

Calendar

May

- 5 National Day of Prayer
- 5 Registration Deadline for Fun-in-the-Son Kids Camp
- 14 Mother's Day
- 29 Memorial Day – Office Closed

June

- 11-14 SBC Annual Meeting
- 15 HBA Budget Requests Due
- 20-23 Fun-in-the-Son Kids Camp
- 18 Father's Day



APPALACHIAN TRAIL WORSHIP & COOKOUT

Sunday, May 7, 2023

**Worship at 11AM
Cookout at 12 – 3PM**

**Chestoa Picnic Area
Across from Johnny's Hostel**

**Inclement Weather Location
Fishery Park**

**Contact Sam Dalton
to Volunteer or Contribute
423-895-2487**

A VISION FOR VBS

It's almost time for Vacation Bible School! While children eagerly anticipate this annual event, leaders should ask themselves, "Why do we do VBS?" Without a clear vision for VBS, you may find that you do it simply because people expect you to do it. If so, it becomes the result of tradition and not the result of a heart for lost people; it's merely a program without a strategy. To clarify a couple of terms, vision is "where" your church fulfills the Great Commission, strategy is "how" you fulfill it. Since programs have expiration dates (whether we realize it or not), we wrap up the VBS week as a fun page in history with little thought of what it should mean for next week, next month, or next year. On the other hand, vision causes us to strategize about how we want to see the Gospel take root in the lives of children and their families. Instead of being limited to a week, vision propels us into intentional follow-up and relationship building that should produce greater and more long-lasting fruit in the future than the week of VBS did. Which of the following strategies do you have in mind?

1) **Skip it. We don't have any children, and we could never find enough workers.** The church that has a vision to reach the lost continues to operate with some of the strategy with which it started. Your church grew because it reached people. To refuse to do ministry because you don't have certain people is the opposite of the spirit that launched your church. To put it bluntly, it's anti-evangelistic. If you're a senior adult, go be the grandparent some child desperately needs! If you're short on workers, do what you can do. Have fewer classes. Shorten the length to 1-3 days. Discover niches that larger churches can't fill (ex., Skip the hot dogs and provide the kids and their families with a home cooked meal!). You just might change their lives forever.

2) **Just get it over with.** This "suffering for Jesus" approach to VBS will kill it in due time. Kids know when they are perceived as "too much trouble," and find other places where they are wanted. This church tends to be inwardly focused and finds little excitement in doing something special for the same kids they see every week. You'd be better off not to have VBS than to have this attitude.

3) **Let's be cooler than every other church!** Publishing companies love this church. It puts more emphasis on temporal stuff than on the eternal Gospel. Consequently, it dumps lots of money into the things that produce the least amount of fruit. You don't have to break the bank to have a quality VBS! If your vision is to reach children and their families, put your resources toward them. They'll forget the theme; they'll remember the people who loved them.

4) **Add depth to traditional VBS.** Have you considered including some hands-on application opportunities that take you off campus? Whether you call it Mission VBS, Camp VBS, etc., the approach gives students multiple occasions to apply what you're teaching them (and it's probably a lot more fun). This is a great way to teach children how to serve others! Don't let potential liabilities discourage you. With some extra planning, you can find quality leaders and drivers. By the way, you can face liabilities even if you never leave the church property.

5) **Take VBS to kids who won't come otherwise.** Even if you do a traditional on-campus VBS, you can take the leftover material (that you invested lots of money in) and do a Camp VBS, Backyard Bible Club, etc. at a local park, multi-housing unit, or any place (with permission) where people live or gather. I have found that this is the hardest strategy for churches to embrace, because it takes them out of their comfort zones...kinda like it does for unchurched people to walk into your church building for the first time. When you have the heart of a missionary, you don't wait for the people to come to you, you go find them.

Tis the season for VBS. Let's make sure it's a Jesus-centered on-mission adventure!

With hands to the plow,
Troy

Happy Birthday, Pastors!

9 Hobbie McCreary

23 Tony French

Please Pray for Our Churches Without Pastors

Boone Trail

Fall Branch

Friendship Chapel

Muddy Creek

New Victory

Ninth Street

Oakdale

Oak Hill

Timberlake



JOHNSON CITY BAPTIST CENTER

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV): "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

This scripture always brings to mind God's goodness and all things for which we should give thanks. But, it also helps us to focus on the purposes God has for each season of life.

