

# The Messenger

MARCH 2020 | VOLUME LVIII ISSUE 3

*March*

The word "March" is written in a large, elegant, white cursive script. It is framed by a decorative border of dark green shamrock leaves and stems, which are arranged in a symmetrical, arching pattern around the word. The background of the entire cover is a vibrant green, speckled with numerous small, circular dots in shades of yellow, white, and dark green, creating a textured, bokeh-like effect.





## **March**

**1st - 2nd - State Evangelism Conference - Brentwood, TN**

**6th & 7th - Regional Disaster Relief Training - Higher Ground Baptist Church**

**8th - 15th - Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Offering.**

**13th-14th - Youth Evangelism Conference - Nashville Municipal Auditorium**

**20th-22nd - Get Together & Connection - Gatlinburg Convention Center**

**23rd - Student Conference Pre-Meeting @ 6:30 - Heritage Baptist Church**

## **April**

**3rd - 5th - Student Conference**

**5th - Palm Sunday**

**7th - Bible Drill - Calvary Erwin**

**10th - Good Friday - Office Closed**

**12th - Easter**

**13th - 15th - TIP Training**

**21st - Holocaust Remembrance Day**

**23rd - HBA Secretaries Meeting**

## **May**

**5th - All Teams Meeting @ 8:30 - HBA Office**

**7th - National Day Of Prayer**

**10th - Mothers Day**

**12th - **Executive Board @ 9:30am - HBA Office****

**25th Memorial Day - Office Closed**

# FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2020

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## CHURCH GIVING

For the month of February church giving was down and we finished at \$24,995.00



## EXPENSES

Our expenses for the month totaled \$26,600.35



## NET INCOME

Our net income was in the red this month and we were short \$1,605.35



## STAY IN THE KNOW

We will be sure to update you in the next issue, once we have received and calculated all of the giving from the Dollar Offering. Thank you for your generosity!



## MONTHLY GIVING GOAL

Our total monthly goal for church giving is \$32,712.68



## THINGS TO BE AWARE OF

Every month, 4.8% of the money that you faithfully give to HBA goes to support the BCM. Your generosity in January meant Holston was able to give \$2,089.64 to help support the BCM Ministry. Thank you for your continued generosity, together we can make a difference.





Save The Date!



## YOU ARE INVITED

TO: Church Secretaries / Administrative Assistants

Your work is vital to the overall success of your church and the Holston Baptist Association. **We want to celebrate you and ALL that you do.** You are invited to a fellowship and a time to connect with other HBA Church Secretaries / Administrative Assistants. **Please come and let us recognize your commitment and hard work.**

**DATE:** Thursday, April 23, 2020

**WHERE:** Holston Baptist Assoc. 207 University Parkway JC (Lower level)

**TIME:** 2:00—4:00

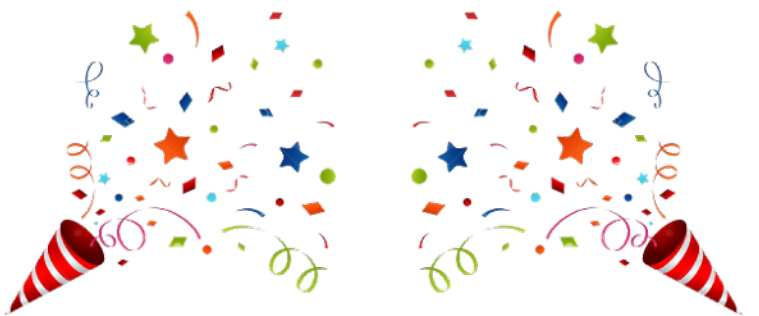
**RSVP:** 423-929-1196

**SPEAKER:** Martha Ledbetter, Secretary for 20+ years at Fall Branch Baptist Church, Greeneville, TN. (retired)





# Congratulations Taylor



On Sunday, February 2nd Mountain View had a Deacon Ordination and Installation Service where they had the pleasure of ordaining Taylor Pruett. Ben Profitt and all of us here at Holston would like to wish a very special congratulations to Taylor and we Pray that God would bless you and continue to use you for His Glory!

