

# The Messenger

## Stronger Together

### STRONG LEADERS, STRONG CHURCHES, STRONG COMMUNITIES

#### Association Missions Strategist

Dr. Anthony Rhodes

Email-  
pastoranthonyrhodes@gmail.com

Cell- 334-452-1931

#### Baptist Collegiant Ministry

Mr. Drew Bentley

drewbentley@dscbcm.org  
Email-  
drewbentley@dscbcm.org

Cell- 731-671-8029

#### Ministry Assistant

Mrs. Christy Pledge

Email-  
Dyerbaptistassociation@yahoo.com

Cell- 731-334-2120

## A NOTE FROM OUR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS STRATEGIST

As I reflect on the last three months as your AMS, it has been an exciting ride, and I have loved every moment of it — from building relationships and visiting your churches, to offering training and discipleship opportunities, to getting our vision and strategy into motion. I can already see God at work.

Our strategy centers on five core principles:  
The 5E Strategy

**Equipping • Encouraging • Engaging  
• Energizing • Executing**

Over the last three months, we have been able to see every one of those steps begin to take shape, and I cannot wait to see how God is going to use all of it. Just this week, I received a phone call that beautifully illustrates how people across our Association are catching the vision — embracing the call to be Stronger Together and putting these 5E strategies into practice.

Pastors, church leaders, and members of our Association churches — thank you for your faithful support. I ask you to continue to stand with us through prayer and through your financial giving. As we work together, we are able to see churches become healthy once again. We are already catching glimpses of that in churches that were on the brink of closing their doors just months ago. Jesus is shining bright!

A pastor from another association came and led one of our pastors' fellowships. Before he finished the meeting he shared: "There's something special going on in the Dyer Baptist Association."

As we move through the summer, let's press forward together. Let's keep praying, keep seeking the Lord, and keep finding ways to grow Stronger Together.

Remember: **Strong leaders lead to strong churches, which in turn lead strong communities.**

Here is how we stay healthy together:

- **Seek** the Lord. Seek Him through prayer and through His Word. Let's stay faithful to Him above all else.
- **Support** your church leaders. Members, one of the greatest gifts I ever received as a pastor was knowing that my church family was there — encouraging me, supporting me, and praying for me. Let your pastors and church leaders know they are loved and prayed for.
- **Stay** faithful in your attendance. I know it is summertime, but one of the hallmarks of a strong, healthy church is faithfulness. Don't drop off just because it's summertime. I want to encourage you to stay faithful, keep showing up, and keep serving your church and community.

Pastors, I love you. We are in this together — and we are all going to grow Stronger Together.

*God bless you — till next time.*

*Brother Anthony*

Association Mission Strategist  
Dyer Baptist Association

## Save the Dates

### June

- 6 DBA Women's Ministry Bingo
- 8 Pastors & Wives Breakfast
- 21 Father's Day

### July

- 4 Independence Day
- 9 Special Needs Training
- 14 Executive Board Meeting
- 27 Pastors & Wives Breakfast

### August

- 1 Pastors and Wives Fellowship
- 10 Pastors & Wives Breakfast
- 15 DBA Womens Ministry Trivia Day
- 22 Kingdom Kids Camp
- 24 Pastors & Wives Breakfast
- 24-27 BCM Welcome Week



**LUNCH ENCOUNTER**  
Starts August 2026

Free meals for the staff and students of Dyersburg State Community College. All donations go to student mission trips.

**CHILDREN MINISTRY**

Join one of the Dyer Baptist Associations Vacation Bible Schools this Summer and Fall. Three will be lead by the DBA VBS Team.

**ACHORED**

**The Next Generation**

High School Juniors, Seniors and College Students gather to study Gods Word and fellowship. Thursdays 5pm at the BCM.



