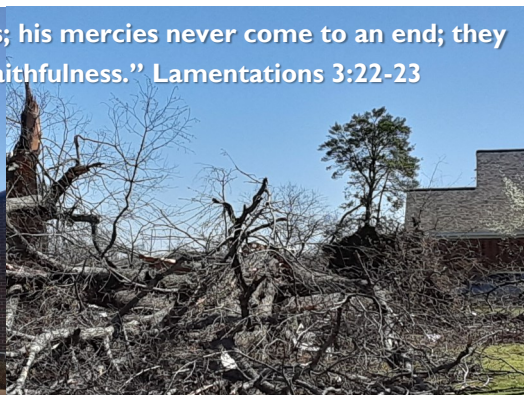


"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23



The recent Tipton County tornadoes have proven that **BETTER TOGETHER** HAS NEVER BEEN SO EVIDENT AS WE HAVE SEEN IN RECENT WEEKS! Thank you to all who have and continue to pray, serve, share and give. Tennessee Baptists are doing a tremendous work around the areas as well as many other entities serving the area devastated by the recent tornado. A big praise and thank you to all the city and county workers whom have worked so hard to quickly get things operating and open for people to serve in various ways. So many testimonies of everyone around the area and beyond going out of their way to help people in any way they can. Tennesseans are serving and sharing with open hearts!

# NEW ORLEANS

JUNE 11-14, 2023

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

PASTORS' CONFERENCE (11-12) & ANNUAL MEETING (13-14)

REMEMBER the ministry of the **TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES**. These homes across the state provide a Christian household for children displaced either temporarily or longer due to various reasons. This ministry also serves as a bridge between the parents/guardians during difficult times to rehabilitate & reunite families.

**To Give or for More Information:** Phone # 1-800-624-8591  
Website: [tennesseechildren.org](http://tennesseechildren.org) Email: [Office@tennesseechildren.org](mailto:Office@tennesseechildren.org)

THE **MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING**



BENEFITTING **TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES**



## From Our Director of Missions, Clay Gilbreath

Little did we know as we held Disaster Relief training on March 10-11 that just three weeks later, on March 31<sup>st</sup>, we would experience perhaps the most massive disaster Covington and Tipton County has seen in generations. The devastation caused by two EF-3 tornados is hard to believe but I am thankful to the Lord that the loss of life was minimal. Though we mourn with the family who lost a young man far too soon, we are thankful for so many stories of lives spared as the storms ravaged several areas of Tipton County.

But as you know, when disaster hits, God's people respond. There has been a tremendous outpouring of support, love, assistance, and financial help. Hundreds of volunteers and many organizations have sacrificially served families ravaged and displaced by the storm. As I write this article, many are still serving – Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief will be here for as long as requests for help come in.

Let me say a special 'thank you' to each of you who prayed, gave, and served your fellow man.

The clean-up and restoration has barely begun and it will surely take years, but we are so grateful for the provision of God and for the opportunities we have to share the love of Christ. Several salvation decisions have been reported, and we pray for more.

We have all been reminded of what is truly important in life. I have heard over and over: "things can be replaced, we are just thankful to have our family and our very lives." Amen.

Since the storms, I have heard several reports of worship services being packed – partly because of Easter Sunday and I believe partly because people are searching for stability and peace.

We have also been reminded that this place is not our home – we believers, as Abraham, await "the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Hebrews 11:10

'Til the great day we enter His heaven, we tarry on, serve and love others, and share the good news of Jesus.

### WMU NEWS - WMU Director, Harriet Cannon

harriet.cannon@att.net Cell # 901-277-2963

**"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12**

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to those affected by the March 31<sup>st</sup> tornado and especially thank the vast amount of local volunteers in our churches, including TN Baptist Disaster Relief and Samaritan's Purse.*

**Boy's Ranch Open House:** You are cordially invited to attend an Open House at the Boy's Ranch located at 9224 Quito Road, Millington on Sunday afternoon, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30PM.

Bring a group from your church! This event is open to men, women and children! You will be able to tour the campus, including the cattle farm and the homes where the boys and house parents live as well as hear about their plans for expansion and ministry opportunities for our churches. The open house will serve as the kickoff for the Mother's Day Offering for the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home.

**Prayer Retreat:** Fifty-Six ladies from twelve churches attended the Prayer Retreat on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Leah Simpson presented an outstanding teaching on "7 Simple Ideas to a Supernatural Prayer Life". Many thanks to the ladies of FBC-Ripley for hosting this event and for all who attended.

**Myra Short Scholarship:** We have extended the deadline to submit applications until May 15<sup>th</sup>. Please encourage any future or presently enrolled student to Union University to apply for the \$1000 scholarship.

#### Dates to Remember:

**May 7:** Boy's Ranch Open House 2:00-3:30PM

**May 9:** Leadership Planning Mtg. at Assoc. Office 6:00PM

**May 14:** Mother's Day / Mother's Day Offering for TBCH

**May 15:** Myra Short Applications Due

#### H.E.A.R.T. Fund

It is hard to process all the tornado damage done at the end of March in Tennessee and other states. If WMU in your church or association could use some funds to help minister to those in your area affected by a tornado, I can request a HEART Fund grant from the WMU Foundation/national WMU on your behalf - let me know how you would/could use it.

Ideas for ways to use funds:

- Gift cards for immediate/on-going needs – Walmart, Lowes, Kroger, etc.

- Gas gift cards for those traveling to/from lodging to attend to their property

Funds for storage containers/units for families to store any salvaged household goods and belongings until they can make more permanent arrangements

Funds need to be used by WMU in the church or association to minister to others and can't be given to Disaster Relief or other ministries for them use to minister to others.

