

The Messenger

February 2022

Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

“The Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association is a network of Churches committed to evangelizing, teaching and ministering to our World.”

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.
Ephesians 2:8*

The world (or maybe the card companies) has chosen the month of February to demonstrate love. Love will be displayed by the number of cards that are shared by valentines whose words will soon fade away. Love will be presented by the bouquet of roses that will wilt before the end of the month. Love will be exhibited by the box of chocolates that will melt away in days. Here is a love that is enjoyed for a moment but it is a love that does not last.

Do you want a love that lasts? Think about how God has demonstrated his love. Romans 5:8 states, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Here is God’s love and His awesome expression of grace. Jesus did for us what we could not do for ourselves. God offers us the gift of eternal life even while we do not deserve it as sinners.

While visiting one of our churches this past Sunday I contemplated God’s amazing grace by which we are saved. We were actually singing an old hymn entitled, “Grace Greater Than Our Sin.” Let me remind you of the words:

*Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured, There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.*

*Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you can be today.*

*Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe;
You that are longing to see His face, Will you this moment His grace receive?*

*Grace, grace, God’s grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God’s grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin.*

Do you want true love that will last forever and never fade away? You can receive God’s love that is wrapped up in the gift of salvation offered by grace through faith. If you have already experienced God’s marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, than you have His love to share with the world.

How will you demonstrate love this February?

Kirk



Annie Armstrong (1850-1938)

Annie was born in Baltimore at a time when there was little opportunity for women. Yet, her devotion to Christ led her to a life of service and leadership. She organized women to pray, to give and to meet the needs around them. She challenged pastors and churches to action and rallied vital support for missionaries. Ultimately, Annie was recognized as a national Southern Baptist trailblazer for her visionary leadership that still inspires millions today.

What is the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering?

The offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). In 1934, it was named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a bold missions advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$2 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals to support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries. Because of this sacrificial giving, millions of lives have been and continue to be transformed by the power of the gospel.

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING WEEK OF PRAYER

Save
the
Date

Adam's Road is coming back!!
April 24 CPBA Spring Worship Service



Central Baptist Church
6:00 p.m.



As a Disaster Relief volunteer, you have helped bring Help, Hope and Healing to those touched by a disaster as you have been the hands and feet of Jesus. There has never been a more important time to be involved in Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief.

We are hosting the following trainings to help prepare you to be ready to serve. Encourage your team members and new volunteers to attend. Click on the links below to register for each weekend.

- **Middle TN Regional** – February 18-19, 2022 – Judson Baptist Church, 4900 Franklin Road, Nashville, TN 37220
- **East TN Regional** - March 18-19, 2022 – Brainerd Hills Baptist Church, 6611 E. Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421

The following classes will be held at each regional training event. Most classes are 1 ½ hours – 3-hour classes. Depending on the class(es) you choose will determine how many you will be able to take during this weekend event.

1. Introduction to Disaster Relief (Friday night or Saturday afternoon) – **(Required for new or renewing volunteers)**
2. Chainsaw Operation & Safety (Classroom)
3. Damage Assessment (would be helpful to have contractor or building skills)
4. DREW (Disaster Relief Electronic Workspace for team leaders/team secretaries)
5. Emergency Communications (**Amateur Radio License Required**)
6. Fire Recovery
7. Flood Recovery
8. Ham Radio Communications (Friday night)
9. Mass Feeding (Classroom)
10. Rebuild
11. Shower/Laundry
12. Site Security
13. Spiritual Preparation/Evangelism (**Must take a specialized class in addition to this class to be credentialed**)
14. Temporary Childcare
15. Unit Director (Blue Hat)/Crew Chief Combined (**Requires letter of recommendation**)
16. Chaplaincy (Starts on Friday night – Saturday afternoon) (**Requires letter of recommendation**)

Please pre-register online for both classes and lunch so we can have enough training materials and lunch available to all who attend. (The credentialing fee for new or expired credentials is \$36; the cost of lunch is \$6/person.). If you have any questions, contact Elizabeth Holmes at eholmes@tnbaptist.org or (615) 371-7926.

