



The May 6 issue of the *Baptist and Reflector* reported a meeting with John Mark Clifton from the North American Mission Board. In this meeting, he suggested some distinguishing factors which identify churches who are dying. They are:

- They value the process of decision [making] more than the outcome of decision.
- They value their preferences over the needs of the unreached.
- They have an inability to pass leadership to the next generation.
- They cease, often gradually, to be a part of the fabric of their community.
- They grow dependent upon programs or personalities for growth or stability.
- They tend to blame the community for a lack of response and in time grow resentful of the community for not responding as it once did.
- They anesthetize the pain of death with over abundance of activity and maintaining outdated structure. They confuse caring for the "building" as caring for the church.

It is time each congregation prayerfully reflects on their heart-felt desires for the church. These desires are best discovered not in the words professed, but in the actions taken, the decisions about the use of the money, and the subject of the prayers.

Clifton asked the question, "Is your community better because your church is there?" He further said, "If your church closed today and the community didn't notice, you have a problem."

It is my prayer we will turn the church back over to the Lord and let Him direct our ways.

Your co-laborer,

*Bro. Mike*

## FINANCIAL ISSUES

*Facing churches & ministers*

What responsibilities does ObamaCare add to the Church Treasurer?

Are there any changes to the retirement program at Guidestone?

How are contribution reports to the members to be done?

Tennessee Baptist Convention personnel will answer these and other questions July 28, 2015, 7:00 p.m. at the Resource Center.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!**



June is the time to lock in Fall Events on both your Church and Personal Calendars. You will not want to have conflicts with the following events, so add them now. They are -- in Calendar Order:

**September 18-19** -- Women's Prayer Retreat at West Jackson Baptist Church

**October 10** -- Journey into Adventures in Missions for grades 1-6 at FBC, Bemis

**October 16-18** -- R. A. Camporee at Linden Valley

**October 19-20** -- BRBA Annual Meeting at Poplar Springs Baptist Church and Calvary Baptist Church

**November 9-11** -- Tennessee Baptist Convention

**November 16-23** -- OCC Shoebox Collection Week

**November 20-22** -- D'Now for youth grades 7 - 12



## PASTORS AND VBS DIRECTORS

**I ♥ VBS** Please remember to send a final report on your VBS even if you did not use *Lifeway Curriculum*.



## BALANCE SHEET

May 31, 2015

### General Budget

Initial Bal.	\$ 10,458.76
Church Rec.	6,781.07
Other Rec.	+ 1,218.44
	<u>18,458.27</u>
Expenses	- 10,364.59
<b>Budget Bal.</b>	<b>\$ 8,093.68</b>

### Other Funds

Designated	\$ 16,492.94
DOM Disc.	\$ 650.59
Missions Fd.	\$ 1,449.14
Contingency	\$ 14,023.08
Cent. Fund	Variable

### YTD Activity

<b>Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 50,100.84</b>
<b>Exp.</b>	<b>52,222.81</b>
<b>Bal.</b>	<b>\$ - 2,121.97</b>

### BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Joanna Sparks
- 5 Gilbert Cubbison
- 13 Tommy Crocker
- 15 Caroline Hull
- 20 Roy Wyatt
- 25 Tracy McCormick
- 27 Rebecca Franks
- 29 Todd Henderson

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Tim & Cindy Buffaloe
- 7 Danny & Barbara Ray
- 9 David & Mary Ann Walker
- 13 Tim & Christie Fain
- 16 Brent & Varsha McMinn
- 17 Greg & Patricia Stanford
- 24 Donald & Patricia Bain
- 27 Daniel & Katrina Lewis
- 30 Todd & Angela Henderson

## CHURCH RECEIPTS

(Jan. 1, 2015 — May 31, 2015)  
 Thank you. Our Churches are our Association's primary source of income.

CHURCH	MONTH	YTD
Barren Springs		
Beacon		500.00
Bear Creek	91.44	399.81
Beech Lake *	100.00	300.00
Bible Hill	110.00	660.00
Bunches Chapel	28.00	109.00
Calvary	225.12	1,212.47
Chapel Hill		358.32
Corinth	100.00	500.00
Crossroads		447.42
Cub Creek Hall		
Darden		
Decaturville, 1 <sup>st</sup>	100.00	500.00
Fellowship		
Flatwoods	466.23	2,525.60
Hopewell	200.00	1,000.00
House of Wor.	109.90	527.73
Huron		270.72
Judson		200.00
Lexington, 1 <sup>st</sup>		6,666.64
Mt. Ararat	475.15	2,272.71
Mt. Gilead	325.00	1,625.00
Mt. Zion		163.62
New Beech G.		300.00
New Hope	100.00	300.00
Parsons, 1 <sup>st</sup>	436.00	2,810.00
Perryville, 1 <sup>st</sup>	50.00	250.00
Pine Grove	335.66	1,443.19
Poplar Springs	741.00	3,518.00
Ridge Grove		
Rock Hill	304.00	1,615.63
Salem		203.82
Sand Ridge	949.75	4,725.21
Sardis	177.63	641.28
Sardis Ridge		150.00
Scotts Hill	291.46	1,471.97
Southside		
Twin Oaks	267.82	1,262.08
Union	553.84	3,833.18
Union Grove	243.07	1,233.03
Wildersville		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 6,781.07</b>	<b>\$ 43,996.43</b>

\* multiple checks

## Church News

**CALVARY** - The Farm Hand Quartet, Blue Grass Gospel will be at Calvary June 28 at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Greg Stanford, pastor.

