



THE VIEWPOINT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SCBA

Mobilizing churches to strategically engage our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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Lifeway® research

In 1971, children 11 and younger accounted for the highest percentage (37%), followed by youth aged 12 to 17 (31%), young adults aged 18 to 29 (18%) and adults 30 and older (15%).

Since then, however, the share of those being baptized who are adults in Southern Baptist congregations has continued to climb, first passing young adults in 1985, youth in 1990 and children in 2014.

Read more at <https://bit.ly/4x6hMVC>

Author: Aaron Earls || Lifeway Research

Scan me



Open Church Positions

Churches without a pastor:

Banner

Knob Creek

Providence

Sims Chapel

Please join me in praying for our brothers & sisters in Christ as they seek a pastor to lead them.

Join a Team, Make a Difference

Our mission at the Association is to mobilize churches to strategically engage our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We strive to do that by encouraging pastors, equipping churches, and engaging the community. This doesn't happen alone, that's why our Associational Teams are a vital part of our ministry in Sevier County.

The teams are:

Administrative Team, Discipleship Team, & Ministry/Missions Team.

These teams help guide, support, and resource our churches so we can make a greater impact together!

Please reach out to Justin to learn more & sign up to serve on one of these teams ... your voice matters!

Baptist Press

“NOBTS Convocation Challenge to Students”



Jamie Dew, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College, challenged students to examine themselves and their calling during his convocation address Aug. 18.

Read the full article at
<https://bit.ly/4cRb6Cy>



"Closer Than You Think"

Written by Justin Johnson | AMS

Jesus gave His followers a mission that would ultimately take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. In Acts 1:8, however, He described a movement that began in Jerusalem, extended into Judea and Samaria, and continued outward to the nations. The global mission of the church has never changed, but neither has the responsibility to see the mission field God has placed directly around us.

Sometimes we can become so focused on finding the next ministry opportunity that we overlook the opportunities we pass every day. Every church is surrounded by people carrying stories we may never know. There are families struggling behind closed doors, students searching for somewhere to belong, senior adults experiencing loneliness, parents overwhelmed by circumstances, and people who may never walk into a church building on their own. They are not simply residents of our communities...they are people God loves, and He has strategically placed His churches among them.

That means the location of your church is more than an address. Perhaps one of the most important questions a congregation can ask is not simply, "How do we get more people into our church?" but, ***"How can we take the love and hope of Jesus to the people God has already placed around our church?"***

That question changes the way we see our community. Schools become mission fields. Neighborhoods become opportunities for relationships. Ballfields, workplaces, restaurants, community events, and local organizations become places where ordinary conversations can carry eternal significance. Evangelism becomes less about waiting for people to come to us and more about intentionally going to them.

This is also one of the beautiful reasons churches cooperate through an Association. No single congregation can reach an entire community alone, nor should it have to. Different churches have different strengths, resources, relationships, and opportunities. When churches work together, our collective Gospel presence becomes stronger.

We should continue sending missionaries, supporting international missions, praying for unreached people groups, and going wherever God opens doors around the world. The Great Commission demands nothing less...but while we pray for the nations, we should never overlook our neighbors.

God may call some of us across an ocean to share the Gospel. He may call others across the street. Most likely, He is calling His church to do both. Our call is to "go", and the opportunity may be closer than we think.