Since our fall meeting, the Johnson City Baptist Center has had many reasons to give thanks for God's goodness in each season we have celebrated. We saw nearly one hundred fed at our Thanksgiving dinner, and over sixty children received gifts through our Angel Tree at Christmas. What wonderful blessings to enjoy from the Lord and His people.

In this new year, the Lord continues to bless, and show His purpose for the Johnson City Baptist Center. We have averaged around 24 children and youth each week in Bible study. Our volunteers faithfully help lead in sharing about Jesus. Many children are growing to understand more about the love of Jesus, and are asking questions to help in knowing who He is. We anticipate teaching the Bible to more children in the coming months, as new families are expected to move to the apartments. This strengthens our call to being involved in inner city ministry.

The adults who live around us are also a part of the ministry. Many come to clothes closet every month, and we get to share with them about what's going on in their lives. Faithful volunteers are making a difference through this avenue of ministry. Bible study is offered for the adults each week, but attendance is a struggle for many. Please pray with us for the adults, that they would have a hunger to grow in the Lord.

We see all aspects of life through the Baptist Center, just as in our established churches. There have been births and deaths, sickness and healing, crying and laughing among the community. In being faithful to God's call, we love, serve, pray, and walk with these neighbors the Lord has given to us.

This summer we have opportunities for you to walk beside us and serve with us. During June and July, mission teams (from local churches or those out of town) will come to lead in Vacation Bible School, Backyard Bible Club or Block parties. Only two weeks remain to be filled. If your church could come for a few days, we would greatly appreciate it! Please contact me soon: anna@holstonba.org.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Blessings,

Anna Huggins

Director of Ministries Johnson City Baptist Center

LIFEWAY WOMEN SIMULCAST

May 6 @9AM

Central Baptist
300 N. Roan Street
Johnson City

Cost \$10 - Includes Lunch

Register at:
<https://cbcjc.org/lifeway>



KIDS CAMP REGISTRATION DEADLINE - MAY 5

Send all registrations to:

Pastor Craig Ponder

421 Lester Snapp Road, Limestone, TN 37681



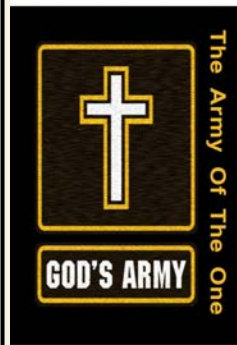
TUE. 6.20.23 – FRI. 6.23.23

**CARSON SPRINGS RETREAT CENTER
NEWPORT, TENNESSEE**

**THE REGISTRATION PACKET
IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD
FROM THE HBA WEBSITE.**

WWW.HOLSTONBA.ORG

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY MAY 5TH



FREE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TILL MAY 7

HYMNALS

The Baptist Hymnal &
Celebration Hymnal

CANTATAS

Books & Cassette Tapes
(Too many to list all titles)

BOOKS

Reference Books,
Study Books,
Christian Fiction/Non-Fiction

Call 423-929-1196
if interested.

THANK YOU
to all who helped
make the
Association Bible
Drill a great
success!

If your church would like to participate in Bible Drills, we are always available to help in what ever way you need us.

Thank you to Casa De Restauracion for hosting the Drill and feeding us so well! Thank you to all the volunteers; the callers, judges, timekeeper and greeters. We appreciate you all!

Questions? Call Susan Schiwitz (423-794-8182) or Anna Huggins (423-767-0578)



*** HELP GET THE WORD OUT ***

Please Like, Follow, & Share

Holston Baptist Association on Facebook



May 9 - 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Orebank Baptist Church
5930 Orebank Road
Kingsport, TN 37664

Cost: \$30

Includes a light meal & book

Special Guest Speakers

Dwayne Moore, Author and
President of NLW International

Clay Hallmark, President of the
Tennessee Baptist Convention

Dwayne is a best-selling author of numerous books, including the award-winning book, Pure Praise: A Heart-focused Bible Study on Worship and his latest release HE. WE. THEY. The Life-Altering Formula of the Lord's Prayer. This 5-week study will help you experience a more intimate communion with God as a friend with a friend, more confidence in your relationship as the Father's beloved child, more flowing and expressive times of praise, less worry and more peace about personal and family struggles and so much more!

