



Dr. Paul Noe, Pastor
Rev. Brian Ayers, Associate Pastor/Director of Operations
Rev. Jason Fitzgerald, Associate Pastor/Minister of Youth
Rev. Charlie Crews, Minister of Senior Adults
Mrs. Missy Ferraro, Children's Coordinator
Mrs. Tina Lancaster, Office Manager/Financial Secretary
Mrs. Renee Hope, Ministry Assistant

August 2026 Newsletter

AUGUST 30, 2026

"For the Dreams of Children"

One Morning Worship Service at 10:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:15 AM

DR. DANNY NICHOLSON, PRESIDENT
OF CONNIE MAXWELL MINISTRIES,
GUEST SPEAKER



Personnel Committee Meeting

August 2, 2026
4:00 PM
Room WC105

Fifth Sunday Food Drive

August 30th
Please, put your non-perishable food items in the containers in the main lobby and the elevator lobby. Thank you for your support of this very important ministry.

Pray for the Personnel Committee

Please, continue to pray for your Personnel Committee and their search for Sweetwater's next Minister of Music. Committee members are Dave Redmond, Chairman; Diane Brantley, Wendi Byrd, Leo Conner, Ashlie Fortson, Jim Huff, Chuck Nail, Lesa Stone, and Jim Williams. Pray that God will give them guidance and direction in this process.

Deacons Meeting

August 16, 2026
4:00 PM
Room WC106

August 2026 NEWSLETTER

PASTOR PAUL'S PARAGRAPHS

Dear Members and Friends of Sweetwater Baptist Church,

Blessings! These are exciting days at Sweetwater. We have been so blessed. I am overwhelmed by the goodness of God. I am thankful every day for the privilege and honor of serving you as your pastor.

“Chocolate and Friends”

Our annual “*Chocolate and Friends*” ladies’ event will be on Saturday, August 1st, starting at 10:00 am in the Wild Game Pavilion Building. Nicki Carnes will be the guest speaker. A special “*thank you*” to **Mrs. Julie Little** and the “*Sisters of Sweetwater*” in all their hard work in planning and coordinating this major outreach event.

Ministry Center

Construction has begun on our new ministry center (office complex). This facility will be the hub for ministry activity at Sweetwater. It will also be able to accommodate our entire staff. The current office (old pastorium) has served us well for many years. However, our current staff has outgrown it. Also, as we think about the future, we anticipate more growth both in our congregation and ministry staff.

The construction of the new ministry center also benefits other ministries such as our Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. They will be relocating to the current office. This will give them more needed parking and provide a safer location away from the busy road. In addition, the vacated Food Pantry and Clothes Closet rooms will free up additional space in the Chapel Building for Sunday School classes, small groups, etc.

Youth/Students

It is wonderful to see what God is doing in our youth and student ministry. We are so incredibly blessed to have Jason Fitzgerald serving as our Minister of Youth/Students. He is doing a fantastic job. God has used him to assemble a great group of parents and leaders that are investing in our students at Sweetwater. Soon, you will be hearing about plans to enhance and support our youth ministry. Our Long-Range Planning Committee is working in conjunction with Jason to formulate plans for the near future. Please, pray that God will give us guidance and direction as it relates to our teenagers.

“For the Dreams of Children” Sunday – August 30th

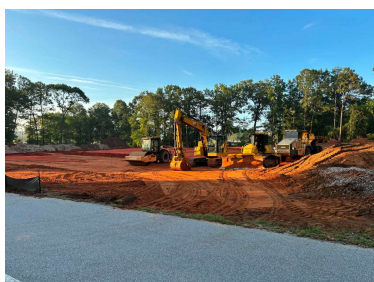
Sunday, August 30th, will be a special day at Sweetwater. We will be focusing on the Connie Maxwell Children’s Home and Ministries. **Dr. Danny Nicholson**, president of the Connie Maxwell Children’s Home, will be our guest speaker. We will only be having one morning worship service on August 30th at 10:30 AM.

In 2025 Sweetwater Baptist Church was the number one financial giver to Connie Maxwell Ministries in the state of South Carolina. This is very commendable. Thank you, church family, for your investment in the precious children at Connie Maxwell. As a result, the *Baptist Courier*, our South Carolina Baptist state paper, will be doing an article on our partnership with Connie Maxwell. This article is not so much about giving Sweetwater attention but encouraging other churches in South Carolina to be partners with Connie Maxwell.

