

The Messenger

A publication of the
Harvest Baptist Association
Vol. 30 #5—May 2024

Center Point Baptist Church presents:

THE *truth* REVIVAL

John 14:6

APRIL 24TH - 26TH

6:30 PM | Robertson County Fair Grounds

Wednesday, April 24th - Rev. Ronnie Green, Center Point Baptist

Thursday, April 25th - Dr. Rob Burdette, Harvest Baptist Assoc.

Friday, April 26th - Rev. Paul Edwards, White House First UMC

Special Music by Alan Johnson & Friends

Everyone is welcome! Come as you are. Food trucks will be available every night starting at 5:30 PM. Buy dinner for the family and help support our local vendors.



News

OUR CHURCHES

Barren Plains
Battle Creek
Bethel
Bethlehem
Cedar Hill
Center Point
Cherry Mound
Cross Roads
Eastland Heights
Ebenezer
Epiphany
Flewellyn
Grace
Greenbrier First
Harmony
Hopewell
Lighthouse
Lights Chapel
Mt. Carmel
North Springfield
Oak Grove
Oakland
Orlinda
Pleasant Hill
Pleasant View First
P.V. Community
Red River
Ridgetop First
Rios de Agua Viva
Rock Springs
Springfield
Springhill
The Grove
Temple
Union Hill
White House First
Williams Chapel

BATTLE CREEK is seeking a **part-time Music Leader** to lead music on Sunday mornings and other times as needed. Email resumes to admin@battlecreekbaptistchurch.org or mail to Battle Creek Baptist Church, Attn: Music Leader Search Committee, 2655 Battle Creek Road, Springfield, TN 37172.

GREENBRIER is seeking a **full-time Associate Family Pastor** who will primarily be responsible for the oversight of next generation ministries. His duties will include overseeing our children and student ministries, working with staff to set direction and tone of ministries, planning and coordinating events, and other duties of a pastor such as regular preaching opportunities and meeting with members. Interested applicants can submit a resume with a cover letter to gfbcmister-search@gmail.com. Resumes accepted through May 15.

HARMONY in Adams, TN is hiring for the position of **part-time Children's Minister**. We are looking for someone to minister to the needs of the school age members of our church. The Children's minister will offer midweek and Sunday services geared towards the children present. The Children's Minister will also lead volunteers in outreach efforts to grow our church's program. Pay will be \$175 dollars weekly. Please send resume to pastorjakehbc@gmail.com, or call 615-389-8924 for more information.

OAKLAND is looking to hire a **Worship Leader** and **Youth Director** to serve on Sundays. This can be one person or a couple for each position or could be combined to serve in both roles. A job description and salary can be obtained by email at doughthornton61@gmail.com or calling Pastor Doug at 629-210-5877.

TEMPLE is seeking a full time **Associate Pastor of Operations** whose primary responsibilities will be to assist the Senior Pastor in carrying out the mission, vision and direction of the church. He serves as Chief Operations Officer of the church in providing supervision and direction to the church staff and ministries. This role requires a passion for both leadership development and practical stewardship. The right leader will possess a pastoral heart and instinct, a passion for gospel ministry, and proven skill in organizational leadership and management. Interested applications can submit a resume to personnel@templetoday.com and also request a full job description.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *A family of churches working together in equipping and encouraging one another in fulfilling the Great Commission.*



Optional or Necessary?

I was recently the guest of a church outside of our association. While sitting in the pews with my friend, I noticed something wasn't right at the start of the worship service. There was a lot of scurrying around on the platform. There were instruments on their stands, but no one was getting ready to play. The service started late and as it turned out there had been a scheduling mix-up. The praise team for that week was not there. They had a few volunteers from the congregation step-up and lead a few songs so the service could continue. For a moment, I wondered if they had a speaker that day, and if I might have to come out of the crowd and preach! That crisis was averted, and the service went on as expected.

But this event got me thinking about what our natural expectations of a worship service are and what do we view as necessary. Certainly, if you went to a service at your church and there was no one to lead music and there was no musical portion of the service, you would say, "What happened? We need to get this fixed." We have an expectation that this is a necessary part of our worship. If you went to a service at your church and there was no one to preach the Word that day, you would say, "What happened? We need to get this fixed." We have an expectation that preaching the Word is a necessary part of our worship. And yet, when we come to the invitation or response times in our services, if there is no one there to accept Christ, none to repent of sins, none to come for baptism, no one to rededicate their life, no one that wishes to join the church, or none to surrender to ministry, we are not alarmed at all. We have incorrectly been conditioned to see all these responses as optional. We have normalized empty altars and dry baptistries. What we should think is "What happened? We need to get this fixed."

