

The Messenger

STRONGER TOGETHER: STRONG LEADERS, STRONG CHURCHES, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Association Missions Strategist

DR. ANTHONY RHODES

Email-
Anthony@dyerbaptistassociation.com

Cell- 334-452-1931

Baptist Collegiate Ministry

MR. DREW BENTLEY

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 ASSOCIATION MISSIONS STRATEGIST

What a difference a year makes! On September 9, 2025, I was sitting in the airport in Atlanta, Georgia, getting ready to fly back to Jackson after attending a Braves game the night before with my sons, a pastor friend of mine, and his dad, who is like a mentor to me. We were just minutes away from boarding our flight when my phone rang from an unknown number. I answered, and a gentleman on the other end said, “Brother Rhodes, my name is Larry Koonce, I’m with the Dyer Baptist Association. I wanted to know if you would be interested in discussing our Missions Strategist/Director of Missions position. Your name has been given to us, and we’re interested in speaking with you!” As the old saying goes, “The rest is history!” It’s hard to believe that was a year ago! There have been a lot of phone calls I’ve been blessed to receive over the years, and I’m thankful I received this one.

As the calendar turns to September, I heard the weather man say that fall is just a few days away. Apparently, he hasn’t walked outside and felt the heat I felt nor watched his own forecast...It’s supposed to be in the upper 90s this week. However, fall is coming, and with it we are making preparations here at the DBA. It’s Budget Time, Annual Meeting Preparation Time, Nominating Committee Meetings, and so much more. There have been days recently when I’m thankful for a calendar and Mrs. Christy to help me stay on task and know which meeting I’m scheduled for and when. Even in this crazy time, I’m having a ball though, and God is doing some amazing things. I can’t wait to share with you all the doors God is opening and all that He continues to do.

When I came to DBA, I launched our Stronger Together Strategy, which includes our 5E Initiatives. The first initiative on the list is Equip. On Saturday, September 12, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., we are hosting a Special Needs Ministry Training. I attended a meeting back in February where we learned that 99% of Pastors said families with Special Needs are welcome in their churches. However, it was also shared that 87% of the churches in Tennessee do not offer any ministry to those same families. This is a trend we need to reverse. Our special guest leading our training, Natalee Barbier, shares that one of the most unreached people groups in Tennessee is the special-needs family. Sign up at www.dyerbaptistassociation.com/specialneeds to learn how your church can help this great group feel welcome in our churches every week. This free training event is made possible by your faithful financial gifts to the Dyer Baptist Association.

One of our exciting new initiatives is REFRESH TUESDAYS! These special Tuesdays are designed for our pastors, ministry staff, and spouses to gather for worship, prayer, encouragement, fellowship, and equipping. They’ll also enjoy engaging conversation and a delicious meal. Some sessions will be in the evening, others during lunch, ensuring more pastors and ministers can join. I hope Refresh Tuesdays become a meaningful break from ministry’s busyness and pressures—time to connect with others who understand the joys and challenges of serving the Lord, and to leave feeling renewed and motivated, just like Paul suggested, to press on. Our first event is on Tuesday, October 6, at 6 p.m., with dinner included. I’m working on our first Refresh being a time of encouragement and discussion on Building an Evangelistic Culture. Whether you serve full-time, bivocationally, or are retired, I encourage you and your spouse to participate. These gatherings are part of our effort to Equip, Encourage, Engage, and Energize our leaders so they can effectively Execute their calling. We believe that Strong Leaders build Strong Churches, Strong Churches impact Strong Communities, and together, we are always stronger!

