Mark Your Calendar!

January
Call to Prayer Month

January 1
New Year’s Holiday, Baptist Office Closed

January 4
Pastors & Preachers Fellowship, Baptist Center, 7:00 pm

January 11
Human Trafficking Awareness Day

January 17
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

January 19
Executive Board Meeting
Baptist Center, 7:00 pm

January 28-30
Bivocational Ministers & Wives Retreat, Music Road Hotel & Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, TN

Youth Ministry Conclave, Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga

January 29-30
Youth Project for Youth Choirs, First Baptist Church & Carson Newman University, Jefferson City

February
True Love Waits Emphasis

February 8-14
Focus of WMU week “All For You”

February 13
National Children’s Ministry Day

February 19-20
Total Life Encounter, Pigeon Forge, TN

February 26-27
Total Life Encounter, Pigeon Forge, TN

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
January 17, 2016

Pastor’s & Preacher’s Fellowship
January 4th 7:00 pm Baptist Center
The speaker will be Rev. Victor Abernathy, Pastor of Pisgah Baptist Church
We hope to see you here!

McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists Pastors Conference
Meets every Monday morning at 10:00 am at the Baptist Center.

Important financial information for Pastors, Staff, Treasurers, Finance Committee Chairmen, and Financial Secretaries.

January 11, 2016 6:00—
8:30 pm Chilhowee Baptist Association 341 E. Lincoln Road Alcoa
January 25, 2016 1:00—3:30 pm Abba’s House 5208 Hixson Pike Hixson
Happy New Year!! I don't know about you, but I find it hard to believe 2016 is here. This is a time when we are thinking about what is going to happen in the coming year.

Let me share with you some of the things that are available for the coming year. I hope this is just the beginning, some things are still in the planning stages and you will be hearing more about that later.

**Mission Trips**

Many of our churches already have mission trips planned. Do you feel your church is too small to do your own mission trip? Then here is a chance for you to get involved.

**First Baptist Church of Athens** has four trips planned for 2016. They are inviting people from other churches to join with them on mission.

- **Italy** – June 9-20, 2016 – Cost is about $2,000, this trip is working with a new mission partner for us, the Walti family. They have a kid’s camp that we will be helping with and also doing puppet ministry and evangelism in local parks.
- **Vancouver** – July 2016 – Cost is about $1,600, Matthew and Heather Bond are our partners there. Matthew is the former Youth Pastor at First Baptist Church, Athens (about 8 years ago). They have planted a church and we would be helping them with a sports camp, VBS, and local outreach projects alongside their church family.
- **Lugoj Romania** – October 2016 – Cost is about $2,000, mission partner is Daniel Toc and Grace Baptist Church. The trip has multiple needs, construction/excavation in building an orphanage, pastoral training seminar, medical clinic, and local church help.
- **New York City** – October 2016 – Cost is about $500, this is our Youth Ministry’s trip, this trip is working with Larry Holcomb and his team from his ministry Urban Nations Outreach, the work is with internationals in one of three Centers teaching ESL to immigrants and those on visa. The ESL training gives opportunity to teach Bible stories in English and also to share the gospel.

If you are interested in any of these trips, please call Daustin Kratzer, associate pastor, at 745-5441 Ext 104.

Would you like to do an international mission trip with only a three hour drive? That is possible even here in Tennessee. We have an opportunity to partner with a ministry in Nashville. There are several different language groups available to work with in the Nashville area. If you would like more information, please call Bro. Mike at the associational office.

**Disaster Relief**

This is one of the things close to my heart and I want us to be prepared to work in disaster situations. We have only about 5 credentialed people in our association. We will be having training at our office on a date to be determined. Everyone needs to go through the Introduction to Southern Baptist Disaster Relief class. You will then have the opportunity to do further training in your area of service, such as Mass Feeding, Chainsaw, mud-out, chaplains, child care, and several others. If you are interested in getting involved in Disaster Relief, please let the Associational Office know.

Tennessee Disaster Relief Training Facts:

- All volunteers must be 18 years old to serve.
- All volunteers must be a member of a cooperating Tennessee Southern Baptist church.
- We ask that you please take specialized classroom training after you have taken the prerequisite course of “Introduction to Southern Baptist Disaster Relief.”
- Disaster Relief credentials and the yellow hat/visor will be given after “Introduction to Southern Baptist Disaster Relief” and specialized classes have been taken.

Because of new directives from Homeland Security, FEMA and other national agencies related to the training and screening of volunteer disaster relief workers, we have begun a cost recovery plan. The cost of a new 3 year (ID badge) credential is $36.00 (for newly trained volunteers or those that had credentials that expire in 2015). The new badge will expire in three years (2018), effective January 1, 2015.

We have several other events and opportunities in development. I look forward to sharing those with you in the New Year. I pray that 2016 will be a very blessed year for all of you.