Dyer Baptist Association  
**VBS**

**May-June VBS Schedules**

May 31 <sup>st</sup> - June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Newbern FBC	6-8:30 pm	Illumination Station
May 31 <sup>st</sup> - June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Trimble FBC	6-8:30pm	Rainforest Falls-Group
June 1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Zion Hill BC	TBD	Partnering with Friendship
June 7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>	McCullough Chapel	6-8:30pm	Illumination Station
June 7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>	Macedonia BC	6-8:30pm	Illumination Station
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Southside BC	9am-2:30pm	Illumination Station
June 14 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup>	Finley FBC	6-8pm	Answers in Genesis
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Second BC	9am-2:30pm	Illumination Station
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mt. Vernon BC	6-8:15pm	Answers in Genesis
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup>	Halls FBC BC	6-8:15 pm	Illumination Station
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Tatumville BC @ MT. Tiriza	9-2:30 pm	Illumination Station
June 14-17	Beech Grove Bruceville	TBD	Wonder Junction

**July VBS Schedules**

July 13 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	Dyersburg FBC	6-8:30pm	Rain Forest Falls
July 19 <sup>th</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Hillcrest BC	6-8pm	Emerald Crossing
July 25 <sup>th</sup>	Evansville BC	9am-1pm	Jesus is the Light

**Fall Break VBS Schedule**

Oct. 5th-7th	Church Grove BC	TBD	TBD
--------------	-----------------	-----	-----



**CHURCH NEWS:**

- Mount Vernon is seeking applications for a full-time Associate Pastor of Student Ministries. Please visit <https://www.mtvbaptist.com/leadership/>
- Newbern FBC - Tyson Food Bank is June 15th. To receive food, you just need a valid Dyer County driver's license. Volunteers welcome to serve in this ministry.

Submit all church news to [Dyerbaptistassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:Dyerbaptistassociation@yahoo.com)

Sign-up at our website or use the QR Code for Special Needs training.



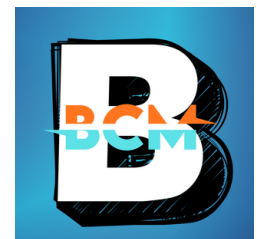
If you are interested in this training or learning more about what is involved in Special Needs Ministry, use the QR Code to register or call Mrs. Christy at the Office.



**COLLEGE LIFE**

**Some Practical Ways Your Church Can Support Our Baptist Collegiate Ministry**

- Provide meals for outreach events, weekly Lunch Encounter or even worship nights.
- Help fund a campus missionary by giving to your local BCM.
- Partner with the BCM in doing an outreach event on campus.
- Provide a list of incoming students from your church who could benefit from the ministry of the BCM or be further mobilized to reach the campus in partnership with the BCM.
- Provide Snacks for our students such as, Candy bars, Granolas, Hostess or Little Debbie's, Chips ect..
- Begin promoting BCM to high schoolers during their time in student ministry.
- Identify wise/seasoned members within the church who would be willing to mentor and disciple college students.
- Provide care packages/hygiene/dorm supplies to newly arrived students.
- Provide Backpacks and or school supplies for our students, pens, pencils markers Bibles, devotionals



# CREATION Word Search

H P G O D B S H B Y N T  
 L C L I G H T S P E C C  
 I I Y I C H W D V Q Z L  
 S X V E G E T A T I O N  
 G U B I O W E R P H O S  
 V E N E V H D K Z O R X  
 S J R L A N D N M A D D  
 O P V Z E S U E T X T A  
 G C X Q D A T S M D R Y  
 F B W A T E R S L O E H  
 S E A C R E A T U R E S  
 E D L T E I M Q H X S X



God  
 Heaven  
 Earth  
 Light  
 Darkness

Day  
 Night  
 Waters  
 Dry Land  
 Vegetation

Trees  
 Sun  
 Moon  
 Stars  
 Sea Creatures  
 Beasts

## Tennessee Baptist Mission Board Weekday Early Education

This 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.

### Registration Fee:

- \$75 per person if registered by June 2, 2026
  - \$85 per person if registered after June 2, 2026
- No refunds after July 1, 2026. However, the registration fee may be transferred to another member in your group.