Till Next Time,
Brother Anthony



SAVE THE DATES

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Labor Day- Office Closed
- 12 Special Needs Training
- 14 Pastors & Wives Breakfast
- 19 Childrens Ministry Day
- 23 See you at the Pole - Prayer
- 26 DBA Women’s Ministry Bingo
- 28 Pastors & Wives Breakfast
- 29 Annual Church Profiles Due

OCTOBER

- 19 Annual Meeting 101st - Finley Baptist Church 3:30pm

NOVEMBER

- 1 Daylight Savings Time
- 14 DBA Women’s Ministry “ Made for this Conference”-
- 25 Happy Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 15 DBA Secretaries & Clerks QuickBooks Training/ Fellowship
- 8 Pastors and Wives Christmas Fellowship
- 25 Happy Birthday Jesus



Dyer Baptist Association Annual Meeting
Monday, October 19th at Finley Baptist Church. **Registration Starting at 4:30 pm, Meal at 4:45, Business session 6pm-7pm, Celebration 7pm-8:30pm**
Everyone is welcome, Executive Board Members, Messangers and Church Members.

Treasurer’s Report July Undesignated Receipts

Beech Grove	0	750
Beech Grove Viar	0	600
Bogota	1,750.00	3,247.64
Calvary Chapel	100	300
Church Grove	200	2,000.00
Curve	362.1	2,266.51
Dyersburg First	2,500.00	25,000.00
Dyersburg Second	130	1,140.00
Evansville	41.64	480.43
Fairview	0	1,356.14
Finley	1,356.14	10,541.64
Fort Hudson	150	1,050.00
Fowlkes	0	450
Gates	42.65	471.28
Halls	0	2,880.62
Halls Westside	200	2,051.00
Harmony	176.51	2,394.09
Harvest	0	1,161.14
Hillcrest	1,503.72	14,675.06
Lenox	0	0
Macedonia	614.09	5,333.44
Mary's Chapel	409	4,459.00
McCullough Chapel	430.29	2,104.09
Miston	0	0
Mt Tirzah	977.72	1,487.69
Mt Vernon	0	10,203.97
New Hope	0	2,450.79
New Mitchell GR.	500	650
Newbern FBC	2,182.79	22,365.39
Parrish Chapel	150	1,200.00
RoEllen	157.42	2,132.46
Southside	12.6	671.88
Springhill	0	0
Tatumville	0	205.71
Trimble FBC	100	1,150.00
Williams Chapel	150	1,500.00
Woodville	0	0
Zion Hill	167.28	1,495.68
Church Donations	14,475.95	131,486.40
TBMB Income	3,542.67	31,884.03
Total	18,018.62	166,913.10



2025-2026 TOTAL AS OF JUL. 31, 2026

Offering: \$2,584,864

Golden Opportunity Projects: \$264,550

GOTM Grand Total: \$2,849,414

Theme Verse: “Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel.” -Philippians 1:27
Statewide GOTM Goal: \$3,000,000
Challenge Goal: \$3,500,000

Church News:

- Mount Vernon – is seeking applications for a full-time Associate Pastor of Student Ministries. Please visit www.mtvbaptist.com/leadership/
- Newbern FBC - Tyson Food Bank is September 28

Submit all church news to Dyerbaptistassociation@yahoo.com



Evangelistic Disciples

Tennessee is a mission field with seven million residents, nearly half of whom do not have a relationship with Jesus and more than half who do not attend

Tennessee Baptist Mission Board / Feb 10

Tennessee is a mission field with seven million residents, nearly half of whom do not have a relationship with Jesus and more than half who do not attend church. As the population grows, the need for evangelistic disciples has never been greater. The Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (TBMB) is helping churches strengthen and multiply these disciples by fostering a culture of discipleship that fits each church’s unique context, equipping believers to grow deeper in Christ and live out their faith daily. When believers mature in their walk with Jesus, they embrace the Great Commission and share the gospel with boldness. Through training, encouragement, and partnerships across the state, TBMB is helping churches build strong evangelistic cultures rooted in prayer and outreach so that every Tennessean has the opportunity to hear and respond to the hope of the gospel.



Dyer Baptist Association Women's Ministry

Let's Get Cooking

The Dyer Baptist Association Women's Ministry is having a summer sale on cookbooks. Buy 2026 Cookbook for \$15.00 Get the 2011 Cookbook free.



Dyer Baptist Association
Women's Ministry
Conference 2026
"Created for This"

Register on-Line:

<https://www.dyerbaptistassociation.com/general-clean>

DBA Women's Ministry Conference

Created For This

Ephesians 2:10

Saturday, November 14, 2026
8:30am-1pm
Dyersburg First Baptist Church

Guest Speaker : Barbara Kay Edwards
4 Breakout Sessions

Lots of Jesus, Worship, Door Prizes.

Mission Projects:
Bring Bibles -all age Children -for Christmas Child.
Bring School Supplies for Backpack Program

STUDY

Next Bible Study
Book of Romans

Starting August 27th

With Jada Edwards

Contact Christy Pledge 731-334-2120

BINGO Day

Join us for FREE Bingo
Prizes
Food
Fellowship
Devotion

SATURDAY **12PM-3PM** **26 SEPTEMBER**

B 12 **Dyer Baptist Women's Ministry** **B 12**

DYER BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRY

INVITES LADIES FROM THE DYER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION TO ATTEND OUR MEETINGS AND EVENTS. MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE BCM STARTING AT 5:30PM. WE ARE COMPOSED OF MANY DIFERENT CHURCHES OF THE DBA. WE ARE LADIES WHO LOVE TO SERVE JESUS CHRIST AND LOOK FOR NEW EVENTS AND WAYS FOR YOUR CHURCH LADIES TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES.



LOOK FOR THE
DYER BAPTIST ASSOIATIONAL
CHURCHES
AT THE DYER COUNTY FAIR
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH -11TH



Annual Church
Profiles are
Due Tuesday,
September 29th

Somewhere
Hidden in this
Newsletter is
this Cross. Can
you Find It?





SUMMIT: THE GATHERING OF TENNESSEE BAPTISTS
NOVEMBER 14, 2027 @ 6:00 PM - NOVEMBER 16, 2027
@ 9:00 PM



TBMB STRONGER CHURCHES CONFERENCE
<https://tn.sbcworkspace.com/pub/event/register/55239120>

STRONGER CHURCHES ONE-DAY CONFERENCE: EQUIPPING LEADERS WHO LEAD CHURCH RENEWAL – WEST TN
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026 @ 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
\$20

GIVING LEADERS WHO LEAD CHURCH RENEWAL PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR SPIRITUAL AND STRATEGIC RENEWAL.

TBMB Annual women's event
Designed to encourage ladies to remember the true reason for the Holidays. The event will consist of decorated tables, delicious lunch, decorating ideas, special speaker and worship. Our two purposes are evangelistic and to equip women for a less stressful Christmas — one centered on what truly matters.

Christmas in November - Tennessee Baptist Mission Board



BCM News

Welcome Back to the BCM!
Lunch Encounter Each Wednesday! 11am - 1pm
Anchored Bible Study Each Thursday 5pm
FREE SNACKS - COFFEE- DRINKS- GAMES

August was a great month of ministry! Kingdom Kids had 46 kids present at the Day Camp who heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We kicked off classes at DSCC with our first campus lunch on the 26th, 110 students and staff came through to eat!

September is shaping up to be another great month. Here's what's ahead, and how you can be praying for us:

- Be in prayer as our Thursday night Bible Studies continue to grow!
- Anthony and I are now serving as the unofficial chaplains for the DSCC men's basketball team. Pray for that new role, and for opportunities to reach the other sports on campus as well.
- We have several fall ministries underway on campus. Pray that the lost will hear and respond to the Gospel.
- See You At The Pole is also coming up, a great opportunity for students on school grounds all across the nation to hear the Gospel. Please keep that day in your prayers.
- Finally, please pray for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, (FCA), as it ramps back up on school grounds nationwide, presenting the Gospel to students at colleges, high schools, and middle schools.

We are praying for you all!