But in protest, we might think to ourselves, "Yes decisions are good, but we can't control the human heart. We can't make people respond. Salvation and life change is the work of God. We have no bearing on what happens during a response time." Absolutely...and absolutely not. Yes, salvation and life change is completely the supernatural work of the Living God. But have we not noticed that God chooses to show His transforming power through churches that are obedient to share and live out the Gospel? It is an absolute reality that churches who are faithful to share the Gospel see more fruit than those who don't. Should it shock us that God chooses not to work as strongly within places that are disobedient in evangelism? It reminds me of the stories of Jesus going to towns and only performing a few miracles in some places, because the people lacked faith.



Our problem is not a theological one where we are confused about who does the saving. Our problem is a practical one where we are squeamish about who does the telling. Let us not see evangelism as an optional part of our Christian walk. This is not just about our Sunday

morning services but us learning to expect God to work and be faithful to His Word because we have been obedient to His commands. May we see our worship as incomplete if we can't celebrate the lives that God has changed that week through our faithful witness.

YOU'RE INVITED



CHILDREN & STUDENT MINISTRY TRAINING DAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 - 2:30 PM

**FOR ALL LEADERS
& LAY VOLUNTEERS**

**BREAKOUTS | YOUTH & CHILDREN'S PANEL
TRAINING LED BY LOCAL STUDENT &
CHILDREN'S PASTORS**

Hosted at Bethel Baptist Church
7022 Bethel Rd , Greenbrier, TN

For More Info or To RSVP Email - nick@mtcarmel.cc

**THE
SHEPHERD'S
PLACE**
Free Clothing Ministry

Orlinda Baptist Church has a free clothing ministry called **The Shepherd's Place**. This ministry offers free clothing for children and adults. They are open on the first and third Fridays of the month between 10 AM and 2 PM.

Orlinda Baptist, 1124 W. Church St., Orlinda

MEETINGS & EVENTS

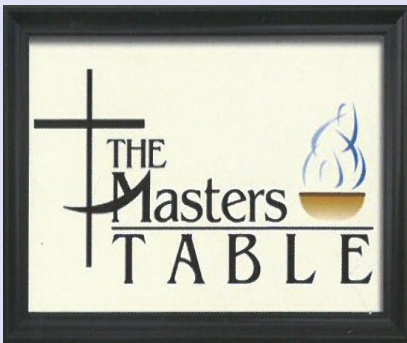
Children/Youth Training Day	April 21	2:30 PM	Bethel
Youth Pastor Meeting	April 23	12:30 PM	Barren Plains
The Truth Revival	April 24-26	6:30 PM	RC Fairgrounds
Nominating Team Meeting	April 25	6:00 PM	Harvest
Pastors' Conference	May 7	8:00 AM	Harvest
Church Health Team Meeting	May 9	6:00 PM	Harvest
Pastor's Bible Study	May 13	9:00 AM	Harvest
Evangelism Team Meeting	May 14	6:00 PM	Harvest
Vision Team Meeting	May 21	6:00 PM	Harvest

THE SHEPHERD'S PLACE

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The Master's Table is in immediate need of several items. If you are willing to help, they would greatly appreciate it. They are currently serving 60-75 free meals per day, Monday through Friday, from 10:00-11:00 AM.

If you want to take items to the Master's Table, someone is there to receive them from 9:30 AM - 11:15 AM. If those hours are not convenient, items may be brought to the Harvest office, and they will deliver them for you

Items that are needed:

- Hamburger patties - 60 or more
- Gallon cans of any vegetable (except green beans - they have plenty)
- Gallon cans of fruit
- Gallon cans of beans - white, baked, pinto, etc.
- Chicken wings
- French fries
- Spaghetti Sauce and Noodles
- Meats - Ham, Turkey, Bacon, Sausage, Ground Beef
- 3 Compartment To-go boxes
- Kroger, Aldi, or Walmart Gift Cards

The Master's Table is very grateful for the support of the churches of Harvest Baptist Association. Our churches have been very faithful to help meet their needs.