(Pictured above: Taylor and Chelsea Pruett)

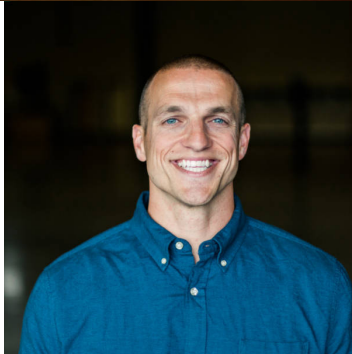
(Pictured on right: Taylor and Pastor Rich Murray)







**D.A. Horton** serves as Pastor of Reach Fellowship in Long Beach, CA and as an Assistant Professor of Intercultural Studies at California Baptist University. Previously he served as Chief Evangelist for the Urban Youth Workers Institute, a church planter/pastor in Kansas City, MO, a National Coordinator of Urban Student Ministries at the North American Mission Board (NAMB) and the Executive Director at ReachLife Ministries.



**Solomon Rexius** is the Director of Salt Company at Cornerstone Church in Ames, Iowa, reaching college students at Iowa State University. He was born and raised in Eugene, Oregon, and completed a Masters of Divinity at Western Seminary in Portland. Before moving to Iowa, he was a college pastor in Eugene for 6 years at University Fellowship Church. Solomon and his wife Lizzy just celebrated 8 years of marriage, and together they are the proud parents of one son (Israel) and three daughters (Crystal, Georgia, Penny), with one more girl on the way.



**The Liberty Worship Collective** is made up of the most talented, next-generation worship leaders in the world, selected from over 1,200 competitors annually. The students selected have the privilege of leading worship at the largest weekly gathering of young people — Liberty University's Convocation. From God-glorifying worship to world-class songwriting, the Liberty Worship Collective is the future of worship — now.



# Congratulations!



Congratulations Luka from all of us here at HBA! March 1st was Luka's last service as pastor at Faith Fellowship. Pastor Luka will be pursuing his Doctoral Degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary but will still continue to be an active member of FFBC. Congratulations Luka, we pray that God would continue to bless you and your family.



# Ben Brags on the Savior

by ben profit



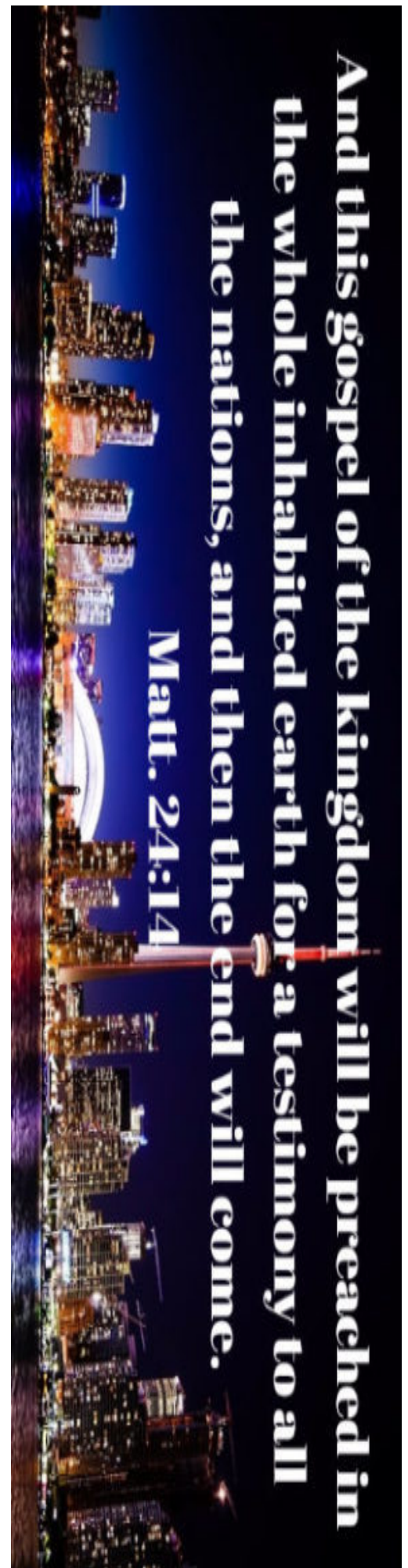
In 1999, Avery Willis reported that 70% of all people throughout history who have ever been saved have come to Christ in the 20th century. Of that number, 70% of conversions were post-1945. And of that number, 70% have been converted to Christ since 1990. Do the math; 1990-99 saw more than 1/3 of all conversions to Christ in the history of mankind!