**DECATURVILLE, FBC** - We just finished our new pavilion on our back property. We have had several additions to our church & look forward to adding more. Bo Brasher has surrendered his life to ministry. Bobby McCord, pastor.

**HOUSE OF WORSHIP** - We would like to thank everyone who participated & volunteered at our 5K run/walk for Jesus. It was a huge success. Our mother's were honored on Mother's Day. In May 1 was saved & there was 1 rededication.. We were honored at our Youth Sunday Service to have a Youth Pastor at the church. We

had a special service honoring our graduates. Our annual community cookout was held with great food, fellowship, & activities for everyone. Jeff Todd, pastor.

**HURON** - We would like to welcome Bro. Kyle Morris and his wife Missy as our new Pastor. We are blessed to have them. Jeff, Jake, Karlee, and Carla Willis came and worshipped with us. They shared song and testimony which was truly a blessing. We have had four join recently. Kyle Morris, pastor.

**UNION** - You are invited to our **YOUTH REVIVAL JULY 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P. M.** The Preacher will be Rev. Ryan Keaton from 1<sup>st</sup> Lexington, with worship being lead by Infinite Kings also from Lexington, 1<sup>st</sup>. Call Union's Youth Minister, Rev. James Biggers, at (731) 220-0097 or (731) 968-5787 for more information. Christopher



Captain Jeff Middleton and Office Rob McCready of the Lexington Police Department brought a very informative presentation to the Pastors' Conference May 4<sup>th</sup> on the issue of the gangs in our area. All Pastors' Conference Programs are valuable both for the message and for the encouragement. Currently we are hearing sermons from "Wondrous Truths in the Word."



Young, pastor.  
**TWIN OAKS** - In April we had 2 baptisms. They were saved at YEC. Remember all the fathers on Father's Day by remembering them in prayer. Our VBS will be June 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be NO FOOD on Sunday Night. Homecoming will be June 28<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Willis and others will be singing. Bobby Crowe, pastor.

### NINE CONGREGATIONS SEEKING PASTORS

Barren Springs 1<sup>st</sup>, Lexington  
Bear Creek Mt. Zion  
Crossroads New Hope  
Cub Creek Hall Sardis Ridge Fellowship

**NOT FOR SALE**

1 CORINTHIANS 6:20  
FOR YOU HAVE BEEN BOUGHT  
WITH A PRICE: THEREFORE  
GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY.

**Community Wide DNOW**  
Hosted by First Baptist

**November 20-22**



Contact: Ryan Keaton  
ryan@fbclexington.com  
615-426-0352

**Disciple Now (D'Now)** will be November 20-22, 2015. Plan now for your youth to be a part of this Worship and Missions event. For more information contact our Associational Youth Minister Ryan Keaton at 968-3685.

### Check "Upcoming Events" on [www.brbaweb.org](http://www.brbaweb.org) for changes and additions

#### June

1 Pastors' Conf. - Rev. Keith Runyon  
8 Pastors' Conf. - Dr. Randy Davis  
15 Pastors' Conf. - Rev. J. Burroughs  
21 **Father's Day**  
22 Pastors' Conf. - Dr. Mike Hayes  
27 The Well Worship Service  
29 Pastors' Conf. - Dr. Marty Comer

#### July

3 Office Closed - Independence Day  
6 Pastors' Conf. - Rev. Adam Woods  
13 Pastors' Conf. -  
20 Pastors' Conf. - Chief Lynn Murphy  
23 Harvest Field 2 Meeting  
25 The Well Worship Service  
27 Pastors' Conf. - Dr. Chris Young  
28 Financial Seminar by TBC

#### August

3 Pastors' Conf. -  
10 Pastors' Conf. -  
17 Pastors' Conf. -  
20 Executive Board @ Resource Center  
24 Pastors' Conf. -  
29 The Well Worship Service  
31 Pastors' Conf. -

#### September

7 Office Closed - Labor Day  
14 Pastors' Conf. -  
18-19 Women's Prayer Retreat  
21 Pastors' Conf. -  
26 The Well Worship Service  
28 Pastors' Conf. -

#### October

5 Pastors' Conf. -  
10 JAM @ FBC Bemis  
12 Pastors' Conf. -  
16-18 R.A. Camporee @ Linden Valley  
19 Annual Meeting @  
20 Annual Meeting @  
26 Pastors' Conf. -

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G. M. Thrower, Editor

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# The TIDINGS

Of Beech River Baptist Association