For more info about the HEART Fund, visit <https://www.wmufoundation.com/disaster-relief>

Monthly Budget \$ 13,773.00

March Gifts \$ 15,149.97

Fiscal YTD Shortfall - \$ 2,909.80

Unrestricted Gifts	March 2023	Fiscal Year to Date Oct 2022 to Mar 2023
Ashport	0.00	0.00
Beaver	0.00	1,500.00
Brighton	539.26	5,077.98
Calvary	1,415.00	2,861.00
Calvary Hill	250.00	1,675.00
Central	0.00	0.00
Charleston	589.27	3,507.66
Covington First	1,250.00	7,700.00
Cross View	0.00	500.00
Crossway Cowboy	0.00	0.00
Durhamville	698.00	2,316.00
Faith	666.67	4,000.02
Fellowship	529.26	3,511.13
First Indian	0.00	0.00
Forerunner	80.00	240.00
Fulton	0.00	0.00
Garland	500.00	3,000.00
Gateway	1,052.72	6,023.80
Genesis	0.00	0.00
Grace	1,602.67	4,503.71
Hope	0.00	1,275.00
Keeling	118.00	284.00
Liberty	408.00	2,498.00
Mason Cowboy	100.00	350.00
Mason First	397.29	1,248.30
Mt. Lebanon	0.00	0.00
Munford	415.00	2,490.00
Oak Grove	0.00	1,685.05
Olive Branch	0.00	0.00
Pleasant Grove	1,809.00	7,170.00
Ripley First	583.33	3,499.98
Salem	0.00	0.00
Servant's Heart	0.00	175.00
Smyrna	0.00	2,682.98
Spirit Filled	100.00	600.00
Trinity	150.00	900.00
True Life	0.00	0.00
True Word	0.00	2,025.60
Victory	0.00	0.00
Walnut Grove	524.48	1,534.82
Western Valley	0.00	0.00
Woodlawn	0.00	200.00
TBMB	782.00	4,692.00
Other	.24	1.17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,149.97</b>	<b>\$79,728.20</b>

**Thank you for your generous spirit of giving. It is because of your sacrifice that we exist to connect churches on mission.**

Physical Address: 1390 Hwy 51 N

Mailing Address: PO Box 646

Covington TN 38019

## MAY 2023 Calendar of Events

1	10:30 A.M.	<b>Ministers Fellowship</b> , BHBA Office Speaker: To be determined. Lunch to follow at a local restaurant.
5-7		<b>BHBA Mission Trip to Pillar of Truth, Cincinnati, Ohio</b>
8	10:30 A.M.	<b>Ministers Fellowship</b> , BHBA Office Speaker: To be determined. Lunch to follow at a local restaurant.
15	10:30 A.M.	<b>Ministers Fellowship</b> , BHBA Office Speaker: To be determined. Lunch to follow at a local restaurant.
22	10:30 A.M.	<b>Ministers Fellowship</b> , BHBA Office Speaker: To be Determined. Lunch to follow at a local restaurant.
29		<b>BHBA Office Closed in observance of Memorial Day.</b>

**56 ladies from 12 churches attended the BHBA WMU Prayer Retreat held on Saturday, April 15 at Ripley First Baptist.**



Leah Simpson shared  
"7 Simple Ideas to a  
Supernatural Prayer Life".  
Leah's podcast and blog  
can be viewed at  
[nurturingmynest.com](http://nurturingmynest.com)





1390 Hwy 51 North • Physical Address  
P.O. Box 646 • Mailing Address  
Covington, TN 38019  
Tel: 901-476-6759  
Fax: 901-476-5799

*Director of Missions, Clay Gilbreath*

Email: [clay@bighatchie.org](mailto:clay@bighatchie.org)

*Ministry Assistant, Cindy James*

Email: [cindy@bighatchie.org](mailto:cindy@bighatchie.org)

**Web Address: [www.bighatchie.org](http://www.bighatchie.org)**

**Brighton Baptist Church, Brighton,** TN is currently in search of a full time pastor. We are a 150 year old established church in a small town looking for God's leader to keep us growing spiritually and spreading the Gospel to our community. Brighton Baptist Church adheres to Baptist Faith and Message. Summary and experience are preferred. Please send complete resume and a CD of a recent sermon to Chairman, Pastor Search Committee, Post Office Box 29, Brighton, TN 38011.

**Brighton Baptist Church, Brighton,** TN is seeking a part time children's minister. Please submit resume with references to [annsmith1946@gmail.com](mailto:annsmith1946@gmail.com)

**Calvary Hill Baptist Church,** 1990 Hwy 51 North, Ripley, Tn 38063, is seeking a Bi-Vocational Pastor, who is able and willing to shepherd a small church in a rural community. Any inquiries, either by phone or Email should be made to: Allen Lewis, 203 Oscar Hinson Road, Ripley, Tn 38063 731-612-8355 or [allen.emr67@gmail.com](mailto:allen.emr67@gmail.com)

**Durhamville Baptist Church, Ripley,** TN is looking for a permanent Bi-Vocational Pastor. We are a small country church and member of Big Hatchie Association, and Southern Baptist Convention. Resume may be submitted by Mail or Email to: Randy Gilbreath, 291 Durhamville Rd., Ripley TN 38063 Email: [Randy.Gilbreath@TKelevator.com](mailto:Randy.Gilbreath@TKelevator.com)

**Oak Grove Baptist Church in Covington,** TN is looking for a bivocational youth leader. This individual will oversee and coordinate the church's ministry to grades six through twelve. They will be responsible to coordinate events, teach and disciple students, lead volunteers, and develop relationships with students and their families. Please send resumes to Oak Grove