Thank You, Sweetwater for the Joy of Serving, You!

With a Pastor’s Love,

Brother Paul
Philippians 1:3



SENIOR ADULT NEWS

Psalm 96:1-2 commands us, three times in two verses, to “**SING TO THE LORD!**” Keith & Kristyn Getty in their book *Sing!*, suggest four reasons for singing to the Lord with all our hearts and minds.

1. **SINGING TAKES SUNDAY’S TRUTH INTO MONDAY.** Many of you know the lyrics to many popular songs. So why not sing God’s truth into your memory! In the next few weeks we will be repeating some newer praise songs. So that you might **KNOW** them, and recall them in times of trouble or joy.
2. **SINGING SUSTAINS YOU IN EVERY SEASON OF LIFE.** Since songs are our soul food we should seek a balanced diet for healthy worship. The old and the new and all types in between. David sang psalms of despair, when he was on the run. He wrote psalms of joy and victory as well as psalms of repentance.
3. **SINGING REMINDS YOU OF WHAT GOD HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE.** Think of the hymn, ‘Great Is Thy Faithfulness’.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy Faithfulness, Great is Thy Faithfulness;
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Now think of these songs; The Goodness of God, Same God, and Psalm 23 (by Shane & Shane) (Don’t know them? Find them on Youtube or Google!) There is a song for every season In your life.

4. **SINGING KEEPS YOUR MIND ON ETERNITY.** God’s plan is for us to spend eternity with Him and that should be our goal. We should sing of the great promises of heaven. I’ll never forget a dear senior lady who was at her dying husband’s bedside, holding his hand and singing, “When We All Get To Heaven!”. Truly, singing takes Sunday’s truths into Monday and into eternity! Let’s sing together!

Your Team-Mate In Christ
Charlie

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lunch with Friends

Fight Deck Restaurant in Lexington/Bible Bookstore Outlet
Tuesday, August 11 at 11 AM

Senior Birthday Bash (August Birthdays)

Thursday, August 27 at 2:00 PM

Top Ten Countdown of Sweetwater’s Favorite Hymns

Sunday, August 30 at 6:00 PM

ABA Senior Adult Celebration - Hillview Baptist Church
Thursday, September 10 - Meet at church at 10:15 AM

Joyous Seniors Kickoff Luncheon

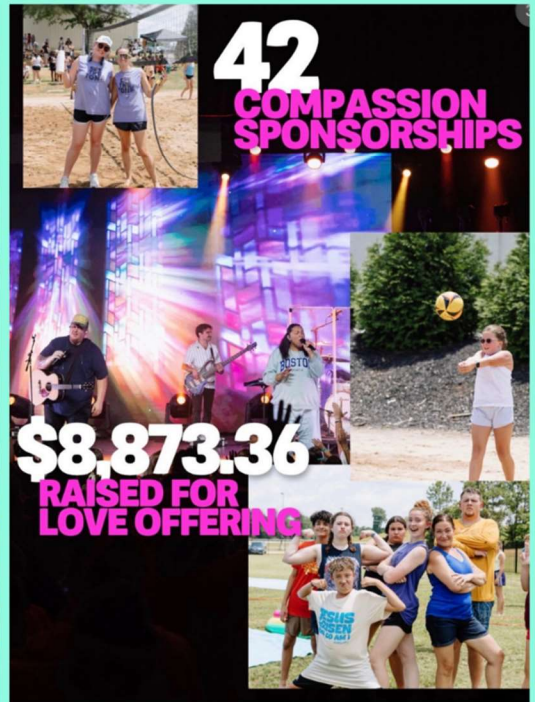
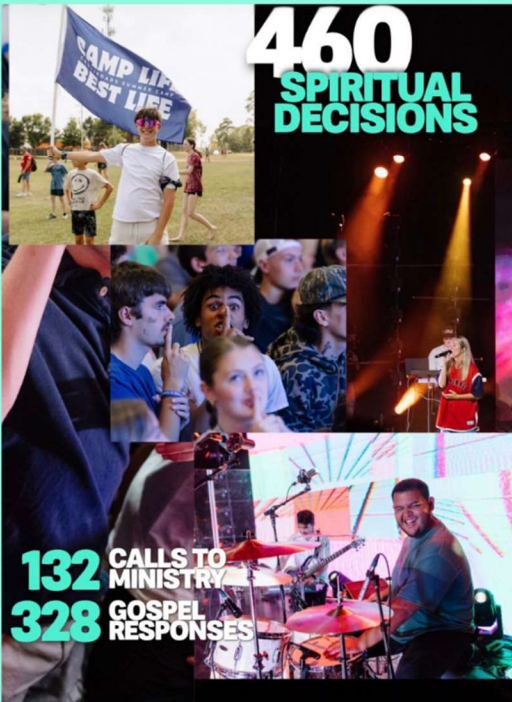
Friday, September 18 at 11:45 AM

BRIAN'S BRIEFS

Men - Meal - Message

This month's Men - Meal - Message will be Monday, August 17 at 6:30pm. Don Brock, Pastor of Gateway Baptist Church in Irmo, SC will be our guest speaker. Don served FBC North Augusta as their youth minister with Dr. Charles Page. Many students under his ministry are still in North Augusta today and serve in local churches. Don has a unique gift of discipling followers of Christ. You will not want to miss this special night. Invite everyone you know to join us. If you know of anyone that was under Don's ministry please invite them. I would love for this to be a reunion so Don could see the fruit of his labor is still bearing fruit 40 years later.

JULY 2026 SWEETWATER STUDENTS





THE MISSION FIELD IS HERE.

July was a powerful reminder that God is still changing lives.

Our week at **Crossroads Summer Camp** was one our students won't soon forget. Throughout the week, **2 students surrendered their lives to Christ, and 4 students surrendered to God's call on their lives.** Across the entire camp, there were **328 decisions for Christ and 132 students who responded to God's call to ministry.** One message challenged students to lay down the things that compete for their hearts and to pre-decide that they would faithfully follow Christ before the difficult moments come. It was encouraging to see the majority of our students stand in response to that challenge.

We also enjoyed a wonderful evening together at the **Augusta GreenJackets Faith & Family Night**, building friendships, making memories, and even taking home a few bobbleheads! We wrapped up the month with our **Back-to-School Bash**, where students shared great food, plenty of fun, and, most importantly, heard the good news of Jesus and were challenged to begin this new school year living boldly for Him.

As students return to school, they aren't just returning to classrooms—they're stepping into a **10-month mission field.** Sweetwater Students will once again be serving and encouraging students, teachers, faculty, and staff throughout our local schools. Stay tuned for opportunities to partner with us through prayer, encouragement, and service as we continue investing in this important ministry.

This fall also marks an exciting new step as we launch our **mentorship ministry** for both our middle and high school students. By intentionally connecting students with faithful adult leaders, our prayer is that lasting, Christ-centered relationships will be formed—relationships that encourage discipleship, spiritual growth, and a lifetime of following Jesus. We believe one of the greatest investments we can make is placing caring, godly adults alongside the younger generation as they navigate life and faith.

Church family, thank you for faithfully praying, serving, and investing in the younger generation. Every prayer, every encouraging word, every meal served, every ride given, every lesson taught, and every conversation pointing a student toward Christ is making an eternal difference.

As this new school year begins, the mission field isn't somewhere across the world—it is here. It's in our homes, our schools, our neighborhoods, our workplaces, and our community. Our prayer is that Sweetwater Students would walk into those places with confidence, compassion, and courage, living as ambassadors for Christ.

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And perhaps God is asking each of us the same question He asked Isaiah:

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" (Isaiah 6:8)

May our response, regardless of our age, be the same:

"Here I am. Send me.

Because that's what disciples do.

Know Jesus. Live Bold. Lead Others.

Jason Fitzgerald, Youth Pastor
Sweetwater Baptist Church
jfitzgerald@sweetwaterbc.church





KIDZ Ministry CORNER



Dear Church Family,

Calling all children, ages 3 years old through fifth grade students, to join us on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 PM in the gym! On August 2, 2026, we will be kicking off our new year of Mission Kidz with a corndog supper, crafts, and games. During the month of August, we will be working on earning at least three Expedition badges as we learn what it means to be a missionary. The children will create posters, play games, and explore our church to learn more about local missions, as well as foreign missions.