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 find the forms: <https://tndisasterrelief.org/registration-forms/>

NOTE: *Participants in Disaster Relief response or training must understand that this is being conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic. All volunteers by virtue of their agreement to participate are indicating that they understand the enhanced danger the pandemic brings to the normal risks and dangers inherent with disaster relief work. Volunteers are representing that they have been free from any symptoms of COVID-19 for at least the last 14 days and agree, if they become symptomatic, to immediately notify their team leader, avoid further contact with others on site, and leave as soon as possible to avoid jeopardizing others. Volunteers must practice CDC recommended guidelines whenever and wherever possible.*

www.tnbaptist.org email: wjones@tnbaptist.org

Pastoral Counseling Center of the Cumberland Plateau

Submitted by: Carolyn Scott, Pastoral Counselor, February 2022

We are More Than Conquerors!

If you have been waiting a long time for your breakthrough and it hasn't come yet, I know how you feel. Throughout my life, I never wanted people to see me as weak, so I would slap on a smile and pretend everything was okay; however on the inside, there was devastation. I had feelings of rejection, hurt, discouragement, self-condemnation, and fear. When Christians walk around allowing these feelings to remain, we allow the devil to win over our lives.

Over the years as a Christian, I began to read and study the Word of God, and I learned that God gives us an amazing promise of victory over the battles we are going through in Romans 8:37. It reads, "Yet amid all these things we are more than conquerors and gain a surpassing victory through Him Who loved us."

It's important to understand that our emotional battles are spiritual. Examples of this would be:

David was troubled and battled deep despair. "Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God." Ps. 42:11

Elijah was discouraged, weary, and afraid. "I have had enough Lord, he said. Take my life, I am not better than my ancestors." 1 Kings 19:4

Jonah was angry and wanted to run away. "Now O Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." (Jonah 4:3).

Job suffered through great loss, devastation, and physical illness. "I have no peace, no quietness, I have no rest, but only turmoil." Job 3:26; Job 10:1 (bitterness); Job 30:15-17 (terrors)

Moses was grieved over the sin of his people. In his feelings of anger and betrayal from his own people, Moses, as a leader, was about ready to quit. "But now, please forgive their sin – but if not, then blot me out of the book you have written." Exodus 32:32

Jeremiah wrestled with great loneliness, feelings of defeat, and insecurity, poor, ridiculed, rejected, despair, and a sense of failure. He cried out, "Cursed be the day I was born...why did I ever come out of the womb to see trouble and sorrow and to end my days in shame?" See Jeremiah 20:14 and 20:18

Even Jesus Himself was deeply anguished over what lay before Him. Isaiah prophesied that Christ would be "a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." See Isaiah 53:3.

Our world desperately needs joy-givers, hope-bringers, those in our lives who will help us remember what real grace is and where lasting help is found. The greatest truth is this, we have a Savior who understands our pain, who knows about every weakness and hurt, and reaches out with compassion and hope. God is Healer... Redeemer... Restorer... and friend! He will never waste the seasons of suffering we face, but will use it, in some way, to bring good, to instill purpose, to help others, and to make us stronger.

Many people are living in defeat because they are unaware that they have a spiritual enemy who has destructive plans for their lives. 1 Peter 5:8 tells us to "Be vigilant at all times because ...that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring, seeking someone to seize upon and devour."

When we understand that the battle is spiritual, then we know that the weapons we need to win are spiritual weapons. And, when we learn how to use them, we never have to live with a victim mentality again. Instead, we will know what it means to be more than a conqueror through Christ!

The devil will do whatever it takes to keep you from God's plan for your life. This means he will attack you in any area of your life where he sees a weakness or thinks he can get to you. But God is greater than the enemy.

The greatest way to win your battles is to cultivate a close, intimate relationship with God. We are nothing in our own strength—on our own, we are no match for the enemy. However, the Bible says, "Greater is He (God) Who lives in us than he (satan) who lives in the world" (1 John 4:4).

So, what battles are you fighting today? A troubled relationship, sickness, financial problems, fear, or maybe a disappointing setback? You were never meant to do life alone. God wants to strengthen you, guide you, help you...and teach you how to have success over the enemy.

