



# The Messenger

May 2024

## Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

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

*"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:15b*

Since we have been emphasizing evangelism this Spring, I thought I would share a blog that my son, Sawyer recently wrote. Enjoy and be encouraged to share the Gospel:

I went to [\(City\)](#) on my first international mission trip. I went with a young adult team from my church. There were eight of us. Our team went with the goal to evangelize to the city of (City) as it is a culturally diverse hub of people from 200+ nations. The primary religions of those we interacted with were Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Each day we went out paired as teams of two to interact with locals and tourists. Our team's focus was to find people of peace that were open to hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, plugging them into house churches and/or connecting them with a local missionary.

Prior to this trip, I had only been on mission trips domestically and ones that had a dual purpose of evangelizing through meeting a material need. This trip to (City) did not have material needs; we focused on meeting. We didn't bring Bibles. We didn't paint. We didn't pass out shoes. We didn't provide medical aid. We talked to people. We interacted with locals. We asked strangers about their lives. We prayed for people. We evangelized.

Webster defines the term evangelize: "as in to preach; to try to convert (a group or area) to a different religion (especially Christianity)."

"Evangelism is the term we use to refer to the preaching of the Gospel. It comes from the same Greek word for gospel (euangelion) and means, literally, 'gospeling.' When we evangelize we are 'gospeling' – we are spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Evangelize is a verb. A verb indicates action. To evangelize is to act. Basically, to evangelize requires the use of a muscle. You could call it our "gospeling muscle." As a close friend told me when recapping the trip to (City) with them, "evangelizing is often a muscle we don't move often."

Ski season is coming to a close for the 2023/24 winter already. It's my 25th ski season. A monumental winter for me to reflect back on all the years on snow. From my parents putting me on skis at 3 years old, to switching over to snowboarding during what I call the "Shaun White hype" era of the mid-2000s, to slowly converting back to skiing most of the time in my late teen years, to my 20s stepping into more challenging side country and backcountry terrain.

Skiing requires muscles. Muscles that skiers put to the test every winter. "The major muscles involved in a movement are called the 'prime movers'. The 'prime movers' for alpine skiing are primarily those of the hips, thighs, legs and feet... Specific muscles in the lower body include: (i) Gluteus medius, (ii) peroneus longus, (iii) adductor longus, (iv) gluteus maximus, (v) rectus femoris, (vi) vastus intermedius, (vii) biceps femoris and (viii) semimembranosus."

As the ski season comes to a close my "prime movers" are in much better shape than they were in November of 2023. They've been utilized on weeknights or weekends or both ever since. My gospeling muscle had not been utilized to the extent it was tried in (City) honestly in years. Just like the early ski season, the week in (City) wore me out. I even remember one of my teammates saying how tired he had gotten from evangelizing.

How often do we as believers go through our day and not use our gospeling muscle?

After this trip to (City), I've realized that I go many days without exercising the muscle.

Acts 1:8 says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." We are to be Jesus' witnesses. Are we to go on an international mission trip to do this? Not necessarily. We are able to exercise our gospeling muscle where He has us today, where He brings us tomorrow.

I professed Jesus as Lord and Savior over my life nineteen years ago. I believed in the Good News of Jesus Christ at nine years old in my childhood church, Calvary Baptist, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. The most important decision I've ever made. I'm a pastor's kid. Thankfully I was "trained up in the way I should go." Attending church was a requirement while under my parents' roof, but having a personal relationship with Jesus was not. My parents used their gospeling muscles on me and my brother, as did many faithful friends and family. But they never forced it on us. Their faith was never my faith. I had to come to my own walk with Jesus.

My dad skied with me with his hands on my shoulders when I was a young child starting out. He held onto me. He picked me up. He guided me. But I did not clip my boots into his skis as if there were bindings in front of his. I was given my own skis to ski on. I still do not ride on my dad's skis. I ski independently from my parents. I have my own skis. I take my own path down the slopes. The same goes for life. I have my own walk with Jesus. And I'm so thankful by God's grace I've been doing it for nineteen years.

However, I've realized that for nineteen years I've failed to put my gospeling muscle to work when the opportunities were there as much as I should have been. Have I shared Jesus' story in my life? Yes, many times. Have I professed Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life in my decision making? Yes, many times. Have I placed my faith in the plans God has for me? Yes, many times. But have I gone gospeling? No, not many times at all.