-With you & for you,

Justin

Sevier County Baptist Association

Transaction Report

July 2026

Transaction date	Description	Donor	Amount	Balance
4110 Church Gifts				
4110 Church Gifts				
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Bethel	100.00	100.00
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Faith Fellowship	50.00	150.00
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Gists Creek	96.66	246.66
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Roaring Fork	250.00	496.66
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Alder Branch	500.00	996.66
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Richardson's Cove	200.00	1,196.66
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Jones Chapel	399.80	1,596.46
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	Connect Church	100.00	1,696.46
07/01/2026	Church Gifts	First Baptist Pigeon Forge	509.76	2,206.22
07/06/2026	PAYMENT TENNESSEE BAPTIS PPD	Maples Branch	42.00	2,248.22
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Henderson Chapel	555.00	2,803.22
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Union Valley	100.00	2,903.22
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	New Center	50.00	2,953.22
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Mountain View	954.75	3,907.97
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Calvary	25.00	3,932.97
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Oldham's Creek	196.40	4,129.37
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Zion Hill	154.00	4,283.37
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Valley View	285.00	4,568.37
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Knob Creek	145.68	4,714.05
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Walden's Creek	60.00	4,774.05
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Paw Paw Hollow	383.25	5,157.30
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Wears Valley	277.00	5,434.30
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Second Baptist Sevierville	125.00	5,559.30
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	First Baptist Sevierville	2,083.33	7,642.63
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Seymour First	904.06	8,546.69
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	French Broad Valley	300.00	8,846.69
07/15/2026	Church Gifts	Shiloh	625.00	9,471.69
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Red Bank	200.00	9,671.69
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Gists Creek	85.54	9,757.23
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Bethel	100.00	9,857.23
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Union Valley	100.00	9,957.23
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Roaring Fork	250.00	10,207.23
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Williamsburg	78.34	10,285.57
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Alder Branch	373.00	10,658.57
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Banner	100.00	10,758.57
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	New Era	283.60	11,042.17
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Zion Grove	182.00	11,224.17
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	First Baptist Gatlinburg	150.00	11,374.17
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Beech Springs	251.20	11,625.37
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	Beech Springs	349.18	11,974.55
07/31/2026	Church Gifts	First Baptist Pigeon Forge	573.33	12,547.88
Total for 4110 Church Gifts			\$12,547.88	



Resort Ministry

Resort Ministry is more than just the beach, green, and ski slope!



Maybe it's a city park, a festival, a county lake, a local campground, or a weekend flea market. Or it could be a world-renowned destination ski area, theme park, ocean beach resort, historic site, national park, a commercial attraction, or special event. These places are in your community and provide opportunity for sharing the love of Jesus.

The Association of Resort and Leisure Ministers invites you to the 2026 conference where we will discover through fun and engaging experiences a balanced and Biblical view of work, play, and rest.

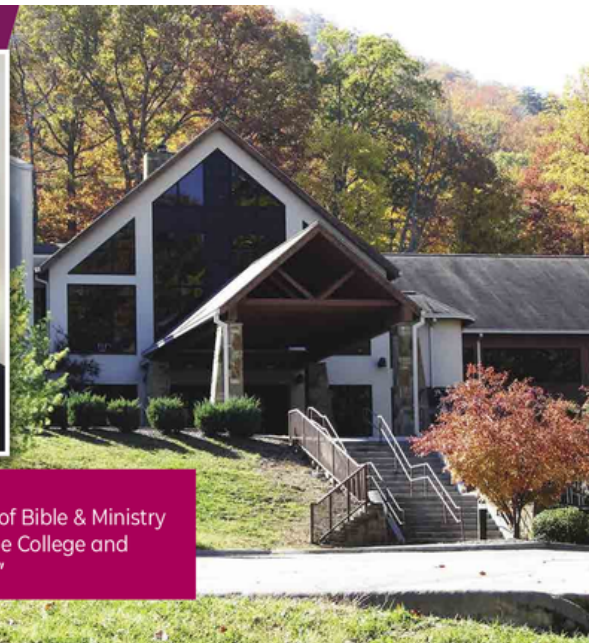
Creative ministries have developed in amazing places because of the willingness of people to invest themselves for Christ's sake in resort and leisure settings!

Kevin Gushiken (author of [A Theology of Play](#)) will discuss play as a way of seeing God in our lives. Together we will explore:

- **Identity & Joy:** Highlights how being grounded in God's good creation gives humans the freedom to play and experience pleasure.
- **Connection to Sabbath:** Frames play as a rhythm of rest and spiritual formation rather than a distraction from work.
- **Removing Barriers:** Helps believers overcome guilt, shame, and past hurts so they can enjoy the present.
- **Play in Pain:** Offers guidance on how to find glimpses of joy and play even during seasons of difficulty.

