



The Messenger



Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

A network of churches committed to evangelizing, teaching, and ministering to our world.

August 2026

- Service Opportunities
- Training Opportunities
- Girls' Conference
- Pictures
- And more!

A Word from Kirk



*"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, **striving together as one for the faith of the gospel.**"* Philippians 1:27

In 1902, W.C. and Mildred Golden challenged Tennessee Baptists to pray and give sacrificially so that the gospel could reach every corner of Tennessee. That same spirit of prayer and generosity has carried Tennessee Baptists forward for 125 years - planting churches, caring for the vulnerable, and taking the name of Christ to communities across our state. This year, as we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of focused prayer and giving to state missions, we have the opportunity to add our chapter to that story. When your church prays and gives, you join a century and a quarter of believers who believed Tennessee was worth reaching. Together. We Pray. We Give. We Go. A season of prayer and giving for state missions helps churches focus together on how God is at work across Tennessee and how they can join that work through prayer, generosity, and gospel-centered service.

Has your church considered the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions this year? The theme for this year is "Together. We Pray. We Give. We Go."

Why should your church give to the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions? Look at the allocations of this year's offering to determine the many areas that GOTM reaches:

Compassion Ministries & Adoption Fund	\$700,000
Multiplying Healthy Churches (includes Blue Oval City)	\$685,000
Conducting Disaster Relief	\$435,000
Associational Ministries (15% of church contributions)	\$420,000
Developing Leaders on Campus	\$310,000
Multiplying Gospel Leaders	\$150,000
All Nations Camp	\$100,000
Discipling Missions Leaders	\$100,000
GOTM Promotion and Development	\$100,000

Prayerfully consider what your church would give to the Golden Offering,

Kirk

ROANE STATE MEALS

It's time to start planning food for the fall semester at Roane State.

Lunches will run August 19 through December 3, except for Fall Break (Oct 12-16) and Thanksgiving week. Pick a week and let us know if you plan to provide lunch on Wednesday or on Thursday of that week.

We usually plan to feed about 75-100 people including students, faculty, and staff. Once the semester is underway, we might be able to fine tune that estimate.

If you have a group from your church that would like to help with this ministry, please contact Libby to be added to the schedule.

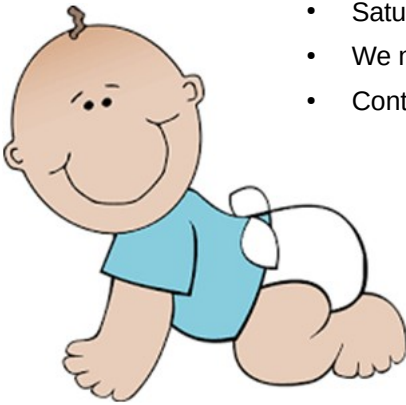


Baby Comfort Station at the Cumberland County Fair

The most important thing we can do is share the Love of Christ with those around us. The CPBA will again be hosting a Baby Comfort Station at the Cumberland County Fair. This year's fair will be held August 17-22, 2026.

- Pick a day: Monday through Saturday.
- Pick a shift: Early (4:30-7:00pm) or Late (7:00-9:30pm)
- Saturday also has an Afternoon shift available (2:00-4:30pm)
- We need exactly 2 volunteers for each shift.
- Contact Libby to sign up. 484-1858 or cpba4ma@gmail.com

*Hurry!
Only 6 slots
left!*



The Baby Comfort Station provides a clean and comfortable place for parents to bring their babies to change them and feed them. In addition, we also provide free water, suckers, and freezer pops. Through your donations, we are able to give away NEW English and Spanish Bibles, Christian books, movies, and CDs with a brochure listing our associational churches.

This is a great opportunity to serve the Lord and to plant Gospel seeds in a lot of hearts and minds. Our desire is to see many come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ!