Parents, grandparents, and people who have a love of helping little ones learn about Jesus, you are invited to volunteer in the nursery. Please consider this wonderful adventure that helps our youngest community members to grow in God's word. We need more workers for the 8:30 AM service, Sunday School hour (greatest need), and during the 11:00 AM service. These precious children are so very important to our church. We want to make sure that we are planting the seeds of Christ in each person that enters our church building, including our youngest. You must be a member of the church and complete a background check to serve in our nursery. Please contact me to find out more information. I look forward to working with you to help make this a fantastic school year for our children!

Love,
"Miss" Missy Ferraro

August 2026

Sunday, August 2, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Brenda West Toddlers - Renee Stuart	9:45 AM Amy Clark	11:00 AM Babies - Stacie Griffin & Katie Fitzgerald Toddlers - Christie Amerson & Irina Taylor	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, August 9, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Alyss Marchant Toddlers - Robin Lanham	9:45 AM Cindy O'Driscoll	11:00 AM Babies - Zack & Katie Canady Toddlers - Hannah McClure & Barbara Schmidt	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, August 16, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Maribeth Weikle Toddlers - Jada & Chandler Dunn	9:45 AM Nancy Clark	11:00 AM Babies - Katie Fitzgerald & Katie Johnson Toddlers - Amy & Terry Jarvis	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, August 23, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Lori Preston Toddlers - Dorrie Hentz	9:45 AM Amy Clark	11:00 AM Babies - Ginny & Avery Key Toddlers - Pressley Cook & Madisyn Thatcher	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, August 30, 2026			
	9:15 AM Cindy O'Driscoll	10:30 AM Babies - April & Claire Jernigan Toddlers - Eric & Tina Wiggins	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood

Nursery is also offered on Wednesday evenings during the service and during adult choir practice.

Thank you so much for choosing to share God's love with the youngest children.

Please contact Missy at (803)-270-4055 if you are unable to be in the nursery on your assigned day.

SERVICE PERSONS OF THE MONTH



Garrett Neal
United States Navy
Nephew of Mark & Beverly Shaw

Dr. Garrett Neal, US Navy
Stationed at Bethesda, MD
Nephew of Mark & Beverly Shaw
Cousin of Mary Elizabeth Anderson



Thomas Crawford
United States Navy
Son of Lynda Gribek
Grandson of Wallace Widgeon

CPO Thomas Crawford, US Navy Reserves
Stationed at Dobbins AFB, Marietta, GA
Son of Lynda Gribek

LOST/FOUND

Please contact the church office, if you lost a valuable piece of jewelry on Sweetwater Campus a few years ago. This item has been in the Lost/Found for awhile, and we are praying the jewelry will be returned to it's owner.

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, August 16th
4:00 PM
WC106

FINANCE MEETING

Wednesday, August 12th
Immediately following the
Midweek Service in Room WC 105

HISTORY ROOM

Open Wednesday, August 5th, 5pm to 6pm
& Sunday, August 16th, 4:30pm to 5:30pm

CMC (LABELS) MEETING

Wednesday, August 12th, 5:30pm to 6:30pm
Chapel Room 103

AUGUST DEACON SCHEDULE

2	(8:30AM) Grant Preston	(11:00AM) Stan Tompkins
9	(8:30AM) Matt Robinson	(11:00AM) Archie Coleman
16	(8:30 AM) Chris McBride	(11:00AM) Terry Jarvis
23	(8:30 AM) Ronnie Berry	(11:00AM) Junior Johnson
30	(10:30 AM) David Harley	

MEN | MEAL | Message

Monday, August 17th
6:30PM in FLC
Guest Speaker: Don Brock
(Sign up sheet is in
the Church Lobby)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, August 2nd
4:00 PM
WC105

Women's Ministry News

FAITH, FAMILY, FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

AUGUST 30, 2026
FOLLOWING 11:00 SERVICE
GYM
\$5.00/PERSON



PRAYING ALL
SWEETWATER
STUDENTS, PARENTS,
FACULTY AND STAFF
HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL
YEAR!



Register Here

Chocolate
and
FRIENDS
Sweetwater Baptist
WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Nicki Carnes

August 1, 2026
10:00AM
Thank You!