REGISTER AT:

[https://tn.sbcworkspace.com/
Pub/Event/Register/55235777](https://tn.sbcworkspace.com/Pub/Event/Register/55235777)

holstonba.org

GOOD NEWS JAIL MINISTRY GOLF TOURNAMENT

<https://goodnewsjail.org/j34golffregistration/>

SULLIVAN COUNTY JAIL

GOLF EVENT

Saturday, June 3
8:00 AM

Tri-Cities Golf Club
Blountville, TN

INFO: 423.279.6089
kent.pugh@goodnewsjail.org

ONLINE REGISTRATION:
goodnewsjail.org/j34golffregistration

Join the HBA Bay Lakes Baptist Association Summer Camp Team!

June 25 - June 30 - Most Expenses Paid

*** Commitment Deadline is May 10 ***

Call 423-929-1196 to Volunteer.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Many male and female counselors,
kitchen/crafts/recreation/medical workers/prayer partners

Congratulations, graduates!

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and your plans will succeed.*

Proverbs 16:3

207 University Parkway, Johnson City, TN 37604
423.929.1196

hba@holstonba.org

Remember & Honor



HBA MISSION HOUSE GIFT REGISTRY



AMAZON.COM

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2WG9NR3X8BWO5>

WALMART.COM

<https://www.walmart.com/registry/ER/8d0ce5f4-30b3-413e-b38a-1a21c926f2da>

Search for HBA Mission House Registry

Items to be purchased include appliances, furniture, mattresses, bed/bath/kitchen linens, dinnerware, flatware, lamps, light fixtures, curtains, etc.

Gift Cards and/or Checks/Cash will go toward purchasing appliances, mattresses, and other big-ticket items.

Thank you for supporting this ministry!

Honor Your Mother

Anna Jarvis, the woman who first suggested a national day to honor mothers, had an incredible mother to honor. Her mom, Ann Reeves Jarvis (1832-1905), was a Sunday school teacher and activist who helped lower infant-mortality rates in Appalachia and promoted friendship among families of Civil War soldiers.

At a memorial service for her mother, Anna Jarvis distributed carnations — her mom's favorite flower — to attendees. Her idea to set apart one day each year for moms gained traction, and in 1914, President Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May Mother's Day. It was customary by then to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living.

Of the white flowers, Jarvis said they "symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying."

CHURCH STAFF OPENINGS

FULLTIME WORSHIP PASTOR

Central, Johnson City

Seeking:

Experienced Church Music Leader
Traditional & Contemporary Services

For more information contact:
kborger@cbcjc.org or cbcjc.org

BIVOCATIONAL PASTOR &

PART-TIME WORSHIP MINISTER

Oak Hill, Jonesborough

Contact Toby Brown
at (423) 348-5176.

BIVOCATIONAL ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Oversees
Outreach and Discipleship
&

BIVOCATIONAL CHILDREN'S PASTOR

Oversees
Children's Ministry

Mountain View, JC

For full job descriptions or to
submit a resume, contact
admin@mtnviewbaptist.com
or call 423-282-3262.

PART-TIME CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

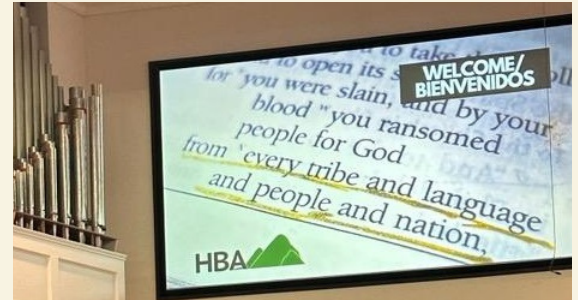
Ninth Street, Erwin

For full job description or to
submit a resume, contact
nsbchoffice@gmail.com.

holstonba.org

HBA SPRING 2023 MEETING Night of Praise & Celebration

HBA Officially Transfers
Knob Creek Property to
Casa de Restauracion



WORSHIP MINISTER

Pinecrest Baptist

Call 423-926-9394 | for more information or Send Resume to:
2129 Old Lewis Rd, Johnson City, 37601

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Southwestern Baptist

The position is full time, but could be shared by
two applicants to become part-time if necessary.

Please email resumes to Pastor Greg Salyer at gregsalyer14@gmail.com.

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423.929.1196

hba@holstonba.org