## Dyer Baptist Association Women's Ministry

Dyer Baptist Womens Ministry  
 Invites all Women to attend our meetings and events.  
 Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the BCM starting at 5:30pm.



Dyer Baptist Women's Ministry

Save the Date

Saturday, November 14, 2026  
 9am-1pm

"Made For This Conference"  
 Dyersburg First Baptist Church

Dyer Baptist Association Women's Ministry Cookbooks

\$ 20.00

These have recipies complied of the Dyer Baptist Churches. Get your copy at the Dyer Baptist Association



Trivia Day-August 15  
 2pm to 5pm  
 @ BCM



Bible Study  
 "Gospel on the Ground"  
 Thursdays 4:30pm at the BCM

**HALLMARK EASTER TOUR 2027**

**WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL IN GREECE + ROME, ITALY!**

**MARCH 17-26, 2027**

Walk in the footsteps of Paul each day while traveling by luxury motor coach and with full-time guides. Travel from Atlanta to Thessaloniki, Greece, with a 2-day tour of Rome, Italy, for this all-inclusive tour, including all meals, tips, and entries.

**TRIP COST**  
ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP COST IS \$6,275.00 per person out of Atlanta International

Deposit is \$500.00 (non-refundable) due at registration

Greece only tour is \$4,725.00

**SITES ON THE TOUR**

**SITES THROUGHOUT ATHENS:**  
CORINTH, BEMA, PORT CENCHREA, KALAMBAKA, METEORA, VERIA, THESSALONIKI, PHILIPPI, LYDIA, AND KAVALLA.

**TWO DAYS IN ROME, ITALY TO SEE THE COLOSSEUM, PANTHEON, FORUM, VATICAN, SISTINE CHAPEL, ETC!**

Veteran Tour Hosts Dr. Clay Hallmark  
clayhallmark@bolognini.com www.clayhallmark.com 901-255-7120

2027  
EASTER  
TOUR.  
WALK  
WHERE  
APOSTLE  
PAUL  
PREACHED

**FATHER' Day**  
Father's Day is a time that we celebrate our father who is in heaven and our dads here on earth. They are the anchor that holds the battered ship. They teach us to trust, have courage, strength and to seek God in the storms of life. They love their wives as Christ loves the Church. They teach us how to talk to God through their prayers. They teach us how to walk with God through reading and studying the bible. Happy Father's Day!



## From TBMB What is a Group?

### An Aligned Approach to Discipleship Through Community

In a discipleship culture, a group is more than a meeting. It's a disciple-making environment where people grow in Christlikeness, build real relationships, and multiply the mission. A group is not a program; it's a relational environment where every participant is noticed, named, and known, the three steps towards belonging. Definitions that shape our culture for discipleship:

- Discipleship: A life-long process by which a follower of Jesus Christ grows toward Christlikeness and multiplies the dexperience.
- Disciple: A committed, passionate follower of Jesus Christ.



Secretary's Training  
This Fall

Canva | Intuit QuickBooks

### Group Names Matter for Clarity

All groups at the small group layer serve the same mission, and that mission should be clear in the name whether your church uses terms like: Sunday School, Small Groups, Life Groups, Community Groups, etc. What matters is clarity. Use one consistent name to reinforce shared purpose and avoid confusion or competition. This strengthens unity in the small group layer of our Disciple-Making Environments, which include:

#### Large Gatherings

- Jesus preached to the masses
- Where the Word is proclaimed broadly Ie. Worship, Large Events

#### Small Groups

- Jesus relationally taught the 12 Where the Word is discussed relationally
- Less than 20 people

#### Micro Groups

- Jesus invested in 3
- Where the Word is applied intimately
- Gender specific, fewer than 5 people

#### Personal Walk

- Jesus spent time with the Father
- Where the disciple walks closely with the Father
- Mentoring and spiritual disciplines