Does sharing Jesus' story in my life glorify God? Yes. Does professing Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life in decision making glorify God? Yes. Does placing my faith in the plans God has for me glorify God? Yes. But does doing these God glorifying things use the gospeling muscle? In conclusion, I'm going to answer no.

Gospeling in (City) taught me that doing evangelism is hard. Doing things above are not hard, because they are the primary ways I've talked about Christianity, unfortunately. This doesn't mean I should stop those things, but I should shift my focus to primarily gospeling. I should step out of my comfort zone, stretch my gospeling muscle, and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Thinking back to one of the best classes taught at Liberty University by Dr. Wheeler, EVAN 101, and having to break open some ten-year-old notes I found some good reminders:

Evangelism is a command of scripture. It is not a choice; it is an issue of obedience. Be an attentive and empathetic listener. Invade the culture by being a servant of unbelievers, relatable to unbelievers, and faithful to the Scriptures. Have a Philippians 2 attitude.

Returning from (City) I can't say I've done a better job already. In (City) I was stretched. I was stretched to seek people out and share the Good News with them. Now I gotta obey back home. I gotta be willing to see the opportunities God puts in front of me to share the Good News. I have been so blessed to live with the free gift of salvation and who am I to keep it to myself. Also, who am I to keep the Good News from affecting someone's own story and path in life. They too can't clip into my skis.

For more of Sawyer's Blogs go to: <https://tomsawyerofamerica.wordpress.com/>

Now go, exercise your Gospeling Muscle,

Kirk

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## Announcement

Need choir robes? Central Baptist has 2 large tubs of adult choir robes. They are cream colored with burgundy stoles. They are looking to donate them to another church. If interested, please call the church at 931-484-8426.





## Associational WMU Leaders and State Missions Advocates

Tuesday, July 30, 6:00-7:30 pm CST

For Associational WMU Missions Leaders and State Missions Advocates.

*Leader*  
**CONNECT**



### WMU Christmas in August

Every year WMU and the North American Mission Board partner to select missionaries who will be featured in Christmas in August.

The missionaries provide a list of items they need for ministry and outreach, and the lists of requested items are posted online.

And then you — as an individual, family, small group, missions group, or church — select a missionary (or two or three) and purchase and send the items to the missionary.

### Global Hunger Sunday

August 25, 2024

Tennessee is one of the hungriest states in the country. Many people in our communities do not have enough to eat or lack the financial resources to buy adequate food for their households. On this Global Hunger Sunday, as you give to the Global Hunger Relief offering through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, you are helping to provide food for hungry families in Tennessee, North America, and around the world.



**Smithville, TN**  
**May 6-9, 2024**  
**RSVP by May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

Come join us as we'll be helping Lighthouse Christian Camp with several projects. The projects that they have include working on a new widow's home, landscaping, cutting and cleaning trails, etc.

This opportunity will be for both men and women. We'll be staying at the camp, or you can bring your RV since they have connections. You can choose how many days you would like to work or choose to work the entire four days!

**The only cost to this mission opportunity is getting there and a few meals. So, come and join us.**

If you are interested in joining us on this mission project, contact Kirk before the May 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline.

**Direct questions to Kirk Casey at the CPBA Office:**

**931-484-1858 or 931-787-6565.**

## Weekday Early Education Conference

July 13

9:00am—4:30pm

Hermitage Hills Baptist Church (Hermitage, TN)

This Weekday Early Education Conference is for directors and teachers of any part-time or full-time preschool program. Valuable training is available for anyone working with preschoolers, regardless of the type of program or curriculum used. The conference schedule provides six (6) hours of approved professional development clock hours, approved through TrainTN.

Registration Fee | \$75 per person

No refunds; however, the registration fee may be transferred to another member in your group.

[www.tnbaptist.org/event/weekday-early-education-conference/](http://www.tnbaptist.org/event/weekday-early-education-conference/)

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## Connection

**Missions event for girls in grades 6-12 and their leaders**

September 13-15

Tennessee Tech University BCM (Cookeville, TN)

The weekend will be filled with missionary speakers, Bible Study, discipleship breakouts, worship, mission projects and activities. Bring your girls to be encouraged and challenged on how to live a life that is VIBRANT, inside and out, to know God and reflect Christ's beautiful brightness to a hurting world. Meet missionaries, get deep into God's Word, have fun together, participate in a mission project, and choose from a variety of breakout sessions to help teenage girls live life God's Way...VIBRANT! Registration opens July 1 and closes September 1.

[www.tnbaptist.org/event/connection2024](http://www.tnbaptist.org/event/connection2024)

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## Secretaries' Conference

In early April, Joyce Jewell of Oak Hill Baptist Church and I were able to attend the TN Baptist State Secretaries' Conference in Pigeon Forge. Not only were we able to do a little extra visiting with each other, but we were able to connect with other secretaries (about 85 attendees total) from across the state who do what we do. Three days of worship music, encouraging speakers, and breakout sessions covering a variety of helpful topics like legal and financial issues, web design, benevolence, evangelism, women's ministry, and so much more. I encourage all of our church secretaries to attend if you can. You never know what new methods or ideas you'll be able to bring back to help you serve at your church.

—Libby





## Church Spotlights

### Isoline Baptist Church

Located at 10016 Hwy 127 N (Crossville, TN 38571)  
 Phone: 423-539-0201  
 Email: [fxkirby@gmail.com](mailto:fxkirby@gmail.com)  
 Website: (none)  
 Pastor: Frank Kirby  
 Year Established: 1947  
 Ave Attendance in 2023: (not reported)  
 Total Baptisms in 2023: 1  
 Service Times: Sunday 11am, 6pm



### Calvary Baptist Church

Located at 4617 Creston Rd (Crossville, TN 38571)  
 Phone: 265-8419  
 Email: [glimburg@yahoo.com](mailto:glimburg@yahoo.com)  
 Website: [www.calvarymissionarybaptist.org](http://www.calvarymissionarybaptist.org)  
 Pastor: Garland Limburg  
 Year Established: 1917  
 Ave Attendance in 2023: 40  
 Total Baptisms in 2023: (none reported)  
 Service Times: Sunday 11am, 5pm



### Meridian Baptist Church

Located at 3758 Hwy 69 (Crossville, TN 38555)  
 Phone: 456-6089  
 Email: [meridianbaptist@frontiernet.net](mailto:meridianbaptist@frontiernet.net)  
 Website: [www.meridianbaptistchurch.org](http://www.meridianbaptistchurch.org)  
 Pastor: Cody Porter  
 Year Established: 1969  
 Ave Attendance in 2023: 102  
 Total Baptisms in 2023: (none reported)  
 Service Times: (not reported)



# Spring Rally

A big THANK YOU to Crossville First Baptist for hosting our Ministers' Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, April 27. What a wonderful time to enjoy great food and even better fellowship. Dr. Roc Collins joined us and shared an encouraging message for our ministers.

*thank you*

We'd also like to thank Central Baptist for hosting our Spring Rally for 2024 on Sunday night, April 28. The choir prepared our focus on Christ before Dr. Roc challenged us to become solid witnesses for Him. It is always a blessing to come together as an association to worship as one. May we now move forward as one in reaching our area for Christ.



Bro. Jeremy Busler and the Central choir



Kirk welcomes everyone



Dr. Roc Collins



# Work Week at Camp Ozone

Thanks to everyone who came!

- 3 Association churches (Central, Lantana, Cumberland Fellowship)
- 2 more local churches (Revolution, The Gathering at Fairfield Glade)
- Plus: Grace Bible (Dayton), Grace Community (Kingston), First Baptist Powell, and a few from out of state
- 62 volunteers and over 1100 volunteer hours put in



Before



After



Sherry Wentland—Lantana



Linda Horn—Central



Kirk Casey—Lantana



Brian Beech and Dan Wentland working alongside volunteers from First Baptist Church Powell.



Gloria Jones, Marty Maier—Central



Lori Yates—Central



# Work Week at Camp Ozone

(continued)



Billy Kemp—Central



Kirk and Brian Beech



Nancy Lind, Dave Globun—Central



Nancy and Ron Keith—Cumberland Fellowship



Dan Wentland—Lantana

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## *Thursday, May 2, is the National Day of Prayer*

In 1952, a joint resolution of the United States Congress established a National Day of Prayer. In 1988, President Reagan set that day as the first Thursday in May.

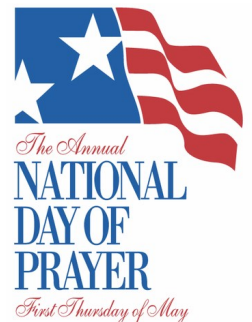
On this day, Americans from all walks of life join together around the country to call out to God for Him to work in and through our country.

This Thursday, May 2, we ask you to join us for a day of prayer.

The SBC Executive Committee has created a prayer guide for you and your church to pray for our churches, our Convention, and our country on the National Day of Prayer.