Thank you everyone for the
work you are doing to make
Chocolate and Friends a
success! We cannot wait for
you all to join us and hear
Nicki's Message!



Fall Dates



September 9, 2026
Fall Gathering



October 17, 2026
War Binder



GRANDPARENT'S DAY
PHOTOBOOTH
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026



VINTAGE GARDENS BINGO
OCTOBER 10, 2026





CHURCH CALENDAR



SUNDAYS (JULY 26; AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23)

Early Worship Service - 8:30AM (Worship Center)
Sunday School - 9:45AM
Morning Worship Service - 11:00AM (Worship Center)
Children's Worship - 11:00AM (FLC)
Youth Bible Study - 5:30-7:00PM (C202)
Mission Kidz - 6:00-7:00PM (FH)
Evening Worship Service - 6:00PM (Worship Center)

MONDAYS (JULY 27; AUGUST 3, 10, 17, 24, 31)

Food Pantry and Clothes Closet - 1:00-2:00PM (Donations)
Food Pantry (By Appointment) - 2:00PM
Clothes Closet - 2:00-4:00PM (Shopping)

WEDNESDAYS (AUGUST 5, 12, 19, 26; SEPTEMBER 2)

Faith & Fun (Youth) - 6:00-7:15PM (Gym)
Kidz Choir - 6:00PM-7:15PM (WC102)
Midweek Service - 6:30PM (Worship Center)
Celebration Choir Rehearsal - 7:20PM

FRIDAYS (AUGUST 7, 14, 21, 28; SEPTEMBER 4)

Prayer - 6:00AM (Chapel)

"For the Dreams of Children Sunday"

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

Sunday School - 9:15AM
One Morning Worship Service - 10:30AM (WC)
Children's Worship - 10:30AM (FLC)
Youth Bible Study - 5:30-7:00PM (C202)
Mission Kidz - 6:00-7:00PM (FH)
Evening Worship Service - 6:00PM (WC)

WEEK OF JULY 26TH - AUGUST 1ST

JULY 26th - Pastor Paul Noe's Birthday
JULY 27th - Norma Pate Bible Study - 6:30PM (FH)
JULY 29th - Quarterly Business Meeting - 6:30PM (Worship Center)
AUGUST 1st - Chocolate & Friends - 10:00AM (Pavilion) RSVP requested

WEEK OF AUGUST 2ND - AUGUST 8TH

AUGUST 2nd - Chocolate and Friends Cleanup and Meeting - 3:00PM (WGB)
AUGUST 2nd - Personnel Committee Meeting - 4:00PM (WC105)
AUGUST 2nd - Mission Kidz Kickoff - 6:00-7:00PM (FH)
AUGUST 5th - History Room is open 5:00PM-6:00PM
AUGUST 5th - Kidz Choir Sings in Prayer Meeting - 6:00PM-7:15PM (WC102)

WEEK OF AUGUST 9TH - AUGUST 15TH

AUGUST 10th - Norma Pate Bible Study - 6:30PM (FH)
AUGUST 11th - Sr. Adult Lunch Trip - Flight Deck, Lexington (RSVP)
AUGUST 12th - CMC Meeting (Scripture Labels) - 5:30PM-6:30PM (Chapel 103)
AUGUST 12th - Finance Meeting (immediately following Midweek Service) (WC105)
AUGUST 14th - Church Deadline for Submissions to SEPTEMBER Newsletter

WEEK OF AUGUST 16TH - AUGUST 22ND

AUGUST 16th - Deacons Meeting - 4:00PM (WC106)
AUGUST 17th - Deadline to provide Ministry Assistant with September Newsletter Input
AUGUST 17th - Men | Meal | Message - 6:30PM-8:00PM (FLC) \$5
AUGUST 19th - History Room is open 4:30PM-5:30PM

WEEK OF AUGUST 23RD - AUGUST 29TH

AUGUST 24th - Norma Pate Bible Study - 6:30PM (FH)
AUGUST 27th - Seniors Birthday Bash (August Birthdays) - 2:00PM RSVP

WEEK OF AUGUST 30TH - SEPTEMBER 5TH

AUGUST 30th - *"For the Dreams of Children Sunday"*
AUGUST 30th - Fifth Sunday Food Drive
AUGUST 30th - Faith Family Friends Lunch after church (RSVP)