Live Music All Day - Kids' Zone - Great Food - Vendors

MY FATHER'S HOUSE

BENEFIT CAR SHOW & FAMILY DAY



SATURDAY, MAY 11TH

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

ROBERTSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Cars- Trucks-Jeeps- Motorcycles \$20 per entry

Trophies awarded in each category

Vehicle registration 7am till 10am

For More Information: 615-944-8441

Free Admission

Calling all Car, Truck, Jeep, and Motorcycle Clubs

Vehicle registration begins at 7am.

Judging starts at 10am

\$25 registration fee

1st 2nd 3rd place trophies plus...

Best of Show and Director's Choice.

Vendor space available.

Live music & great food.

Kid's Zone activities

Concert line-up:

*Shalom Movement

*Steve and Annie Chapman

*Suzzette Boggs

*Dolly Parton impersonator

*Michelle Pillar

*Will McFarlane

*Joe Hott and the Short Mountain Boys



Volunteers Needed for Food Giveaway May 3rd

Mid-Cumberland
Community Action
Agency is hosting a
food give-away on
Friday, May 3rd at
their office, 505 Hill
St., Springfield.

They need
volunteers to help
make this a
successful event.
Workers are needed
between the hours
of 7 AM and 1 PM to
help distribute food.
Please let everyone
you know about this
great opportunity to
serve our
community.

If you are interested
in volunteering,
please call
Kecia Harris at
615-384-1086.

HARVEST SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

On Tuesday, April 16, Harvest Baptist Association held its Semi-annual Meeting at Pleasant View Community Church. To begin the meeting, Bro. Randy Harmon, Rock Springs Baptist Church, preached about reaching the unreachable and unloved. After a break with wonderful refreshments provided by PVCC, we began the business portion of the meeting with 22 churches present and 83 people in attendance. Updates on various ministries were provided. Upcoming events such as A Praying Life: Prayer Seminar, United Weekend, and Children & Student Ministry Day were promoted. Dr. Stephanie Evans introduced Mighty Oak Christian Mental Health Services to the messengers. This much needed service will begin in May and will be located at the Harvest Office. Bro. Patrick Nix was presented as the new Harvest Church Support Strategist and Union Hill Baptist was voted into the association under watchcare. Bruce Boring of Wycliffe Bible Translators, talked to us about The Blank Bible Project which we are hoping many of our churches will participate in. An associational mission trip to Lynch, KY, was also announced. Dr. Rob Burdette ended the evening by letting us know that our churches are strong in cooperation with one another, but our attendance has plateaued while the area population has increased dramatically. He stressed the need to evangelize and reach our communities for Christ.



Messengers pray for Patrick Nix, new Harvest staff member, and Jason Snider, Pastor of Union Hill, newest church added to our association.



Dr. Rob Burdette spoke to the messengers about reaching our communities for Christ.



Did you know Harvest collects your used Sunday School materials, Bibles, and Christian Literature and sends it to Love Packages? This wonderful ministry ships over 2000 tons of literature per year overseas that is read by over 60 million first-time readers! Make sure your church brings us your used materials often! Small boxes (copy paper size) packed full to the top are the most helpful.

Impacting Our Community

HiSET Classes Continue to Help Local Students



HiSET has been a personal development project for me that provided the opportunity not only to obtain a degree but also to acquire experiences that motivate me to continue cultivating our heritage.

It is accessible to all people without any discrimination and has excellent teachers who fulfill their role in each subject without any remuneration. They guide us with vocation, wisdom, and enthusiasm to help us achieve our goal.

I am grateful to have experienced the support, the organization, and the ease of acquiring information. No more excuses. My next goal is to attend English classes. That is also very important for the opportunities it can generate for me in my community. - **María José Guzmán López**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) & HiSET

This year we have enrolled 140 students, and we have an attendance of 70 to 80 every week. Most of our students are from Central America, a few from Venezuela, Colombia, Haiti, and Ecuador. Our classes meet on Thursdays. Morning classes are 9:00 to 11:00 and evening classes 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We also offer Citizenship classes.

We have childcare for the children of our students during classes. We have about 30 volunteers, teachers, and substitutes from 16 area churches.

You are welcome to visit us on Thursdays during classes to meet our teachers and students and learn about our program. If you want to volunteer as a teacher or substitute you don't need to know Spanish, and we also have many other areas where you can help as well. If you are interested in helping, you can contact Norma Dutton at the Harvest office.