**STRONG LEADERS**  
**STRONG CHURCHES**  
**STRONG COMMUNITIES**

DYER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**DBA**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 14**  
**Bogota Baptist Church**  
**6pm-meal 7pm- meeting**

**STRONGER TOGETHER**

**EQUIP**  
**ENCOURAGE**  
**ENGAGE**  
**ENERGIZE**  
**EXECUTE**

To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

DYER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**HALLMARK EASTER TOUR 2027**

**WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL IN GREECE + ROME, ITALY!**

**MARCH 17-26, 2027**

Walk in the footsteps of Paul each day while traveling by luxury motor coach and with full-time guides. Travel from Atlanta to Thessaloniki, Greece, with a 2-day tour of Rome, Italy, for this all-inclusive tour, including all meals, tips, and entries.

**TRIP COST**  
ALL-INCLUSIVE TRIP COST IS \$6,275.00 per person out of Atlanta International

Deposit is \$500.00 (non-refundable) due at registration

Greece only tour is \$4,725.00

**SITES ON THE TOUR**

**SITES THROUGHOUT ATHENS:**  
CORINTH, BEMA, PORT CENCHREA, KALAMBAKA, METEORA, VERIA, THESSALONIKI, PHILIPPI, LYDIA, AND KAVALLA.

**TWO DAYS IN ROME, ITALY TO SEE THE COLOSSEUM, PANTHEON, FORUM, VATICAN, SISTINE CHAPEL, ETC!**

Veteran Tour Hosts Dr. Clay Hallmark  
clayhallmark@bolognini.com www.clayhallmark.com 901-255-7120

2027  
EASTER  
TOUR.  
WALK  
WHERE  
APOSTLE  
PAUL  
PREACHED

**FATHER' Day**  
Father's Day is a time that we celebrate our father who is in heaven and our dads here on earth. They are the anchor that holds the battered ship. They teach us to trust, have courage, strength and to seek God in the storms of life. They love their wives as Christ loves the Church. They teach us how to talk to God through their prayers. They teach us how to walk with God through reading and studying the bible. Happy Father's Day!



**From TBMB  
What is a Group?**

**An Aligned Approach to Discipleship Through Community**

In a discipleship culture, a group is more than a meeting. It's a disciple-making environment where people grow in Christlikeness, build real relationships, and multiply the mission. A group is not a program; it's a relational environment where every participant is noticed, named, and known, the three steps towards belonging. Definitions that shape our culture for discipleship:

- Discipleship: A life-long process by which a follower of Jesus Christ grows toward Christlikeness and multiplies the dexperience.
- Disciple: A committed, passionate follower of Jesus Christ.

**Group Names Matter for Clarity**

All groups at the small group layer serve the same mission, and that mission should be clear in the name whether your church uses terms like: Sunday School, Small Groups, Life Groups, Community Groups, etc. What matters is clarity. Use one consistent name to reinforce shared purpose and avoid confusion or competition. This strengthens unity in the small group layer of our Disciple-Making Environments, which include:

**Large Gatherings**

- Jesus preached to the masses
- Where the Word is proclaimed broadly Ie. Worship, Large Events

**Small Groups**

- Jesus relationally taught the 12 Where the Word is discussed relationally
- Less than 20 people

**Micro Groups**

- Jesus invested in 3
- Where the Word is applied intimately
- Gender specific, fewer than 5 people

**Personal Walk**

- Jesus spent time with the Father
- Where the disciple walks closely with the Father
- Mentoring and spiritual disciplines



Secretary's Training  
This Fall

Canva | Intuit QuickBooks

**STRONG LEADERS**  
**STRONG CHURCHES**  
**STRONG COMMUNITIES**

DYER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**DBA**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 14**  
**Bogota Baptist Church**  
**6pm-meal 7pm- meeting**

**STRONGER TOGETHER**

**EQUIP**  
**ENCOURAGE**  
**ENGAGE**  
**ENERGIZE**  
**EXECUTE**

"To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."  
Colossians 3:10

DYER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION