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# THE MESSENGER

HOLSTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Tennessee Baptist leaders have expressed their excitement over the Supreme Court's landmark decision on June 24 to overturn the 1973 Supreme Court ruling of *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion in the United States.

In a joint statement, Randy C. Davis, president and executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and Greg McCoy, president of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, said, "Today is an incredibly exciting day as the U.S. Supreme Court has overturned *Roe v. Wade* in a most historic ruling. First and foremost, glory to God. We are thankful for this legal decision. It's been a long time coming."

The TBC leaders also noted that for nearly 50 years, "pro-life advocates have fought and prayed for our country's youngest citizens and their right to life, mostly because we acknowledge and affirm that they are precious gifts lovingly knitted together in their mothers' wombs by our sovereign Creator. As the children's song says, 'they are precious in his sight.' This monumental ruling also brings a measure of redemption to the loss of more than 63 million aborted babies since *Roe v. Wade* became the law of the land in 1973," the two men wrote.

They stressed, however, that "the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* is only the starting line, not the finish. As Christians, we must recognize that pro-life is more than anti-abortion. It isn't enough to rescue unborn life from the terminal end of an unwanted pregnancy. Our society now stares into a future of countless orphans and an increased number of unwanted children. The church *must* respond in a way that demonstrates we value all of life.

"For 2,000 years Christ followers and their churches have cared for widows and orphans, and we must dedicate ourselves to taking up this ministry *en force*. We believe Tennessee Baptists will rise to the occasion and do their part in serving the least of these. For more than 130 years Tennessee Baptists have served children through Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. Support for TBCH must increase, but we as Tennessee Baptists must not passively stand by and see ministry to unwanted children rest solely as TBCH's responsibility. The local church and her members must also embrace ministry to these mothers, fathers, and children," they agreed.

Davis and McCoy added, "Any way you slice it, Tennessee is a mission field — and it just got bigger. Let's rally to this monumental decision in the love of Christ and with Great Commission passion. There are moments in history where Christians step into the gap and reveal the greatness and sufficiency of our God.

"This is one of those moments."

"This is our message and our mission. Tennessee Baptists are poised to continue our efforts for life and are preparing for the next chapter of this great calling."

*Excerpted with Permission from Baptist & Reflector  
B&R — This article includes reporting from Baptist Press.*



**Saturday, August 6  
9AM to Noon**

**Trinity Baptist Worship Center  
260 Headtown Road, Jonesborough**

*All HBA Church leadership and volunteers  
are encouraged to attend.*

### **Topics will include:**

- 1. Recognizing signs of sexual abuse**
- 2. Being safe online & discussing sexual abuse with your children**
- 3. What Can Your Church Do? (Q&A to follow)**

**~Led by ETSU Professor Dr. Chris Rush~**

Dr. Chris Rush is an Associate Professor in the Criminal Justice & Criminology Department at East Tennessee State University. She received her B.A and M.A in Criminal Justice & Criminology from East Tennessee State University and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

She has published books and book chapters as well as articles in peer-reviewed journals regarding sex crimes and investigations. She has worked with several federal, state, and local agencies concerning various criminal justice matters such as program evaluation, forensic training, and investigative policies and regulations. She recently published a book entitled Sexual Abuse in the Church: Assessment, Intervention, and Prevention.

**\*Free event, but registration required  
for table count & refreshments\***

**Register with link:**

<http://trinity3e.org/event/7063232-2022-08-06-church-safety-seminar-register-below-for-free-event/>

**or with QR code below:**



## **JOHNSON CITY BAPTIST CENTER**

**Coming your way...  
Two mission opportunities...**

### **1. Jacob's Well Ministry at the Appalachian Fair**

During the week of August 22-27, 2022, we need teams to help in our booth at the Appalachian Fair. This will give you the chance to engage in Gospel conversations as you minister by giving water to fairgoers. This year we will also provide a game to invite interaction with those passing by our booth.

Please join us. Call HBA and sign up now for the date and time you prefer to serve. A meeting is scheduled at HBA for Thursday August 4, at 6:00 pm, for those working with us this year.

### **2. Christmas in August**

This mission opportunity benefits the Johnson City Baptist Center, as you provide school supplies and hygiene items for the children we minister to in our community. At the beginning of the school year, and all year long, your gifts help meet needs.

We would like to be able to give children personal hygiene packets, along with their school supplies, when school begins this year. Also, listed hygiene items are given at our clothes closet each month.

This lists our needs at the current time:  
•colored markers •wide-ruled spiral notebooks •bound composition books  
•shampoo •deodorant •bars of soap  
•toothbrushes •toothpaste •hairbrushes  
•combs •facial tissue •toilet paper.

Thank you for being involved in these mission opportunities, as we strive to share the love of Jesus by meeting physical needs.

Psalm 103:8 (NIV) "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love."

Anna Huggins  
Director of Ministries JC Baptist Center

## WEST HILLS BAPTIST WELCOMES PASTOR SCOTT JOHNSTON



Originally from West Virginia, Scott Johnston has lived in Washington County since 1990. He met and married his loving wife Debbie Douglas Johnston in 1994 and they have two adult sons, Josh and Shaun.

Scott was called into ministry while he was at Telford Missionary Baptist Church where he served as youth pastor and Deacon for many years. Then he was called to New Victory Church where he served as youth pastor and was a member of the executive team. Later he transitioned to the executive pastor and was on the pastor team serving with Senior Pastor Tyler Dalton where he learned a lot and was mentored for ministry leadership.

Scott also works at Dillow-Taylor Funeral Home where he ministers to hurting families.

God was calling him for much more. He was recently called and is now pastor at West Hills Baptist Church in Jonesborough. Pastor Scott shares that he is truly humbled for the opportunity to serve.

### \*HBA CALENDAR\*

#### JULY

4 Independence Day - HBA Office Closed  
21 Executive Board Meeting - Bowmantown  
25 Messenger Content Deadline

#### AUGUST

4 Appalachian Fair Training - HBA Office  
6 Church Safety Training - Trinity Baptist  
6-7 Weekend of Prayer Over Students  
21 Baptist & Reflector Day  
22-27 Appalachian Fair Ministry  
25 Messenger Content Deadline  
30 TBMB / HBA Small Group Leader Training

## WEEKEND OF PRAYER OVER STUDENTS

1ST WEEKEND OF AUGUST

Saturday & Sunday  
August 6 - 7

### GOAL:

~TO CONNECT CHURCHES & SCHOOLS~

To see every Kindergarten - College campus in our area have an organized prayer walk hosted by an HBA church or churches.

Now more than ever our schools need to be covered in prayer. A prayer "walk" is simply a time of organized prayer on or near every campus. They can vary in programming and length (15 -60 minutes).

Soon you will receive an email with detailed instructions on participating in this important initiative. You may also contact Haley Wherry at [Haleywherry@me.com](mailto:Haleywherry@me.com) or 423-676-3585 for more information.

## CULTURAL IMPACT MINISTRY

The saying "elections have consequences" has certainly been borne out by recent Supreme Court decisions in cases involving abortion and prayer. Judges committed to observing the Constitution, and appointed by the previous administration, have overturned Roe vs Wade thus sending this issue back to each state for consideration. After 50 years, those who have continuously labored in the effort to protect God's image-bearers in the womb have been rewarded -- Praise God!

Additionally, the Court ruled that personally praying in open spaces, even government property, was protected by the 1st Amendment. This reverses lower courts which had ruled that an individual could be fired for engaging in such prayer -- Praise God!

This is a time of "thanksgiving" for God's mercy and we need to rejoice in His power and glory as His purposes are protected.

Tracy Teal  
Cultural Impact Ministry

## **\*CHURCH STAFF NEEDS\***

### **PART-TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR Beulah Baptist Church, Kingsport**

Please send resumes to: [beulahbaptistkingsport@gmail.com](mailto:beulahbaptistkingsport@gmail.com)

### **FULL TIME PASTOR Fall Branch First Baptist Church**

Prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor who possesses the biblical qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3. We are searching for a godly man dedicated to evangelism, teaching God's word, and ministering to the needs of the church family and community. We fully adhere and support Southern Baptist principles as well as the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. If the Holy Spirit leads and you meet these qualifications, please e-mail resume to [office@fbfbc.org](mailto:office@fbfbc.org) with "Attention to Pastor Search" in the subject line. Video links of sermons are also appreciated. Resumes can also be mailed to FBFBC, PO Box 82, Fall Branch, TN 37656, ATTN: Pastor Search Committee.

### **FULL-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Southwestern, Johnson City**

Searching for an Administrative Assistant to support the church congregation and staff. The church views the Administrative Assistant as a ministry rather than a job. The individual should maintain a servant attitude, dress code and general code of conduct which is expected of a mature and dedicated Christian. The Administrative Assistant will serve under the direction of the pastor and will be paid an hourly rate based on education, experience and administrative skills. If you are searching for a rewarding area of Christian ministry, please submit a resume to Pastor Greg Salyer at [gregsalyer14@gmail.com](mailto:gregsalyer14@gmail.com).

### **PART-TIME YOUTH PASTOR OR YOUTH DIRECTOR Clark Street, Johnson City**

Contact Pastor Willie Lunsford at 423-342-7007.  
Email resume to [clarkstreetbc@gmail.com](mailto:clarkstreetbc@gmail.com)

### **FULL-TIME WORSHIP MINISTER Tennessee Avenue Baptist, Bristol TN**

Searching for an individual who demonstrates a strong relationship with Jesus Christ and a calling and conviction to serve in worship ministry. Ability to read, apply, and teach music - Instrument competency desired. For a complete job description, please visit <https://www.tabaptist.org/>. All candidates will be considered regardless of meeting all criteria. We recognize that God raises up the person of His choosing. The final choosing will be completed upon examination of the applicant as a whole.

### **PART-TIME YOUTH DIRECTOR Ninth Street, Erwin**

For full job description or to submit a resume contact [pastoratninthstbc@gmail.com](mailto:pastoratninthstbc@gmail.com)

### **FULL TIME CUSTODIAL SUPERVISOR Heritage Baptist, Johnson City**

Full job description available upon request. Please send resume / experience, and references to **Debbie** at [Debbie.hamm@hbcjc.org](mailto:Debbie.hamm@hbcjc.org).

### **FULL TIME CHILDREN'S MINISTER Cherry Grove, Jonesborough**

For more information, visit our web site: <https://www.cherrygrovetn.org>.