Each year Tennessee WMU asks a few associations to "adopt" a Missionary Kid (MK) whose parents are serving overseas with the IMB. These students are often away from their family for the first time and in a country they did not grow up in. College can often feel lonely and isolating to them. The purpose of this MK Adoption is for the associations to nurture and encourage these students while they are far from family and hopefully for the church to see missions more personally. We are being asked to offer encouragement to our MK throughout the school year.

MK Project
Click for Sign-up Sheets

Our assigned MK is a young man named Sage, who will be a sophomore this fall at TN Tech. I am asking our churches to sign up for one month to minister to him by sending notes, emails, gift cards, goody packages, etc. This could be a church-wide project, a youth project, a seniors group project, or a project for any group. Individuals are welcome to sign up as well.

Would you be will to commit to one month? We are looking to fill the calendar from August through May. Let us know, and we will add you to the schedule. Once you sign up, you will receive Sage's mailing address, his email address, and a few extra suggestions to get you started.

Of course, if your church wants to correspond with Sage for more than "your" month or even all summer, that would be wonderful. Signing up for a specific month just ensures that he isn't overlooked.

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training Events

MHFA is a skills-based training that teaches participants to identify, understand, and respond to mental health and substance use challenges.

Adult MHFA - Mental Health First Aid for adults is an 8-hour training that teaches people how to recognize signs of mental health or substance use challenges in adults 18 and older, how to offer and provide initial help, and how to guide a person toward appropriate care, if necessary. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, psychosis, and addiction.

[Click Here for Dates & Locations of Scheduled Adult MHFA Training Events](#)

More dates and locations will be added throughout the year.

Youth MHFA - Youth Mental Health First Aid is a 7-hour training for adults who regularly interact with young people ages 12-18, youth ministers/workers, parents, teachers, school staff, etc. This training will introduce common mental health challenges for youth, review typical adolescent development, and teach a 5-step action plan to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders, and eating disorders.

[Click Here for Dates & Locations of Scheduled Youth MHFA Training Events](#)

More dates and locations will be added throughout the year.

Each MHFA training requires a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 30 participants. The registration cost for participants is \$10 per person, which covers lunch. The Tennessee Department of Health provides instructors through community partners who are trained to lead youth and adult MHFA.

Disaster Relief: Hands-On Specialized Classes

October 10, 2026 – Missions Mobilization Center, 6434 John Hagar Road, Mt. Juliet, TN, 37122

To pre-register for this class, REGISTER ONLINE – [click here](#).

For questions, contact Elizabeth Holmes at eholmes@tnbaptist.org.

Please pre-register by Monday, October 5, for the meal count.

You must be current with your Disaster Relief credentials. Depending on which course you take, you may need current classroom training.

Classes being offered are:

- Bucket Truck Classroom and Hands-On Training (all day) – includes test – Must have current Chainsaw Operations & Safety classroom training OR
- Chainsaw Hands-On Training (morning class or afternoon class) – Must have current Chainsaw Operations & Safety classroom training OR
- Forklift/Skid Steer Classroom (1 1/2 hours) and Hands-On Training (1 1/2 – 3 hours depending on class size) – includes test OR
- Mass Feeding Hands-On Training (all day) – Must have current Mass Feeding classroom training

Lunch – \$5 person (prepared by the Mass Feeding Hands-On Class)

Click link for the agenda – [2026 Hands-On Specialized Training – October 10 – MMC](#)

Registration Forms Disaster Relief volunteers can now download the following forms to their computers and fill them out and bring them with you to training or send them to the DR office. By typing these forms, you are helping us save time with data entry and increasing our accuracy of keeping your records. Use this [link](#) to fill out the Record of Volunteer Training form.



Christmas in August provides a simple way you can directly help North American Mission Board missionaries by sending them supplies they need for their ministries. Most often, these are supplies that are needed in bulk.

[Click here](#) for more information and for a list of this year's NAMB missionaries.



Gifts on Global Hunger Sunday, August 23, provide food, aid, and the hope of Christ to communities in need. [Click here](#) to find resources to prepare your church for Global Hunger Sunday!



SAVE THE DATE!

