



The Messenger

December 2023

Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

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

"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:13-14

Well, it's that time of year again when in a fit of optimism many of us make great promises to ourselves about what we are going to do in the New Year. Then, we usually abandon them about the second week in January. Let's be honest. How many of us stayed on the diet? How many of us kept going to the gym past February? So, I am not the only one, am I? Well, this year I know I can keep this resolution. I have decided to eat more and exercise less. I might be able to keep this resolution, but it might not be one that will help me.

Let me offer a way of starting the New Year which could significantly change your life. Here are four commitments that God in His Word encourages you to make. I guarantee you that the start of 2024 could become one of the most significant events in your life.

First, be committed to forgetting your failures. "Forgetting what is behind." God does not want you to live your life imprisoned by your past. All of us have failed in some way in our lives over the last year. Do not dwell on your past so that it stops you moving forward into the future that God has for you. *"reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

Second, be committed to give up your grudges. *"Bear with each other and forgive each other whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you"* Colossians 3:13 God is challenging us directly and personally to give up our grudges.

Third, be committed to restoring relationships. *"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."* Romans 12:18 God is personally challenging each one of us to do all we can to restore our relationships. Could 2024 be the right time to restore that relationship you ruined? Can you admit your past errors in relationships and humbly seek forgiveness from the one you have hurt? Will you restore your broken relationships in this new year?

Fourth, be committed to turn your back on your transgressions. *"Do not let sin control the way you live, do not give in to its lustful desires...we are no longer slaves to sin"* Romans 6:2 Are you constantly defeated by the same old sin? You are a slave to that sin. Turn your back on it and let Jesus break the chains!

Will this New Year be just a calendar changing event for you or are you willing to rise to these challenges from God's word and make these commitments?

Let God make this New Year a life changing event for you.

Happy New Year!

Kirk



February 15, 2024 **Leader Connect – Associational WMU Leaders**

Online Event @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

For Associational WMU Missions Leaders and State Missions Advocates.

April 11-13, 2024 **Missions Get-Together**

Brentwood Baptist Church 7777 Concord Rd, Brentwood, TN

www.tnbaptist.org/event/missions-get-together

Missions Get-Together is an annual event planned and hosted by Tennessee WMU for women 18 years of age and older to: Experience Personal Growth Engage in Meaningful Worship Discover Missions and Ministry Opportunities

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- ◆ BRENDA CROSTON – Bible Study Leader
- ◆ FIRST BAPTIST CONCORD WORSHIP TEAM – Worship Leaders
- ◆ MISSIONARIES:
 - ◆ Kevin Godin – NAMB Denver
 - ◆ Kerry Jackson – NAMB Atlanta
 - ◆ Liz Harper – IMB, South Asia



We are currently looking for someone to be our associational leader in women’s ministry. If you (or someone you know) would be a good fit for this, or if you’d just like more information, please contact Kirk.



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Song Leader needed at Plateau Missionary Baptist for traditional music. Can be a paid position. Contact Pastor Bob Hallatt at 931-200-7416.

Here are some upcoming dates for youth ministers. Please pray for our youth and our youth ministers.



FEATURING:

CONCLAVE
JANUARY 18-20, 2024
CHATTANOOGA, TN
YMCONCLAVE.ORG

VMCONCLAVE EXISTS TO EQUIP AND ENCOURAGE SBC YOUTH LEADERS THROUGH TRAINING, NETWORKING, AND SHEPHERDING

JOIN US FOR:
RELEVANT TRAINING
POWERFUL WORSHIP
HONEST CONVERSATION
VALUABLE RESOURCES

REGISTER TODAY!
\$169 BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2023
\$179 FROM DECEMBER 1, 2023 TO JANUARY 2, 2024
\$189 AFTER JANUARY 2, 2024

CONCLAVE IS A PREMIER GATHERING THAT BRINGS TOGETHER PASSIONATE STUDENT MINISTRY LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THIS DYNAMIC EVENT IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT, WITH EIGHT STATE BAPTIST CONVENTIONS JOINING FORCES TO LEAD AND EMPOWER YOUTH MINISTERS LIKE YOU.

Conclave

Make plans now to gather with hundreds of Youth Ministry Leaders from all over. This Conference offers lots of breakouts, Worship gatherings, and opportunities to connect with Ministers and Leaders.

Don't forget to check out our free resources on the Conclave website.

[Register Here](#)

<https://ymconclave.org/>

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE 2024
YECTN.org

•Registration to open October 1, 2023
•Prices: \$30 Oct. 1 - Feb. 14
\$35 starting Feb. 15

YEC 2024

Join us this Spring as we come together to for an incredible line up to celebrate Jesus!

Registration opens October 1st!

<p>West TN MARCH 8-9 Jackson, TN</p>	<p>Middle TN MARCH 22-23 Murfreesboro, TN</p>	<p>East TN MARCH 1-2 Knoxville, TN</p>
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[Register Here](#)

<https://www.tnbaptist.org/yec>

YEC Mission Trip

- When: June 15-22, 2024
- Where: Vancouver, Washington
- With: Pastor Ryan Sidhom

Contact Ministry Specialist Jay Barbier for more details

email: jbarbier@tnbaptist.org

YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE

WHERE: GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, NASHVILLE
 WHEN: FEBRUARY 3RD, 2024
 TIME: 8:00AM-5:00PM
 COST: \$10.00 PER PERSON

SPEAKERS: PJ DUNN, ANDY ABRAMSON, RYAN KEATON
 WORSHIP: DAVID DENNIS

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

TMB Tennessee Baptist MISSION BOARD

[Register Here](https://www.tnbaptist.org/event/young-adult-conference/)
<https://www.tnbaptist.org/event/young-adult-conference/>

Disaster Relief Training Opportunities 2024

tndisasterrelief.org/events/list

- Jan 12-13: Chaplaincy Training — Jamestown (Middle TN))
- Jan 20: Intro to Disaster Relief and Specialized Classes — Morristown (East TN)
- Feb 9-10: Middle TN Regional Disaster Relief Training — White House, TN
- Feb 17: Intro to Disaster Relief and Specialized Classes — Dandridge (East TN)
- Mar 8-9: East TN Regional Disaster Relief Training — Knoxville, TN
- Mar 15-16: Bucket Truck Classroom Training & Hands-on Training — Newport (East TN)

CHURCH REVITALIZATION CONFERENCE

February 22-23, 2024
 Victory Baptist Church in Mount Juliet

SPEAKERS & WORSHIP LEADER



Dr. Bill Ellif, Pastor
 The Summit Church
 North Little Rock, AR

Dr. Jeff Iorg, President
 Gateway Seminary
 Ontario, CA



Austin Clark, Worship Leader
 Seymour First Baptist

REGISTER HERE



Tennessee Baptist Churches giving through the Cooperative Program and the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions make TBMB ministries possible



A conference for pastors, AMS/DOMs, transitional interim pastors, other church leaders, designed to offer practical insight and biblical solutions for spiritual renewal and strategic change essential to the revitalization process.

Cost: \$20 – includes all materials and meals



Before packing Sunday School materials



After packing



Tom Rice



Brian Jenkins



Kirk, Brian, and Tom

Love Packages Trip
December 4-5



The CPBA worked together with the Big Emory Baptist Association in Harriman to deliver collected items to God's Warehouse in Morristown, TN. From there, these items were shipped to Israel to provide help for the people there. Thanks to all who gave.



JANUARY

If you
only pray
when you're
in trouble
...you're
in trouble.

January 2023 At-A-Glance

Jan 1	New Year's Day—CLOSED
Jan 3	School Resumes for Students
Jan 8	Leadership Team meeting
Jan 9	Executive Council meeting
Jan 15	MLK Day
Jan 15	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: Sing Oldham
Jan 16	Financial Issues Seminar
Jan 18-20	Youth Ministry Conclave (Chattanooga)
Jan 25-27	Bivocational Ministers & Wives Retreat (Pigeon Forge)

Pastors' Conferences are generally scheduled on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month.

Looking Ahead to February 2024

Feb 3	Young Adult Conference
Feb 5	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: TBD
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 19	Presidents' Day
Feb 19	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: TBD
Feb 22	Church Revitalization Conference Mt. Juliet
Feb 26-28	Transitional Interim Pastor Training (Linden Valley)

Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs.

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

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