In addition to ELL we have a HiSET program. Lessons are taught in Spanish. This class is on Thursdays in the evening hours from 6 to 8 pm. We have had 50 Students enroll since August of 2023, and we have 4 teachers that are very dedicated to this program.

We have a graduation every year in July. Last year we had 7 students graduate, and this year we have 3 that have already passed all of their tests and will receive their diplomas at our graduation ceremony. The program started in 2017, and from then until now, 85 students have completed the Program and have obtained their High School Equivalency Diploma.

This current semester will end on May 9. We will begin our new semester of classes on August 8. Student may enroll on August 8th or 15th for the fall semester.



On April 11-13, women from across Tennessee gathered at Brentwood Baptist Church to worship, celebrate, pray, and learn at the annual Missions Get-together. This year's theme was "For His Glory." The ladies were able to attend classes and joint worship sessions that encouraged and equipped them to be missionaries where they live.



HARVEST VBS CLINIC

On Monday, April 1st, 55 people representing 11 churches gathered at Temple Baptist for our annual VBS Clinic. Tammy Perko and a group of leaders led VBS workers in various breakout sessions that included music, snacks, missions, preschool,

children, youth, and crafts. In honor of Vacation Bible School celebrating its 100th year, we looked back at VBS themes from times past and discussed the important role that VBS plays in church as an evangelistic outreach ministry. Thank you to everyone that helped to put this clinic together and to Temple for hosting.

FREE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

When: Friday, May, 10th

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Where: Springfield Baptist Church

Cost: FREE!

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/880439075977?aff=oddtcreator>

Youth MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID



Looking
for a VBS
project?

we need

- diapers
- wipes

 **Open Door**
PREGNANCY & RESOURCE CENTER

Contact us for more information
615.384.4673
opendoorpc@gmail.com

Pastors' Conference

Pastors, join us for the final Pastors' Conference of the semester on Tuesday, May 7th. Our guest speaker this month will be Dr. Jamie Work of the IMB. Make plans now to attend. Breakfast and fellowship will begin at 8:00 AM with Dr. Work to follow.



Church Contributions

Church Name	Mar. 2024	Jan. 2024- Dec. 2024	Church Name	Mar. 2024	Jan. 2024- Dec. 2024
Barren Plains	\$431.20	\$1640.80	Mt. Carmel	\$1049.78	\$4038.78
Battle Creek	200.00	600.00	North Springfield	589.00	2411.00
Bethel	831.75	2628.09	Oak Grove	723.40	2168.90
Bethlehem	475.00	1425.00	Oakland	253.17	772.95
Cedar Hill	2313.92	10165.63	Orlinda	787.74	2710.53
Center Point	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Hill	200.00	600.00
Cherry Mound	450.00	1350.00	P.V. Community	0.00	76.39
Cross Roads	375.01	1132.69	Pleasant View 1st	3673.98	6515.91
Eastland Heights	579.76	1253.76	Red River	1241.14	1866.82
Ebenezer	100.00	400.00	Ridgetop First	208.92	514.60
Epiphany	50.00	150.00	Rios de Agua Viva	0.00	0.00
Flewellyn	140.00	420.00	Rock Springs	2135.44	9978.81
Grace, Springfield	800.00	2600.00	Springfield	1775.90	3380.37
Greenbrier First	1026.63	2465.32	Springhill	489.61	1151.81
Harmony	0.00	1200.00	Temple	5845.48	17925.58
Hopewell	0.00	4977.00	The Grove	400.00	800.00
Lighthouse	1000.00	1000.00	White House First	400.00	400.00
Lights Chapel	584.24	1309.33	Williams Chapel	0.00	300.00
			TOTAL	\$29,131.07	\$90,330.07



Pastors, join us on Monday, **May 13**, as we continue our study on the **Sermon on the Mount**.

Studying the Sermon of Sermons is a chance for us to learn at the feet of Jesus about the nature, attitudes, and actions of a Kingdom Disciple. Our study will be at **Harvest Association at 9:00 AM**.



Listen to our Podcast! Go to hbatn.org/podcast to hear our DOM Dr. Rob Burdette, interview our Harvest pastors. You will get to hear what is going on in their churches and listen to their testimonies. This will give everyone a chance to get to know a little bit about our 36 churches and the men who shepherd them.



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Follow us on our Blog at: church-matters.tumblr.com/
and on



The deadline is the 15th of each month for the newsletter.

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