**Church News**

- Community Prayer meeting will be on January 5th at Clear Springs Baptist Church at 7:00 pm. The participating churches so far are New Hopewell, Lakeview, Bethsadia, Clear Springs and Union McMinn.
- Don’t forget to Recycle your old Sunday School Literature. We also take Christian Books, Bibles and Devotionals (Our Daily Bread, Open Windows, etc.). Do not bring Parent Life, Home Life, Missions Mosaic or Mature Living.
- **Short Creek Baptist Church** is seeking a Youth Pastor. Send resumes to Rev. Victor King, 1190 County Road 750, Athens, TN 37303 or call him at 920-7365.
- **East Niota Baptist Church** is seeking a Worship Leader. If interested, please contact Rev. Jerry Plaster at 506-6154.
- Barry Rowland and Deliverance will be singing at Lakeview Baptist Church on Sunday evening, January 31st at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Internal Revenue Service Mileage Rates for 2016 effective 1/1/16:**

- 54 cents per mile
January Celebrations

Birthday’s
01....John Crisp ..............West End
02....Kerry Arwood ...........Antioch
03....James Price .............Calvary Missionary
04....Anita King ..............Short Creek
08....David Coffman ..........Valley Road
12....Pam Dalton ..............Mount Verd
18....Tony Crisp ..............Eastanallee
   Fred Cunningham...Ten Mile
   Joanne Morgan.........Stephensville
20....Gene Guffey........Bethel Springs
24....Jason Clark ..........First Baptist Athens
25....Shirley King..........Mount Harmony Riceville
28....Herman Jordan ......Old Salem

Anniversaries

07....Stanley & Robin Liner ......Lakeview
09....Mike & Gwen Farmer ..........Director of Missions
24....Randall & Melissa Bates.......McMahan Calvary
28....Joe & Glenda Hatcher .......Cohill
30....Gary & Darlene Rolen ......Union Grove Decatur

Church/Association Anniversaries

Gary Rolen...........Union Grove Decatur ... 1 year
Terry Campbell ....South Liberty .......... 2 years
Eldridge Cullum ....First Baptist Etowah ... 3 years
Victor King ........Short Creek ............3 years
Stanley Liner ........Lakeview ...................6 years

Children’s Ministry Day 2016

Imagine the children in your church serving your community through acts of compassion in Jesus’ Name. Multiply this by thousands of children and you see the scope of Children’s Ministry Day. February 13, 2016 is the date recommended by National WMU, however, you can set a date to suit your own schedule. When you have your children’s ministry day/project, please send us a brief report/picture so that we can share in what God is doing in your community. Those who you will serve will be blessed and you will receive a blessing also.

Kim Brown,
McMinn-Meigs Children’s Ministry Consultant
423-368-9547 ♦ kimbrown1967@ymail.com

Coming to TBN January 6th

Join Beth Moore every Wednesday for a new TV series, "Living Proof with Beth Moore," on the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN). This will be an incredible time of Bible study you won't want to miss, so mark your calendar or set your DVR!

Remember in prayer our churches without Pastors:
Clearwater, Goodsprings, Manilla Chapel, New Beginnings, New Bethel, First Baptist Niota, Oak Grove and Union Hill.
McMinn-Meigs Association of Baptists, Inc.
350 Congress Parkway North
Athens, TN 37303

Phone: 423-745-2248
Fax: 423-745-7693
Website: www.mcminnmeigsbaptists.org
Email: mmab@truevine.net

Association Staff:
Director of Missions: Rev. Mike Farmer
   Email: mikefarmer@truevine.net
Ministry Assistant: Kathy Fain
   Email: mmab@truevine.net

Security Awareness Training

East Athens Baptist Church will host a “Security Awareness Training” for community churches in our area. Our goal is to help each church body stay safe in this day we live in today. We ask you sign up by January 25th, in order to secure enough food. The cost is $10 per person to help offset lunch cost. Mike has offered to do this training for free. However, feel free to offer a small “gift of thanks” to show appreciation for his time away from his other jobs as he helps to secure churches in our area. Sign up for this training by contacting East Athens Baptist church at (423) 745-1394 Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30 or Friday 8:30-12:30 p.m. Submit Checks, payable to East Athens Baptist Church, at the time of training.

Michael Mann is a protective services and training professional with career expertise in critical infrastructure and private mission critical facility protection, law enforcement operations, crisis management, antiterrorism operations, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), and conducting threat/vulnerability assessments.
Michael honorably served as a United States Marine, civilian police officer, special response team (SRT/SWAT) commander while assigned to the U.S. Department of Energy’s Y-12 National Security Complex, and regional security manager for several global corporations. Michael has a master’s degree in security and risk management, a certificate in terrorism studies, and he has studied protective services and terrorism in Israel. Michael is nationally certified as a law enforcement firearms instructor, law enforcement response to an active shooter instructor, executive protection specialist, counterterrorism specialist and Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Instructor. Michael currently specializes in developing and managing comprehensive physical protection programs designed to provide organizations with detection, prevention and response capabilities directed against armed adversaries (i.e., active shooters).

Class Description

- Introduce general situational awareness into the existing culture.
- Provide participants with the ability to detect potential conflict, and the tools necessary to effectively manage unusual situations.
- Provide participants with the tools required to create physical separation from the threat in order to avoid a physical confrontation, and potential injury.