

# The Beacon

June, 2018

THE GRASS WITHERS,  
THE FLOWER FADES;  
BUT THE WORD  
OF OUR GOD  
WILL STAND FOREVER.  
ISAIAH 40:8, NRSV

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Dear Church,

You have heard the saying, "If it is not broken, don't fix it" that is sound advice for everyone. However, if it is broken we need to try to fix it.

I love each of our churches in the Jefferson County Baptist Association. I will tell you like I told the churches I pastored, some of you are easier to love than others. Lol.

The thing that seems to be broken in so many of our churches is evangelism, not just speaking of baptisms, but commitment in attendance as well as other areas where commitment is needed. Rev. John Parrott with the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board was in to see me a few days ago and this is what he shared with me. If a church doesn't have at least 40 committed adult members that church may very well have to close its doors within ten years. In these churches that have been surveyed, 80% of the members are sixty-five years of age and older, with little or no children or youth coming up to keep the church going. I will be honest with you, I don't have an answer, short of fervent prayer. **(James 5:16)** I have been in two church worship services in recent months where no verbal prayer was uttered. Prayer is at least part of the answer to this problem.

Rev. Parrott would like to host an eating meeting with as many of you pastors and me, who would be willing to sit down to a round table meeting discussing this issue. We had 11 churches in our association who averaged less than 40 people in Sunday School last year. Those 40 included all ages. So, we have several of our smaller churches facing shutdown within ten years. I certainly don't want this to happen and I am sure you don't either. So, let's at least try to fix the problem by working together in a united effort to enlarge God's Kingdom and His churches.

Please give me some feedback so we can set a date and place for such a meeting.  
Leroy



**Operation Christmas Child Kick Off!**

**August 16, 2018**

**New Market Baptist Church**

**7:00 PM**

**JCBA FINANCIAL INFORMATION, October-1, 2017-April 30, 2018**

**INCOME**

Church	Receipts October –2017- April 30, 2018
Antioch	400.00
Beaver Creek	851.54
Bethel Mission	500.00
Buffalo Grove	863.59
Central Heights	350.00
Dandridge First	9,000.00
Deep Springs	1,415.29
Dumplin	2,183.81
East Ridge	402.00
Emmanuel	254.50
Flat Gap	430.00
French Broad	3,207.00
Good Hope	538.76
Holston Memorial	1,613.98
Living Water	.00
Mansfield Gap	336.51
Mill Springs	300.00
Mountain View	.00
Mullins Chapel	.00
Nance's Grove	.00
New Hope	305.61
New Market	3,584.29
Nina	1,933.00
Oak Hills	333.32
Piedmont	2,564.56
Pleasant Grove	.00
Pleasant Grove P.	1,856.92
Rocky Valley	2,368.25
Strawberry Plains First	2,916.65
Swann's Chapel	1,750.00

**INCOME**

Talbott	3,290.00
White Pine First	2,333.32
Individual Receipts	985.00
Evangelism	1,568.60
Missions	3,000.00
RA Campout	320.00
TBMB	6,256.00
WMU	337.00
Conf/Convention	874.02
Non-Budgeted	696.50
Gift to Sartain	140.00
Block Party	400.00
Building Fund	<u>200.00</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>61,060.02</b>
<b>October-1, April 30, 2018</b>	



The Nominating Committee will be meeting soon and we will need people to fill positions on the committees. If you are willing to serve on one of the associational committees, let your pastor know, or call us here at the office at 865-475-1453.



**ATTENTION PASTORS!**

Rev. John Parrott will be leading our Pastor's Conference on Monday, June 18, 2018, at 10:00 AM. There will be a round table discussion on church revitalization. Every pastor is encouraged to attend this important meeting. TBMB will supply our lunch.



**Father's Day Offering**  
**2018 GOAL — \$475,000**

Sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, the "Father's Day Offering for Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes" provides additional funds to assist in caring for senior adults and adults with exceptional needs. This offering undergirds the entire ministry of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes in order to provide affordable care and services for residents including assisting those with limited financial resources.

Give to the **Father's Day Offering** and you will be  
**Showing What Love Is**



## ***Congratulations!***

***To all of the children who participated in the Associational Bible Drills!***

We are so proud of our children who participated in the Bible Drills this year. Thank you for your commitment and hard work. A special thanks to the teachers and leaders who worked hard all year to prepare the children for the drills. You are awesome!

Those participating were as follows:

New Market Baptist: Noah Harned, Mattie Allen, Faith Whited, Kaycee Morgan, Wayne Herndon, and Parker Miner. One youth, Spencer Parks, and one

high School participant, Abigail Parks. FBC, White Pine: Mason Cameron, Bryson Osborne, and Jackson Osborne.

FBC, Strawberry Plains: Dawson Grindstaff, Hannah Byrd, Matthew Byrd, Ava Hooks, and Oliva Craig.

Teachers and Leaders: FBC, White Pine, Teresa Pedigo, FBC, Strawberry Plains, Steve Monroe, New Market Baptist, Wanda Denton, Kim Harvel, Judy Cline, and Cassie Sloan. Pastors and Parents, you are vital to this ministry. Thank you for supporting the children and for working with them. Thank you New Market Baptist Church for hosting the event and to Dr. J.W. Taylor, pastor. Our sincere appreciation goes out to the judges, time keepers and callers. We are so thankful for all of you. Many of the children moved on to the state drills. ***CONGRATULATIONS!***



Come and get your ***GAME ON*** at  
***Mill Springs Baptist Church VBS***

during June 11-15, from 6 to 9PM. There are classes for ages 4 yrs-Adult. Parents or guardians must remain on the premises with children 5 years and under. **Any questions contact us at 865-475-9598 or**

**[msb3@hughes.net](mailto:msb3@hughes.net)**

## ***Note Burning!***

### ***Nina Baptist Church***

Pictured: Rev. Jimmy Norris and some of the church members

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- 1 Mrs. Emily Terrell FBC, Dandridge
- 8 Mrs. Libby Davis Nina/Office
- 10 Mrs. Denise Lindsey Mill Springs
- 19 Mrs. Carolyn Lacey Rocky Valley
- 19 Mrs. Wilma Whittington, Retired
- 20 Mrs. Mindy Osborne FBC, White Pine



- 8 Dr. & Mrs. J.W. Taylor New Market
- 14 Rev. & Mrs. Tom Sartain East Ridge
- 22 Rev. & Mrs. John Pinkston Buffalo Grove
- 27 Rev. & Mrs. Allen Smith New Hope
- 28 Rev. & Mrs. Charles Haun Swann's Chapel