“This gospel of the

kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.”  
Matt. 24:14

In Nepal 1990, two thousand Christians were known; In 1999, over half a million. In 1990, Mozambique had no known Christians; In 1999, there were 300 new churches. In one decade, Asia boomed from 15 million Christians to over 100 million. In South America, 40 thousand evangelicals became 40 million from 1990-99. India had three million conversions during that decade. Even the Muslim world has seen an astronomical increase in converts.

So, what has happened from 2000-2020? Probably 70% or more converts again...in every part of the world except North America, Western Europe, Japan and







societal morals and an increase in powerless churches, and the rest of the world will continue to experience spiritual awakening and



preparation for the Return of Christ... without us.

significant corporate prayer. And the primary common denominator in every part of the world where God is moving mightily today is the priority of **PRAYING TOGETHER.**

But in America, the centerpiece in most evangelical churches is **MINISTRY OF THE WORD...**to the near-abandonment of fervent, united, corporate **PRAYER...TOGETHER.**

Let us not fall to the **PRIDE** of thinking eloquence and thoroughness in preaching and teaching are all-sufficient. Pastors/Leaders, we must make **PRAYING TOGETHER** a priority **EQUAL** to **PREACHING** and teaching.

Until we get it right on the priority of earnest corporate prayer, we should expect to see continuing decline in

Australia!!!

WHY???

What is happening worldwide...**EXCEPT** among people like us?

John Franklin summarizes, they pray earnestly **TOGETHER**; We talk about praying **INDIVIDUALLY.**

In the New Testament, almost every mention of prayer most likely refers to group or corporate prayer, including Acts 6. In recent centuries, every awakening has been preceded by



# Church Health

by: bryan smith



If you were to type “Average Tenure of Southern Baptist Pastors” into your internet browser you would get plenty of suggestions. Some will say 3-4 years while others will go as high as almost 8 years. There are many factors that go into how long a pastor will stay in a particular pastorate but the bottom line is this: He will not stay there forever! As you read this you may be thinking, “I’m not expecting my pastor to leave anytime soon.” and you may be correct. However, the reality is that there will be a day the pulpit at your church will be vacated and what occurs next will have a lot to do with the future of your church.

I am borrowing from an article I read several years ago written by Lavern Brown entitled “9 Signs Your Church Needs an Intentional Interim Pastor.” The author made a very good case for every church to consider this step when that day arrives - and it eventually will, that your current pastor leaves.

Calling an intentional interim pastor should be the first thing a church does when the pastor resigns, especially if the church meets any of these criteria:

1. The pastor is leaving after a lengthy tenure (experts differ over “lengthy tenure”, with figures from 7 to 15 years).
2. The church churns its pastors (a new one is called every few years).
3. The pastor leaves under duress (forced out) or due to moral failure.
4. The church’s leaders can’t identify or

agree on the church’s mission.

5. It has been three years since the last ministry audit (everything is reviewed for “mission fit” and amended as needed).
6. It is a “commuter church” (members are very different from those who live near the church).
7. Attendance has plateaued (people coming in offset those who leave).
8. The church faces significant financial challenges.

Any church entering the transition between pastors should pay careful and prayer attention to these danger signs. If not, there is a danger the leadership team might utter five very dangerous words. If these words become a mantra the leadership could unwittingly inflict serious damage on the church that take years to repair.

Five words church leaders must avoid

**“We can do it ourselves.”**

Those words should be neither spoken or thought by the leaders of a church that meets any of the criteria. Perhaps this is an appropriate sentiment for church leaders that have the rare good fortune of being part of a robust, vigorous congregation. Other than that, they might say these five deadly words because they don’t know what they don’t know.

For more information on this subject, please follow this link or call me to begin a conversation.



# "News From The Johnson City Baptist Center

by: anna huggins



We love to celebrate the joys and blessings of our lives. I would love to share two of mine with you. Two more grandchildren have been born into our family. Cora was born in November, then recently, Elise was born in February. So precious are these new lives, beautiful creations of God.

The Bible tells us in Psalm 139:13, that God knit us together in our mother's womb. Also, in Jeremiah 1:5, that he knew us even before we were formed in the womb. Just as we rejoice in the births in our family, our Heavenly Father rejoices in births into his family. Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV), says: "The Lord our God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing."

God loves us so much that he sent his only son to provide our salvation. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, God rejoices. We also rejoice and want to share with others about our new life in him. The people we know, friends, neighbors, or new acquaintances with whom we build relationships, are the ones we want to tell about this blessing. How can we not share about the forgiveness and eternal life that Jesus has provided?

Sharing about God's love for us and the good news of Jesus, is what the Johnson City Baptist Center is about. We want to be faithful in this commission we have been given. Right now, at the Baptist Center, we hope to reach new families moving into the community. Please pray for open

doors for us to welcome them. Also, some children from these families are attending the Bible clubs. Pray that they will love to learn about Jesus.

Pray for our older youth who regularly attend Bible study, that the Holy Spirit will draw them to trust him with their lives. Pray for the woman in our Adult Bible study who is searching to understand the truth of God's Word. Pray for the man who attended for the first time, that he will be drawn to the Bible. Please pray for the woman who is a person of peace in the community, that God will guide her as she reaches out to others.

As we build relationships, sharing about what God is doing in our lives becomes a natural progression. Telling someone about Jesus is a blessing because his love will overflow to others. We talk, we share, we cry, we rejoice. Pray for new lives in Christ!

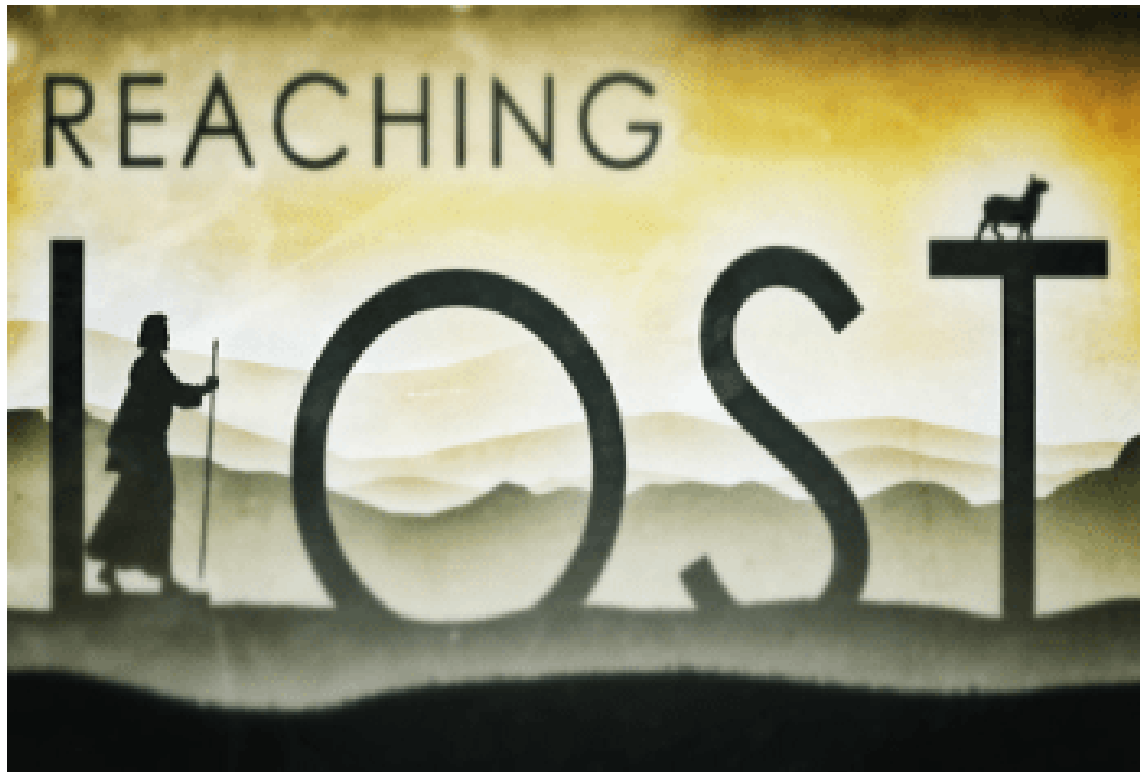
We ask for your help:

- In prayer
- In providing scholarships for 9 youth to attend the HBA Student Conference
- In donations to replace the roof on the activity house at the Baptist Center
- In volunteering your church to bring a mission team to do VBS this summer.

Rejoicing in God's love,

Anna Huggins





# Evangelism Conference

**Friday, March 6**  
**6:30PM**

Oak Grove Baptist Church  
Sullivan Baptist Choir will sing  
Soloist: Carolyn Reed  
Speaker: Harold Hunter

**Saturday, March 7**  
**10:00AM-12:00PM**

Oak Grove Baptist Church  
Soloist: Carolyn Reed  
Speaker: a member from the  
Fellowship of TN Baptist  
Evangelists

**Saturday, March 7**  
**6:30PM**

Boones Creek Baptist Church  
Special Singing – TBD

**Sunday, March 8**  
**AM Services**

One Day Revival at many  
churches in area  
Speakers will be members of  
the Fellowship of TN Baptist  
Evangelists

**Sunday, March 8**  
**6:30PM**

University Pkwy Baptist Church  
Joint services with all churches  
who had the One Day Revival  
Service in their AM services  
Speaker: Harold Hunter

**Monday, March 9**  
**10:00AM-12:00PM**

Boones Creek Baptist Church  
Speaker: a member of the  
Fellowship of TN Baptist  
Evangelists





# Men's Ministry Workshop

## Cherry Grove Baptist Church

104 Cherry Grove Road

Jonesborough, TN

March 14-15, 2020

Led by: **Keith Boggs** from First Baptist, Woodstock  
and Real Momentum Ministries.

There will be a BBQ meal on Saturday (14th) at  
6:00PM followed by Part 1 of the Workshop

Sunday 1:00PM will be Part 2 of the Workshop

Call Cherry Grove Baptist Church to register  
423-753-2033

FREE!!!



## HBA VBS Clinic 2020

Thursday, April 9, 2020

FBC Blountville

5:30 Open House

6:00 Opening Rally

6:45 Conferences

8:30 Dismissal

If you would like to be a part  
of this ministry, please let  
me know !!

Tammy Hammitt

HBA VBS Director

(423) 677-8503



### Daily Content

- Day 1: Foundation of Love — Matthew 9:9-13
- Day 2: Foundation of Forgiveness — Acts 26:1-29
- Day 3: Foundation of Worth — Matthew 26:36-46
- Day 4: Foundation of Promise — Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20
- Day 5: Foundation of Life — Matthew 7:24-29

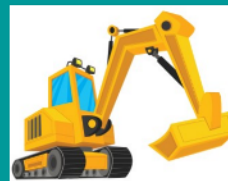
### Rotation Sites

High Steel Worship Rally  
Blueprint Bible Study  
Jackhammer Music  
Excavator Missions  
Bulldozer Crafts  
Wrecking Ball Rec  
Food Truck Snacks

**Theme Verse:**  
I am sure of this, that he who  
started a good work in you will  
carry it on to completion until  
the day of  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
*Philippians 1:6 (CSB)*

Come to hear and learn about all  
the wonderful things the kids will  
experience at VBS next summer!!

You might even win a real awesome  
door prize or two!! See ya then!!



**BUILDING  
ON THE  
LOVE OF  
JESUS**

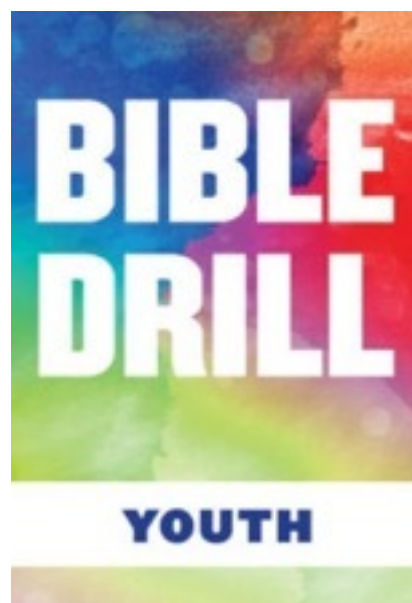
# Associational Bible Drill

**Tuesday, April 7, 2020, 5:45 p.m.**

**Calvary Baptist Church**

Erwin

Churches need to have church drills done by Sunday, March 29, in time to submit the names to the HBA office for participation in the Associational Drill. Want a blessing? Come and watch the drills on April 7, you'll be amazed to see and hear God's word proclaimed.





# HELP WANTED

**Piney Flats First Baptist Church** is accepting resumes for a bi-vocational part time Youth Pastor and also a bi-vocational part time **Children's Ministry Director**. Please send resume to PastorAllenDavis@gmail.com or the church email, pineyflatsbaptist@gmail.com, attention personnel committee.

**Holston** needs **volunteers** (individuals or churches) to take on the task of upkeep and maintenance on the **Buffalo Ridge Cemetery**. This is the cemetery that HBA owns. This would include mowing, weeding and blowing leaves in the fall. Please contact us at the HBA office at (423) 929-1196 if you or your church are interested.

**Woodlawn Baptist Church** is prayerfully seeking a **part-time Youth Minister** who has a committed relationship to Jesus Christ with a servant's heart and a passion to minister to youth in a way that glorifies God. In this roll a qualified candidate would be expected to effectively administer and develop spiritual growth and evangelism of our Youth (Middle & High School Students), through Bible teaching, worship, discipleship, mission's involvement, counseling, & recreational activities. Bachelor's degree in Youth Ministry preferred. Salary negotiable with experience & training. Send resume to 1400 Southside Avenue, Bristol, TN 37620 (Attention: Personnel Committee) or drop off between the hours of 9am – 2pm Mon – Thursday.

**Boones Creek Baptist Church** is searching for a **bi-vocational worship leader**. Position will require at least 15 hours per week. It is preferred that the candidate have at least 2 years of worship leading experience. It is also desired for the candidate to have a college degree but not required. Boones Creek Baptist Church is an SBC church that supports the cooperative program, supports the Tennessee Baptist Convention and is doctrinally aligned with the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. Candidates are encouraged to submit their resume to boonescreekbaptistchurch@gmail.com.



# **WANTED**

**PART TIME OR BI-VOCATIONAL  
MUSIC MINISTER  
TO DIRECT ALL MUSIC ACTIVITIES OF:**

**HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH  
1162 HARMONY ROAD  
JONESBOROUGH, TN 37659**

**IF YOU ARE A SPIRIT-FILLED INDIVIDUAL  
CALLED OF GOD TO USE YOUR GIFTS AND  
TALENTS FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST, WE  
INVITE YOU TO SUBMIT A RESUME TO THE  
ABOVE ADDRESS IN CARE OF OUR  
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE.**

**FINANCIAL COMPENSATION FOR THE  
DUTIES PERFORMED**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
PASTOR STEVE PATE  
(423) 306-5545 (CELL)  
(423) 348-7635 (CHURCH)**

**EMAIL: [harmonybap@gmail.com](mailto:harmonybap@gmail.com)**





# INSTALLATION

The Honor of Your Presence is Graciously Requested  
at the installation of

**Dr. Koby Strawser**

as the 35th Senior Pastor of

**THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERWIN**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020 | 11:00 AM**

**MILAVOX**  
presents  
**FOUR  
PIANOS  
IN PRAISE**  
to benefit  
**Isaiah 117**  
Caring for children awaiting foster placement



**Four grands. Sixteen hands.**

March 14, 2020, 2 and 7 pm. – Seeger Chapel, Milligan College, Johnson City, TN

**Tickets: [www.milavox.org](http://www.milavox.org)**



**COST:** \$100 before February 1st;  
after February 1 - \$130

## State Secretaries Conference

March 9-10, 2020  
Hendersonville, FBC

### MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020

8:00-8:15..... Registration for Early Bird Participants  
8:15-9:30..... Early Bird #1  
9:30-9:45 ..... Break  
9:45-11:00 ..... Early Bird #2  
11:15-12:15 ..... Lunch for Early Birds Participants\*  
12:30-1:30..... Registration, Fellowship and pictures  
1:30-2:15..... Opening and Welcome  
2:15-3:30..... Breakout #1  
3:30-3:40..... Break and pictures  
3:40-4:45 ..... Breakout #2

\* Can purchase box lunch for \$9 if not attending  
early bird sessions and want lunch

### TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

8:00-8:30 ..... Main Session  
8:30-8:45 ..... Break and pictures  
8:45-10:00 ..... Breakout #3  
10:00-10:15 ..... Break  
10:15-11:30 ..... Breakout #4  
11:45-12:45 ..... Lunch and Business meeting  
12:50-1:10 ..... Fellowship Break  
1:15-2:30 ..... Closing ceremony, installation  
of new officers and Tony time





# REGIONAL TRAINING



**March 6-7, 2020**

March 6 @ 5:30PM - March 7 @ 3:00PM

Higher Ground Baptist Church

1625 Lynn Garden Drive, Kingsport, TN 37665.

To pre-register for this class, contact Elizabeth Holmes at  
[eholmes@tnbaptist.org](mailto:eholmes@tnbaptist.org) or (615) 371-7926.

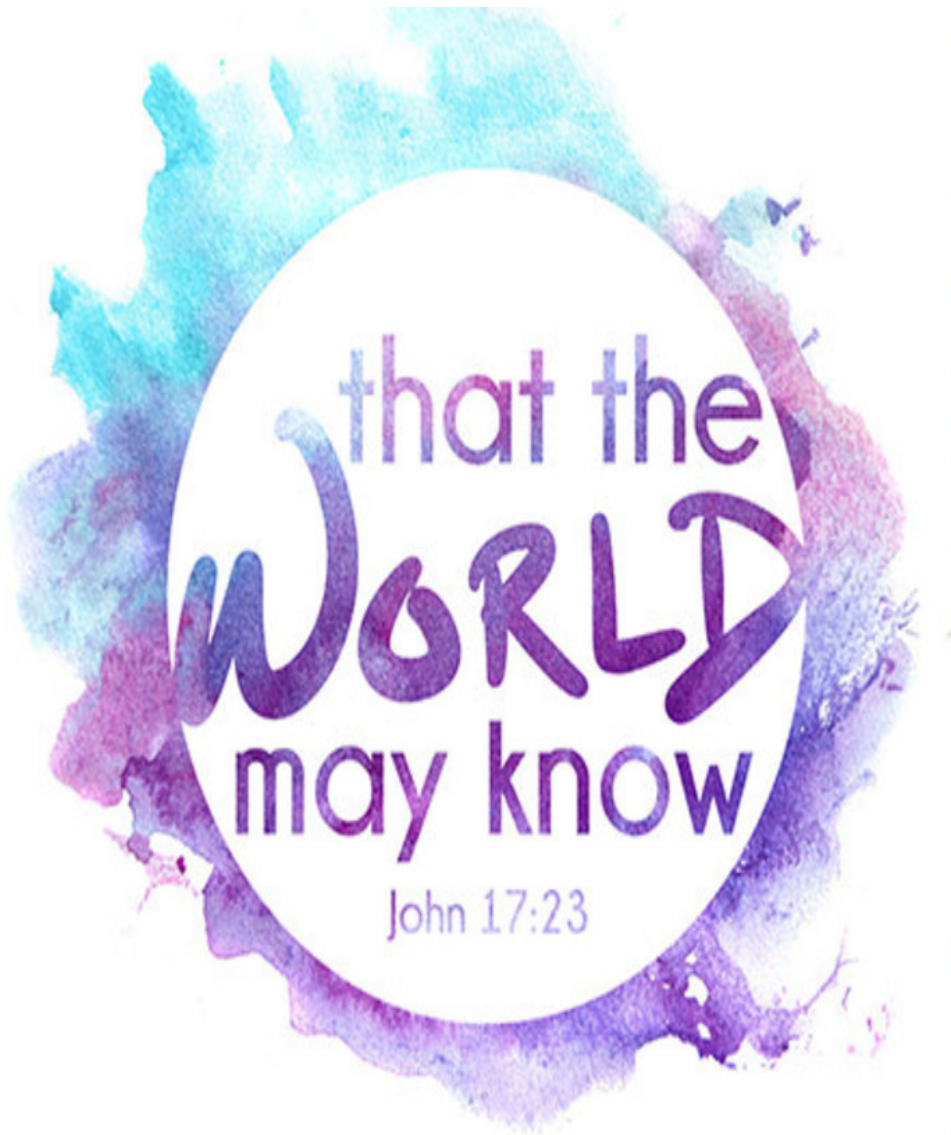
Please pre-register by Monday, March 2, so that we can supply you with the proper training materials and/or lunch count on Saturday.

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.

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."

Disaster Relief Volunteers can now download the following forms to their computers and fill them out and bring them with you to training or send them to the DR office. By typing these forms, you are helping us save time with data entry and increasing our accuracy of keeping your records.

**<https://tndisasterrelief.org/registration-forms/>**



Gatlinburg Convention Center  
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

**Get-Together**, an event for women of all ages

**Connection**, an event for girls in grades 7-12

Registration now open



# Holston Has a Drone



Have a church event that you would like pictures of? Want a promotional video for your church website or Facebook page? Do you just need to make sure your church's roof is in good shape? Contact Jeremy Carlson at [jeremy@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:jeremy@holstonbaptists.org) for more information

# TRAINING



On April 13-14, the Holston Baptist Association will be hosting a **Transitional Interim Pastor training**. This training is to prepare and equip ministers to fully utilize the unique ministry opportunities in the interim periods between the departure of one pastor and arrival of another.

## Topics Include:

- The Duties, Skills and Objectives of TIP Training
  - Conflict Management Skills
  - Leading the Church to Plan for the Future
- Suggested Preaching During the Transition
  - Assisting the Pastor Church Process
- Preparing the Church for the New Pastor
  - Church Revitalization

## Cost:

\$40 (for HBA members) and \$65 (non-members) to cover cost of materials.

## Schedule:

Monday, April 13 and Tuesday, April 14 from 6:30 - 9:00 each evening.

For more details or to register, please call our office no later than March 27th.



# LADIES EVENT!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
GREENEVILLE  
Founded on Jesus Christ, The Cornerstone  
211 North Main Street Ephesians 2:20

## FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 6PM

5:30 FOR TABLE VIEWING

Praise Music

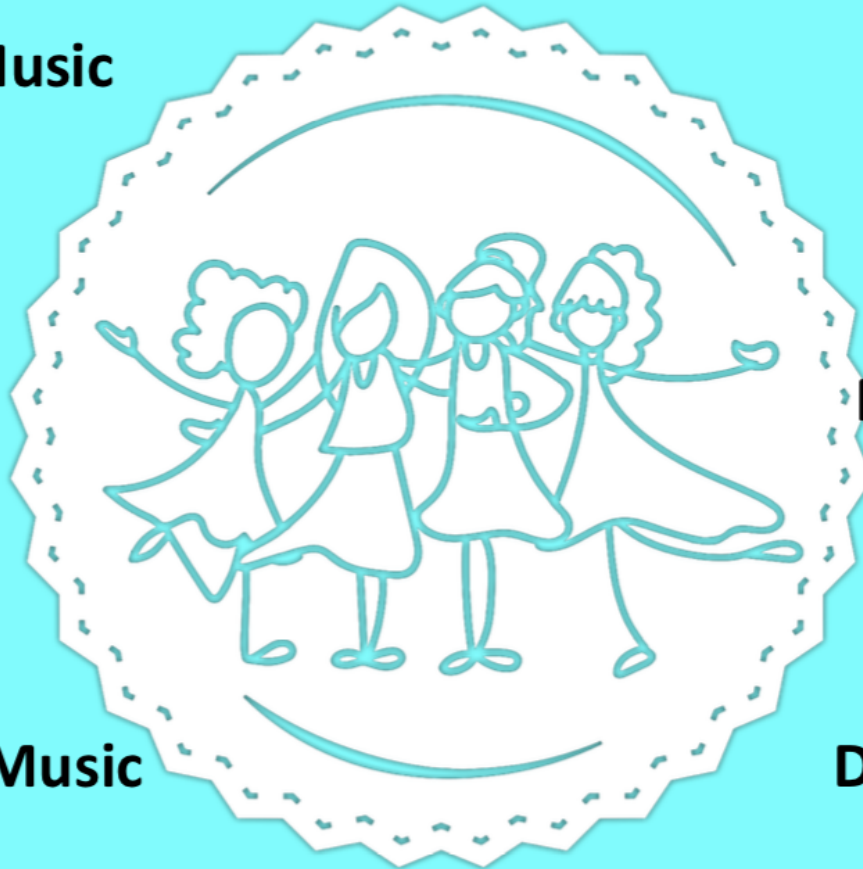
Speaker

Food

Fellowship

Special Music

Door Prizes



*keep dancing*  
PSALM 100

SPEAKER

# EMILY COLSON

daughter of Charles Colson, author, speaker, founder of Prison Fellowship

\$10 by March 20th

**SIGN UP / PAY**  
in the church office

\$15 after March 20th

423-639-3194

**HOLSTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
207 University Pkwy  
Johnson City, TN 37604

**[hba@holstonbaptists.org](mailto:hba@holstonbaptists.org)**

**[www.holstonbaptists.org](http://www.holstonbaptists.org)**

**423-929-1196**

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**twitter** 