



Calendar

June

- 11-14 SBC Annual Meeting
- 15 HBA Budget Requests Due
- 18 Father's Day
- 20-23 Fun-in-the-Son Kids Camp
- 25-30 BLBA Summer Camp Trip

July

- 4 Independence Day - HBA Office Closed
- 13 Regional Pastor Fellowship
- 20 Regional Pastor Fellowship
- 20 Executive Board Meeting - New Lebanon Baptist
- 27 Regional Pastor Fellowship



DISTRACTIONS

A few years ago, we began to hear about distracted driving. After decades of warnings about driving under the influence, we learned that many sober people die for a much subtler reason – distraction. Distraction is not new to churches. For generations churches have fought the distraction of worldliness. In addition to the cultural call to embrace the world's moral decline in the name of relevance, the church also faces two more subtle distractions:

Worldly Operating Procedures

Most church lay leaders learned to "do business" through their interactions with the secular world. They want to do things particular ways because they have seen them work in the business world. Unfortunately, they have taken their cues from people whose ultimate goal is to make money. These models are devoid of love, grace, mercy or most any other biblically desirable traits; people are treated like cattle. While the church has to do business, it is not a business. It does not exist to make money. It exists as the Body of Christ, a family of faith that demonstrates the fruit of the Spirit as it fulfills Christ's Great Commission to the glory of God. The model you follow will determine both your operating procedures and your fruit. Don't be distracted by the familiar practices of the world.

Survival

One of the most noticeable effects of COVID-19 (particularly in small churches) is an obsession with survival. While some local churches and some entire denominations have lowered their standards to maintain or increase their bottom line, many others have failed in a subtler way. They have chased survival by discontinuing (or avoiding) anything that doesn't benefit them directly. The hunger for survival causes churches to focus on paying the bills, especially utilities and building payments and/or maintenance. You would think salaries would be high on the list, but in most of these churches the pastor (a former outsider) is viewed as dispensable. Since the church "can't afford to pay him anyway," he is often replaced by a hired gun who can cover the basics. In the worst scenarios, churches drift into an endless interim phase where they pay only pulpit supply and avoid passing the mantle of leadership to a new pastor. In exchange for their anxieties, these churches avoid personal involvement in missions, church planting, and ministry beyond their campuses, even though they could have embraced many of these opportunities for very little money. Instead of saving the church, this shift ultimately kills the church. In fact, the shift probably began long ago and brought the church to its current state. Beware! The same Jesus who said, "I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18) also said, "I will take away your lampstand" (Rev. 2:5). Sometimes churches close because He closes them!

So, what's the solution? Be driven by faithfulness to Christ, not the distractions of the world! While numbers are important, they are not your main concern. The local church belongs to Jesus. Its future is entirely in His hands. Worldly distractions may lead you "successfully" into the future; you just won't be a church anymore.

May God help us to understand that His way is the best (and only fruitful) way!

With hands to the plow,
Troy

Happy Birthday, Pastors!

27 Bill Murray

28 Josh Grizzle

Please Pray for Our Churches Without Pastors

Boone Trail
Friendship Chapel
Muddy Creek
New Life
New Victory
Ninth Street
Oakdale
Oak Hill
Timberlake

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/

FBC Baileyton Summer Events

VBS - KEEPERS OF THE KINGDOM

June 4-8 from 6-8:30 PM

Classes for All Ages

Commencement Service - Sunday at 10:30 AM

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ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, June 17 at 7:00 PM

Free Food - Bouncy Houses - Christian Bluegrass

Fantastic Fireworks Show

Tent for prayer requests and witnessing

Come one, come all!



Oak Grove Baptist Church

June 26-30

6:00-8:30 PM

<https://oakgrovebc.myanswers.com/keepers-of-the-kingdom/>

Ages 3-18 are welcome!

For more information:
423-477-3141

APPALACHIAN TRAIL MINISTRY

The annual Holston Baptist Association Appalachian Trail hiker worship service and cook out was held on Sunday, May 7 at the Chestoa Picnic Area in Erwin. Music for the worship service was provided by the Rust Family. Cody Green, Mt. Zion Baptist, brought a wonderful message.

I want to thank every church and individual who helped to make this ministry possible by bringing food and snacks, working the prayer and snack tables, and by sharing the gospel with hikers. A special thanks goes to Opie's Pizza Wagon for providing delicious wood-fired brick oven pizza. The annual hiker worship and cookout is a wonderful outreach to spread the gospel message of Jesus. Thanks to all who made it possible!

Sam Dalton
Local Ministry Team Leader



"I give them eternal life, and ... no one will snatch them out of my hand."

JOHN 10:28, ESV

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!

CHURCH STAFF OPENINGS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Southwestern Baptist

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.

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 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.

PART-TIME MUSIC MINISTER

Pinecrest Baptist, JC

Contact Pastor Garry Edwards (423-543-5662) or the church office (423-926-9394) for more information.

"What one believes is how one behaves."



HBA Cultural Impact Ministry Summer Yard Signs

A standard white with black lettering sign (example, left) will be delivered by a volunteer and retrieved at summer's end. It is to be placed on the church (or parsonage) lawn and will contain a thought-provoking saying. For example, the first one will state: "What one believes is how one behaves."

If your church would like to be part of this effort to promote "soul searching" thought, please call Pam in the HBA office (423-929-1196) by Wednesday, June 7.

Make a Difference

NO ROLE PLAYING!

How would your life change if you could naturally and easily share your faith with 1 person EVERY DAY?

What if on some days it was 2 or 3 or 5 people?

YOU CAN and it's easier to do than you think!

Come and experience a **TOTALLY DIFFERENT** approach to sharing Christ.

* The M.A.D. Live Event – Disciple Making 101 *



Saturday, June 10th - 9 AM - 2:30 PM (lunch included)

Lighthouse Baptist Church – 2539 Zane C Whitson Jr. Dr. - Unicoi

Registration is FREE- Use QR code on the side to register or call 423-743-8811

FULLTIME PASTOR

Woodlawn, Bristol

A Southern Baptist background is preferred with a degree from an SBC Seminary and 4 to 5 years' experience, licensed and ordained. We're looking for a man who is faithful to God and family, a strong leader for the congregation, and a strong administrator who works well with staff and leaders with a warm personality that relates to all age groups.

Church website: <https://woodlawnbaptistbristol.com>

Please send resume to: Pastor Search Committee
Woodlawn Baptist Church, 1400 Southside Avenue, Bristol, TN 37620
Email: woodlawnpastorsearch@gmail.com