



The Duck River Current

News from
the Duck River
Baptist Association

August 2023
Volume LXV, Issue 8

Churches serving Christ together in Coffee, Franklin, & Grundy Counties...and to the uttermost part of the earth.

Pastor Profile

John Michael Peck — Center Grove Baptist Church



I am 45 years old and happily married for the past 16 years to Misty. We have 2 beautiful girls Krimson Alexis and Layla Brooke. Misty and I met through mutual friends. We knew almost immediately that we would end up together.

I was born in Tennessee but lived in North Carolina until the age of 11 then lived in Florida until the age of 18. I then moved to Tennessee and drove a semi-truck for 19 years before accepting a position in Real Estate in 2017 where I currently work. I am a huge Tennessee Volunteers fan as well as an Atlanta Braves fan.

I was not truly saved until Misty and I were married about 15 years ago. Twelve years ago I knew I was called to ministry while serving as a Yokefellow and working with youth and adults at Cowan First Baptist. I left Cowan to serve as Associate Pastor at Emmanuel Baptist in Hazel Green, AL for about a year. I then went to Liberty Baptist in Winchester for about 2 years as God continued to use me to serve in various capacities. I left Liberty Baptist to serve as Youth Director at Victory Baptist before being called as Pastor of Center Grove Baptist Church in Tullahoma in February of this year where I was ordained on April 23, 2023.

I have a strong passion for people who do not have true salvation. I know the difference and it scares me how many people confess Jesus but never truly give their lives to Jesus Christ and therefore have a false hope.

My favorite verses are (Philippians 4:13) **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”** because it has helped me walk through trials in my life. The other is (Matthew 4:19) **“And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men”** because I know I am called to be a Fisher of Men as all Christians are. I am honored to be the Pastor of Center Grove Baptist Church and have seen growth in my people already. I cannot put into words how God has blessed me over these last few months but I am excited for the journey. I just want to be the man God wants me to be and only preach what the Word of God says and means regardless of the outcome or persecution that may come. I will not waiver from the Truth.



Tennessee Collegiate Day of Prayer

On August 13th, TN Baptists are encouraged to pray for campus ministers, college students, and university faculty.



- Pray for strength, endurance, and wisdom for the teachers.
- Pray for revival among the students. Pray the Lord of the Harvest to bring forth a large bountiful yield among our public school students.
- Pray that God will grab hold of the hearts of those students who have already learned the art of evil and transform them into God-fearing teens.
- Pray for the many "good kids" to remain on the path of righteousness, to be strong in Christ, but to also be humble and loving to those that aren't.
- Pray for Christian parents who will also mirror Christ to teachers, administrators, and other students.
- Pray for the teachers who are Christ-followers, and that they will love their students so that even without a word, they might display the light of Christ to those who are searching.
- Pray for the administrators. Pray that God will raise up more believing administrators and that they will act with courage, creativity, and wisdom.
- Pray that God will place his people in high places, and that they might be like Daniel to this generation.
- Pray that God will move in the minds and hearts of government officials to release the schools from unreasonable expectations.
- In all things, look for the good and thank God for the pockets of faith, kindness, goodness and success that you do see.

Sunday, August 20, 2023
is the annual observance
of
Baptist and Reflector Day



Duck River Baptist
Association
Executive Board will
meet at 6PM on
September 12th at
Riva Lake Baptist
Church.

First Baptist Church Manchester will celebrate Dr. Brenton Cox's 29 years of ministry at FBC with a Retirement Reception in his honor on Sunday, August 20 from 3:00-5:00 PM in the church gymnasium. Under his leadership, First Baptist has experienced significant growth in worship and Sunday School attendance. Over 1150 believers have been baptized during his ministry at FBC. During the last 29 years, the church has led in several fruitful outreach ministries including Oakley Ministry Center, Upward Basketball, Vacation Bible School, and the Jesus Tent at Bonnaroo. To God be the Glory!



Vacation Bible School in the Duck River Churches



Oaklawn



Grace



Hillcrest



Liberty



Victory



Keith Springs



Monteagle



Cumberland

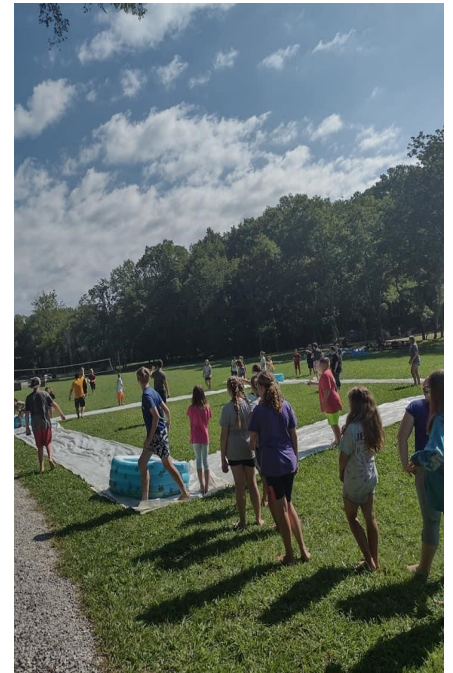
Child Evangelism Fellowship



Camp Good News is a ministry of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Child Evangelism Fellowship. It is a week long over-night camp held at Camp Rain in Decherd, TN. Camp Good News is for children ages 8 to 14 and provides a safe environment where campers are challenged and strengthened emotionally, mentally, physically, and spiritually.



Over 80 children attended Camp Good News with 21 accepting Christ as their Savior. CEF of Tennessee Valley is working to follow-up on these children and help connect them and establish them in a local church. In addition to Camp Good News, CEF of Tennessee Valley partners with local churches in evangelizing children, discipling children, and establishing them in a local church. To learn more about how CEF of TN Valley can help your church visit: www.ceftennesseevalley.org



Counselors Corner

Spiritual First Aid is partnering with Hope Made Strong and Mental Health & the Church Initiative at Biola's Rosemead School of Psychology to present a free one-day virtual event on October 10: [The Church Mental Health Summit](#). Participants can learn from experts from around the world and be equipped with practical tools, biblically-based resources, and research-backed strategies for supporting mental health.



Youth Praise event hosted by Grace, Highland & Trinity Baptist churches.



Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions Week of Prayer for State Missions

Tennessee Baptists contributing through the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions provide invaluable financial support for Tennessee ministries. The Week of Prayer for Tennessee missions is a concentrated time of prayer for Tennessee Baptists, which coincides with the offering. The Golden Offering is collected all year with a special emphasis during the Week of Prayer.

Standing orders for 2023-24 GOTM promotion materials will begin mailing mid-July. Churches that do not have a standing order, can contact Jacki Holleman at jholleman@tnbaptist.org to order materials.

The 2023-24 Golden Offering begins on September 1st.



Looking for a service project?

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes needs

Peanut Butter, Almond Butter, Nutella, Jelly, Canned chicken, Canned salmon, Vienna sausages, canned pastas such as Raviolis or Spaghetti-O's, canned carrots and canned blue lake green beans. Snack items needed are (chips, cookies, crackers, etc.)

They also have a link on Amazon to their wish list for additional needs.

Franklin County jail ministry is looking for help. Contact Scott McKay at Franklin County jail



What: Retirement Reception for Pastor Jack Hice

When: Sunday, August 20, 2023

Where: Marble Plains Baptist Church

The congregation of Marble Plains Baptist Church cordially invites you to the retirement reception for Pastor Jack Hice after 33 years of service and dedication to Marble Plains Baptist Church. Special services will begin at 10AM on Sunday with food and fellowship to follow. Please RSVP Tina Sisk at (931) 581-5321 or email her at marbleplainsbaptistchurch@gmail.com



How may we serve your church?

We're here to help.

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER NIGHT

Oaklawn Baptist Church
Saturday July 29th 6pm
Everyone Welcome!



Pray for our own schools in Coffee, Franklin and Grundy counties that God's protective hand would be upon them as they learn and grow academically. Pray for our local students, teachers and administrators.



ACP information is due by September 15, 2023. If you need help please call Debbie at (931) 455-5072

Reminder