jeremy@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:jeremy@holstonbaptists.org) by the deadline: **FRIDAY, June 21st.**

Please be aware we will not be accepting submissions *after* this date. This will help us get The Messenger into your hands as soon as possible. Thank you!





**Office Hours**  
**Monday thru Friday**  
**8:30am - 4:30pm\***  
**423.929.1196**

**\*On Wednesday mornings we will not be available to answer phones  
due to our weekly staff meetings**

**email us at: [hba@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:hba@holstonbaptists.org)**  
**[www.holstonbaptists.org](http://www.holstonbaptists.org)**