2026 Connection

September 11-13 | Cookeville

Connection is a missions discipleship event for middle and high school girls that is filled with Biblical teaching, worship, missionaries, fun, and a variety of breakout topics. [Click here](#) for more information.



- ➔ Tennessee Baptists are challenged to provide 7,000 Christmas Backpacks for children living in poverty regions in Tennessee. Churches and associations will partner with ministries in these regions to impact the lives of children and their families with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For more information and resources, [click here](#).
- ➔ Tennessee WMU continues to partner with Baptist Collegiate Ministries to collect snack foods to help reach students. [Click here](#) for more information on locating and contacting your local BCM.

Love Packages Trip with Bethlehem Baptist



Jason Jenkins with Love Packages, Paul Ely, Dorothy Ely, Donnie Hedgecoth, Janis Collins, Marianne Mailhoit, Judy Hedgecoth, Annie Stewart, Jessica Hedgecoth, Kirk Casey, Donna Bents, and Stan Bents



Annie Stewary, Janis Collins, and Marianne Mailhoit sorting Sunday School material



Annie Stewart sorting Sunday School material



Kirk Casey binding Sunday School material after it has been sorted.



Stan and Donna Bents packing Christian books



Paul Ely and Donnie Hedgecoth sorting books to be packed



Jessica Hedgecoth packing books



Dorothy Ely helping with mailouts

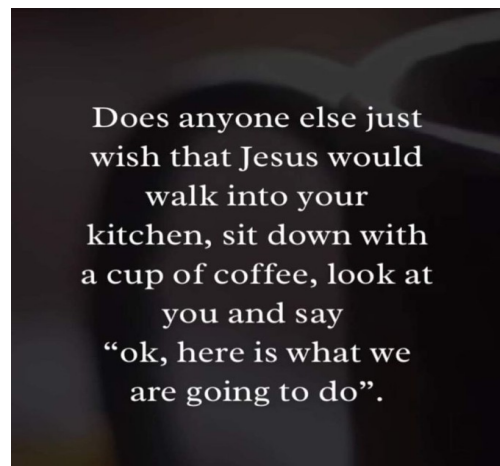
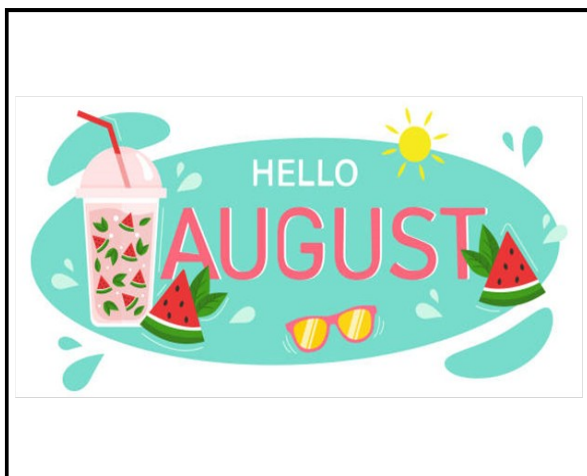


Stan and Donna Bents preparing a box to be packed with Christian books

Support Staff Appreciation Luncheon

thank you





August 2026 At-A-Glance

- Aug 7 CC Schools: First Full Day for Students
- Aug 17-22 Baby Comfort Station at the Cumberland County Fair
- Aug 19 Roane State Meals begins

DONATE

Please consider donating to support CPBA. All donations are tax deductible. Donate by mail, in person, or online at www.cpbaptists.com/donate

Looking Ahead to September 2026

- Sept 1 Executive Council Meeting
- Sept 7 Labor Day: Office Closed
- Sept 15 ACP reports due
- Sept 21 Pastors' Conference
Guest Speaker: TBA
- Sept 21-22 Love Packages Trip
- Sept 28 Messengers RSVP due

More information about many of our calendar events can be found on the **EVENTS** page of our website.

SUBSCRIBE

If you currently receive the newsletter in print but could switch to the online version, please subscribe at www.cpbaptists.com/subscription

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