**Keynote Speaker:**

Kevin Gushiken, Dean, School of Bible & Ministry and Director at Lancaster Bible College and author of "A Theology of Play"



2026

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 26-28

CARSON SPRINGS

BAPTIST CONFERENCE CENTER
1120 Carson Springs Road • Newport, TN

ARLM exists to encourage and celebrate the revelation of God's presence in resort and leisure settings. Together we promote best practice and professional standards through the sharing of ideas and resources as we seek to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ to those who live, work, and play in leisure-lifestyle settings.

Lodging

Hotel style rooms are **single bed**, located in the conference center building and will accommodate 1 to 2 people per room. Bunk rooms are located in lodge-style building having 2 to 4 beds with common shower and restroom per room.

CONFERENCE PER-PERSON COST*

	2 nights	3 nights
Bunk	\$95	\$140
Hotel (2 person)	\$135	\$190
Hotel (1 person)	\$195	\$260
Non-lodging	\$85	\$115

*All meals and activities included in registration

Monday, October 26

5:00pm dinner
6:30pm keynote speaker

Tuesday, Oct 27

8:00am breakfast
9:00am sessions with keynote and breakouts
12:00pm lunch
1:00pm play at Dollywood
7:00pm dinner at HeartSong Resort and guest speaker from Dollywood's Executive Leadership

Wednesday, Oct 28

8:00am breakfast
9:00am session with keynote and breakouts
12:00pm lunch
2:00pm putt-putt tournament
6:00pm fireside dinner/dessert

Thursday, Oct 29

11:00am departure (no meal)

Registration information:

- Scan the QR code to register.
- Contact Joey Buck at jbuck@dollywood.com with any questions.
- Visit www.sevbaptist.org/arlm for exciting details and to register.



arlm.org



The Front Porch Mindset

People often need presence more than polished answers.



3 Simple Steps:

- **Slow Down** – Make time for meaningful conversations.
- **Listen First** – Resist the urge to immediately fix the problem.
- **Stay Present** – A follow-up text or prayer later in the week shows genuine care.

Simple moments of presence can deeply impact someone's faith journey.

Praying for our Pastors

Aug. 30th - Sep. 5th

Danny Henry | Friendship
Nick Moore | FBC Gatlinburg

Sep. 6th - 12th

Tim Dixon | Gists Creek
Ron Reagan | Gum Stand

Sep. 13th - 19th

Ricky Loveday | Henderson Chapel
Dustin Shultz | Hills Creek

Sep. 20th - 26th

Ed Ball | Howards View
Jeff Blalock | Hurst's Chapel

Sep. 27th - Oct. 3rd

Kevin Treadaway | Jones Chapel
Chris Kirby | Laural Grove

scan the code to
sign up for text reminders



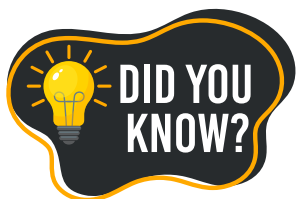
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

-Calendar-

- **August 31st** - Associational Gathering
6:30pm | SCBA Office
- **September 7th** - Labor Day (Office Closed)
- **September 6th - 13th** - Week of Prayer for GOTM
- **September 28th** - Associational Gathering
6:30pm | SCBA Office

-In Other News-

- If you receive our emails, you may have seen where I've decided to step down from my role as the AMS & Administrative Assistant with the Association. It has been a difficult decision to make, but one I feel that is best for not only my mental health & well-being, but also for my family. This has been an incredible experience and I'm sorry to have to leave sooner than anticipated, but God opened the door with another opportunity that I couldn't ignore. This doesn't mean that ministry stops in my life, but it'll certainly look a little different as I continue serving the community for the Kingdom!



Bacteria known as Staphylococcus aureus can release a chemical that activates a protein in our nerves. This sends a signal from our skin to our brains, which our brain perceives as an itch.



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Return Service Requested

**Associational Mission
Strategist**

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