This prayer guide is available for download below. We encourage you to use it and join us in prayer for our nation this week.

[Download Prayer Guide](#)





**WORSHIP & TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE | 2024**

A one-day conference for ministry specially designed for worship and technology teams

Set aside one day to enhance your skills, learn new ideas, and network with other ministry teams.

MAY 17, 2024  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

UNION UNIVERSITY  
SAVAGE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

REGISTER TODAY AT [WORSHIPTECHNOLOGY.NET](http://WORSHIPTECHNOLOGY.NET)

EARLY BIRD RATE  
\$40.00/PERSON  
Offer valid through May 21, after April 12, includes city transportation. LUNCH INCLUDED.

This one-day conference for church worship and technology teams is the go-to place for enhancing your skills, finding solutions, and learning new ideas.

Experience in-depth breakouts led by people serving in worship and technology roles. Breakout sessions will cover topics such as audio, building a worship team, children's worship, live streaming, social media, video, worship choirs, worship planning, and much more

**FRIDAY, MAY 17**  
9:00am—4:30pm  
Union University

Registration: \$50 per person.

For more information or to register, visit [worshiptechnology.net](http://worshiptechnology.net).

**SUMMER UNION MUSIC CAMP**  
JUNE 10-15

**MUSIC TRACKS OFFERED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

- Worship
- Commercial Music Performance (School of Rock, Vocal, Pop, Jazz)
- Music Tech – intro to the music studio as well as live sound
- College Preparatory for those majoring in music in college

 SCAN ME





**9th Annual Jonah's Joy Golf Scramble**  
**Saturday, June 8, 2024**  
**Fairfield Glade – Dorchester Golf Course**  
**Fairfield Glade, Tennessee**



A 501(c)3, faith-based adolescent residential mental health treatment home dedicated to changing the generational cycles of child abuse and neglect.

- Registration fee is \$95 per person/\$380 per foursome (Men, Women, & Mixed), a \$40 tax-deductible donation/ golfer. (Make check payable to: Jonah's Joy or call 931-456-8600, ext. 1, to pay by credit card)
- Each golf package includes green fees, cart, driving range, a player's gift, door prizes, and an awards banquet at the conclusion. Mulligans can be purchased at \$5 each (max 4 per golfer).
- The tournament will be a handicapped Scramble format, men from the white tees (men over 65 from the gold tees), women from the red tees (women over 65 from the green tees).
- Registration at course starts at 7:00 AM. Scramble will be Shotgun start at 8:00 am with lunch, raffle prizes and awards beginning at approximately 1:30 pm.
- Two flights with 1<sup>st</sup> Place (\$300) & 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (\$200) winners. Teams handicapped and pre-flighted based on 18-hole stroke average. Winners determined by team actual strokes minus team handicap.
- Individual contest prizes (free golf and golf items) on Closest to the Pin (par 3), Most Accurate Drive – Men (#12), Most Accurate Drive – Women (#5), and Longest Putt (#18).
- There will be a Hole-In-One contest prize on #8 (par 3). Additionally, there will be prizes for Holes-In-One for each non-target par-3 holes.
- FREE golfer gift and raffle prizes
- Registration deadline: June 1<sup>st</sup> 2024; \*Cancellation deadline: May 27<sup>th</sup> 2024

Additional Information email [Jonahsjoy@gmail.com](mailto:Jonahsjoy@gmail.com) or Call 931-456-8600, ext. 1



**Stress**  
makes you  
believe that  
everything needs to  
happen right now.

**Faith**  
assures you that  
everything will  
happen *at the right  
and perfect time,*  
(in God's time).

Type Amen.  
WomenWorking.com

### May 2024 At-A-Glance

May 2	National Day of Prayer
May 6	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: Scott Johnson
May 6-10	Lighthouse Christian Camp Work Week
May 12	MOTHER'S DAY
May 20	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: Andy Weaver
May 22	Last Full Day of School
May 22-24	State DOM Retreat, Pigeon Forge
May 27	MEMORIAL DAY (Closed)

### Looking Ahead to June 2024

June 3	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: TBA
June 3-4	Love Packages trip
June 9-12	SBC Annual Meeting (Indianapolis)
June 16	FATHER'S DAY
June 17	Pastors' Conference 10:30 AM Speaker: TBA

More information about many of our calendar events  
can be found on the [EVENTS](#) page of our website.

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

## Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association

#### Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs.

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

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