None of us has a choice whether or not we will face battles. The Bible clearly tells us, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation (trouble); but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

We will all experience difficult times, but we can choose to journey through these times being victorious over them. God will strengthen us and He will fight and win every battle we face, and in the end we will come out stronger on the other side.

There are good things in your future! Remember these three truths ... God is with you, God loves you unconditionally, God is always fighting for you (Is 41:10; Romans 8:31-39; Psalm 118:6). God has given you everything you need to be victorious in every battle (difficulty) you will ever face.

If you are in need of pastoral counseling, life coaching, or just need encouragement, give me a call to schedule 931-787-9033. Or, if you would like more information on this topic, give me a call. Have a wonderful month knowing that God LOVES you!



Focus on WMU Sunday

Start making plans now for Focus on WMU Sunday, February 20, 2022.

Focus on WMU Sunday is an intentional time to celebrate what God is doing through WMU, in your church, to reach the world with the good news of Jesus Christ. For more information, visit WMU.com.



WMU Spring Missions
Emphasis Meeting
March 10, 2022
6:00 pm
Meal & Fellowship
7:00 pm
Oak Hill Baptist Church
3036 Genesis Road
Crossville, TN 38555
Theme: "Changing Lives"
Verse: *Joshua 1:9*
Speaker: Janice Carter
CWJC/CMJC | State
Coordinator for TN WMU
Mission Project:
Gift cards for Silent Auction at Missions Get-Together

EVERYONE IS INVITED


Missions Get-Together

Theme: *Relentless Faith*

"But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved. –Hebrews 10:39"

Speaker: Donna Gaines

Registration:
Closes on March 15, or sooner, if event capacity is reached.
No registration at the event - must pre-register.
Fee: \$100 per person by February 15 or \$125 per person by March 15




Week of Prayer for North American Missions/Annie Armstrong Easter Offering March 6-13

Your generous giving to the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering makes an eternal impact across North America. You and your church are the fuel that enables thousands of missionaries to be sent, to plant churches, and to serve the needs of people who desperately need a gospel witness.

Contact Jacki Holleman | TN WMU
at jholleman@tnbaptist.org if your church needs to order materials.

The Joy of Missions



Donations collected by WMU for tornado victims were delivered. A load of diapers, wipes, and formula were delivered to the Center for Pregnancy in Bowling Green, KY to help those affected by the tornado that caused deaths and destruction in the city.

A load of non-perishable foods, hygiene items, and clothes were delivered to Be the Village in Dresden, TN for families that have lost their home in the recent tornado in this community.

Thank you for the supplies donated to tornado victims. God has called all of us to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We are to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom, and we are to work in the fields for they are ripe for the harvest.

Serving Him through WMU,
Ronda Padgett
Associational WMU Director



Tornado Relief Delivery to Bowling Green, KY



Tornado Relief Delivery to Dresden, TN

Ministry Opportunities

Encourage Collegiate MK/TCK for this spring semester: Fisher Lee Heil, freshman at Bryan College. Mailing address: 3660 Georgetown Dr. NW, Cleveland, TN 37312

Provide lunch for the students at Roane State Community College through BCM this spring semester. For available dates contact David Mahan at 615-464-7262

Partner with Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Oakdale Foster Care. For more info text Jess Monday @ 386-847-2564 or email: jesse_h_monday@yahoo.com

Recycle Gospel Literature for Love Packages & drop off to the CPBA for delivery.

If you are interested in starting a WMU in your church, please contact Ronda Padgett, Associational WMU Director: 931-335-6444 or refpad@citlink.net

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

291 Sparta Hwy

P. O. Box 2508

Crossville, TN 38572

whatever you do

work at it with all your
as working for the Lord,



not for men.

COLOSSIANS 3:23

Associational Directory

Office Hours Mon.-Thurs.

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

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FEBRUARY

- Feb 7 Pastors' Conference 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 14 Pastors' Conference 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 21 Pastors' Conference 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 28 Pastors' Conference 10:00 a.m.
- Feb 25-26 Youth Evangelism Conference