NOVEMBER 2023



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SCBA









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"Why are we so worried and what are we so worried about? No matter how we answer those questions, all of us can admit Americans are worried. The unpredictable economy, the immigration crisis, crime waves in American cities, and a war in the Middle East have done nothing to relieve our stress. In fact, even before Hamas attacked Israel, an astounding 70 percent of Americans told the American Psychiatric Association they were anxious about their own safety or the safety of their families."

The Great De-Churching

Jim Davis explains the massive research project he and his team have done to explain the exit of 40 million Americans from the church since the 1990s. He talks about why this shift is the largest church attendance shift in US history, why the right is dechurcing faster than the left, the \$24 billion in giving that disappeared from the church, why it's not just cultural Christians who are leaving and much much more



https://bit.ly/48Adb2m follow the link or scan the QR code





As you know, the PRC is always in need of <u>diapers & wipes</u>. Items that are also asked for include <u>car seats</u>, <u>baby clothes</u>, <u>& pack 'n' plays</u>. What would it look like for your church family to sponsor the PRC by providing these items on a monthly basis? They are making a huge impact in the lives of women & families in our community, so let me encourage you to empower them to continue making a difference for Christ by supplying some of the resources! **Donations can be dropped off at the Association Office anytime**.

Roaring Fork Baptist Church in Gatlinburg is accepting resumes for "Youth Pastor". The position will require 15-20 hours per week & offer a competitive salary. The candidate chosen for this position will be supported by the whole Church body to ensure success in soul winning, leadership development, & discipleship.

Resumes may be sent to: pastorkimdmccroskey@gmail.com or communicate by phone @ 865-898-4428





EMBRACING GRATITUDE IN EVERY SEASON

By Justin Johnson | AMS

In the midst of life's trials and tribulations, it's easy to lose sight of the incredible love, grace, and mercy that our Heavenly Father pours out upon us daily. Our world may be filled with uncertainty, challenges, and moments of despair, but God's steadfast love endures forever. I want to encourage you to adopt a genuine spirit of gratitude for God's unwavering love and to find solace in the knowledge that He sees and cares for you, even when the work of His hands are hard to distinguish.

Scripture reminds us in Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." Even in our darkest moments, God is right beside us, offering His comfort and peace. Just as a parent watches over a sleeping child, our Heavenly Father watches over us with boundless love.

1 Peter 5:7 says, "Casting all your cares upon Him, because He cares for you." I love to hear people tell their stories, and I notice sometimes that people talk about how hard is to see God doing anything of significant value in their life. It reminds me of tapestry work ... the tapestry artist weaves threads of different colors to create stunning images. When you look at the finished product, it captures our attention because we can see the beauty of what was once an idea now turned into reality. But what if all we saw was the backside of the tapestry? We would be so confused by what we were looking at because it would be in such disarray. God is the weaver of our lives and knows exactly what He's doing. We may only be able to see the backside of what He's doing, but He sees the whole picture and it's exactly as it should be. Trust Him because He truly cares for you.

So, dear friends, let us pursue a deeper walk with Jesus. Let our hearts be filled with gratitude as we dedicate ourselves to prayer and the study of His Word. In prayer, we have direct line of communication with our Heavenly Father, pouring out our joys, sorrows, and thanksgiving. Through the Bible, we gain insight into His character and His plan for our lives, finding guidance, comfort, and inspiration.

In closing, I want to express my deep gratitude to each of you. Your faithfulness, love, and dedication to our Lord and to one another are a testament to God's grace at work in our Association. As we navigate life's ever-changing seasons, may we remember that God is with us, offering His love and care, and let us continually cherish this truth in our hearts. Remember that in every season, God's love is our constant companion.

> With thanks, Justin

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PASTOR'S LEARNING COMMUNITY

A place where pastors come together for encouragement, fellowship, & learning. We explore a variety of topics that are relevant to your professional & personal life. The purpose of Learning Communities is to provide practical help for your ministry & foster meaningful relationships with other pastors who understand you.

TAKE YOUR MINISTRY TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Join us around the table each month for open discussions around topics that you can learn from & those you can share valuable insight for!



Meaningful Fellowship

Come to the table with other likeminded pastors & find out that you're not the only one going through a given circumstance.

Sincere Encouragment

Show up month to month for a couple of hours to let someone else pour into you. You give so much of your time, but you can't pour from an empty cup!

Practical Learning

Whether we address specific topics or share valuable resources, you're bound to walk away with something you can apply to your life/ministry that day.

Please contact Justin at 865.453.0124 if you'd like to receive notifications about this event

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THE VIEWPOINT

Church Gifts				
September 2023				
Alder Branch	\$491.00	Millican Grove	\$399.79	
Antioch		Mountain View	\$546.93	
Banner		New Center	\$50.00	
Beech Springs	\$572.98	New Era	\$396.93	
Bells Chapel		New Salem		
Bethel		Northview	\$1,860.33	
Blowing Cave		Oak City		
Boyds Creek	\$151.64	Oldham's Creek	\$137.10	
Bradley's Chapel	\$25.00	Paw Paw Hollow	\$475.26	
Calvary	\$25.00	Pigeon Forge 1st	\$601.57	
Connect	\$100.00	Providence		
Covemont		Red Bank	\$479.50	
Dripping Springs	\$631.06	Red Bank 1st		
Dupont		Richardson's Cove		
Faith Fellowship		Roaring Fork	\$250.00	
French Broad Valley	\$300.00	Sevierville 1st	\$2,083.37	
Friendship		Sevierville 2nd	\$150.00	
Gatlinburg First	\$50.00	Seymour 1st	\$721.99	
Gists Creek	\$189.58	Shiloh	\$1,196.00	
Grace		Sims Chapel		
Gumstand		Smithwood		
Henderson Chapel	\$245.00	Sugar Loaf		
Hills Creek		Union Valley	\$100.00	
Howard's View		Valley View	\$285.00	
Hurst Chapel		Walden's Creek	\$60.00	
Jones Chapel	\$746.00	Walnut Grove	\$200.00	
Knob Creek	\$270.34	Wears Valley	\$374.00	
Kodak		Williamsburg	\$181.35	
Laurel Branch		Zion Grove	\$161.00	
Laurel Grove		Zion Hill	\$185.00	
Lebanon	\$191.12	Individuals	\$450.00	
Maples Branch	\$49.00	TOTAL	\$15,382.84	

Praying for our	Pastors
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October 29th -November 4th Tim Dixon | Gists Creek Butch Stovall | Grace

November 5th - 11th

November 12th - 18th

Ron Reagan | Gum Stand Ricky Loveday | Henderson Chapel

> Dustin Shultz | Hills Creek Edward Ball | Howards View

November 19th - 25th

Jeff Blalock | Hurst's Chapel Kevin Treadaway | Jones Chapel

November 26th -December 2nd Edward King | Knob Creek Erle Shepard | Kodak Community

scan the code to sign up for text reminders about upcoming meetings



ASSOCIATION CALENDAR

Calendar

- November 7 Camp Smoky Committee 6pm | Association Office
- November 12-15 TBC Summit
- November 23 Office Closed (Thanksgiving)
- November 27 Executive Board Meeting 6:30pm | Association Office

Birthdays

- November 1 Sharon Watson | Lebanon
- November 3 Dee McCroskey | Roaring Fork
- November 6 Dwayne White | New Era
- November 9 David Hodges | Maples Branch
- November 12 Edward King | Knob Creek
- November 14 Michael Barnes | Wears Valley First
- November 15 Clay Sutton | Bradley's Chapel
- November 19 Ronnie White | Paw Paw Hollow
- November 24 Janice White | New Era



Anniversaries

- November 20 Clifford & Saundra Carpenter | Calvary
- November 27 Don & Joan Letzring | Zion Grove



PO Box 4099 Sevierville, TN 37864

Return Service Requested

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