

*Loudon County Baptist Association*

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The Newsletter  
of the Loudon  
County Baptist  
Association  
"Living Faith,  
Sharing Love,  
Changing Lives"

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Please send your announcements for the Advancer to 814 Webb Circle, Lenoir City, TN 37771 or e-mail to: [traci@lcchurches.com](mailto:traci@lcchurches.com)  
  
Announcements must be in by the 10th of the month to be inserted into that month's newsletter.

**Loudon County Baptist Association**  
Financial Activity Report  
June 2008

<b>Budget Account:</b>		<b>On Mission Celebration Designated:</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$10152.44	Beginning Balance	\$62.35
Receipts	\$14961.70	Receipts	\$
Expenses	\$12747.03	Expenses	\$
Account Balance	\$12367.11	Account Balance	\$62.35
<b>Going Beyond Designated:</b>		<b>World Changers Designated:</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$1294.71	Beginning Balance	\$25123.52
Receipts	\$50.00	Receipts	\$8825.00
Expenses	\$300.00	Expenses	\$31232.25
Account Balance	\$1044.71	Account Balance	\$2716.27
<b>Building Fund Designated:</b>		<b>Hispanic Ministry Checking Account:</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$703.71	Beginning Balance	\$4603.17
Receipts	\$6027.06	Receipts	\$3362.15
Expenses	\$386.27	Expenses	\$2728.78
Account Balance	\$6344.50	Account Balance	\$5236.54

Tennessee Baptist Foundation Balance \$10565.28

# The Advancer

## *A Sunday School Training Event!*



*Thursday, August 7  
6:45 p.m.*

*Dixie Lee Baptist Church  
Come learn ways to "Power Up"  
your entire Sunday School  
program from children to adults.  
For more information about this  
training, call the association  
office or visit our website at  
[www.lcchurches.com](http://www.lcchurches.com).*

## Bob's Banderol...

Our lives are in constant change. Don't believe it then just look around and you will see change. In East Tennessee the weather is continually changing. This summer we have seen hot weather very early. It has been extremely dry. We have also seen our share of rain, albeit not enough. The economy is changing. We are in a downward spiral with rising gas prices (who would have thought gas could be almost \$4 a gallon), food prices going up, many things in turmoil. Your life is changing whether you want it to or not. Each day we each get a little older, even if we don't want to admit it. My life is changing. My son and daughter will be rising seniors and we have begun the process of looking at colleges. Wow, talk about a drastic change. In a year we will be in the empty nest syndrome. Talk about change.

Let's look at the change taking place in our community. There is development going on at a frantic pace. We have 2 major residential and retail developments being built. There are countless other smaller developments springing up. Real estate information tells us that there are over 54 subdivisions being built in our county with over 20 lots. There are 230+ new homes being built in our county. The average size of these homes is 2800+ square feet with the average cost being \$400,000. The average income of the county has risen to \$50,000 with an influx of retirees moving into our area. We are fast becoming a bedroom community of Knoxville. How do these changes affect us as a Baptist association?

We must prepare ourselves to minister to the people in our community and those who will be moving in. We have to challenge our existing churches to do whatever it takes to reach the people in our community. We have 40 churches and need to strengthen these churches and help to win the lost to Christ and make effective disciples. We must also look at starting new churches. There are groups of people that we are not reaching with our existing churches and probably will never reach them through these churches. We must make the gospel available to all peoples in our area. We have 17,500 households in our county and through our 40 churches we have reached close to 2,500 of these households. That means we have reached less than 15% of the total households in our county.

Is your church reaching people for Christ? Are you open to reaching out to those who need Jesus in their lives? Has your church become a friends and family only or exclusive group? We must look at these hard questions and see where we are going as the body of Christ. Statistics tell us that possibly within 15 or 20 years a majority of our churches will be closed.

Are you and your church willing to do whatever it takes to turn things around? We are losing the community and standing by and watching so many die and go to hell. Will you join me in praying that God will change our hearts so that we will do whatever He wants to reach others and build His Kingdom? May God guide us in reaching others for Him.

Living Faith, Sharing Love, Changing Lives Bob

## Iglesia Bautista LaCruz

Thank you for your prayers for our mission trip to Venezuela. God greatly worked through and in the two volunteer teams from Indiana, Tennessee and North Carolina. The first group from Indiana and Tennessee conducted two free medical clinics in La Lagunita and Monay. More than three hundred people were ministered to through medical attention, free medication and Spiritual Counseling. Approximately 150 people made decisions for Christ. The other team from North Carolina worked in two groups. The VBS team conducted Bible school in the public school in La Lagunita on Monday and Tuesday and then went to La Mesa to work in the church. Nearly 400 children and adults were registered and several made decisions for Christ. The medical team worked in Mucuchies and Santo Domingo. They attended just over 300 people and 149 made first time decisions! We praise the Lord for His work in extending Grace, Peace and Salvation through His redemptive message of the Gospel. I will be going back to Venezuela in November 7-15 for an evangelistic campaign in Jajo and possibly in Merida. We have a need for soul winners, singers, preachers to help. We need at least ten folks. If you would like to go and sense the Lord leading you then e-mail me at [william-maria@hotmail.com](mailto:william-maria@hotmail.com) and I will send you the details. Blessings, Brother William

## TN Baptist Convention



**Preschool and Children's Music Leader Training July 26, 2008 at Central Baptist Church**

**Bearden Knoxville 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.** For more information contact Carla Nichols [cnichols@wjbc.org](mailto:cnichols@wjbc.org) or Charlotte Hanson [chanson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:chanson@tnbaptist.org) or call 800.558.2090 x7908.



**"Just to Touch the Hem of His Garment" West Africa Fall Summit**  
**November 5-7, 2008**  
**Hendersonville, FBC**  
**Hendersonville, TN**

## WMU Highlights

Thank you so much for helping with some of the needed items for the mission house. We still need towels, wash cloths, sheet sets for queen and full beds. We also need a DVD player and a Radio/CD player. You may also donate money and we will purchase needed items. This past week Richard and Teresa Folkerth, missionaries to Thailand, arrived on furlough to stay for three months in our mission house. Here is what they wrote to us: *We want to thank you for all you've done to make us feel welcome in your mission house! It is a beautiful home—very restful and warm to the heart! We are grateful for the supplies stocked in the kitchen too. It was nice not to have to go to the store on our first night in town. Thank you, too, for the Chili's gift card that was a special treat for us! For everything we thank you! You probably do not realize how much it means to have a nice home available for us to use. Please let us serve you while we are here. We will be busy with my daughter's wedding planning and family but we would love to speak in some of your churches if we can. You may contact us at 423-240-3084.*



**WMU Leaders Training is August 23, 2008 @ Chilhowee Hills Baptist Church, Knoxville. Conferences for all church Mission Leaders (Men & Women) Cost is \$7.00 per person. Make checks payable to TBC along with the registered number of attending and mail to: TN WMU, PO Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024.**

*The 2008 Ladies Night Out is scheduled for Thursday, September 18 at 6:30 p.m. Our special Guest Speaker is Rosalie Hunt. The cost is \$15.00 per person. You will be receiving the registration forms in the next few weeks. The registration forms and fees will be due no later than September 8.*



**Women's Prayer Retreat "Come to the Garden" September 19-20, 2008 At FBC Humboldt, Tennessee**  
**Keynote Speaker: Brenda Harris**  
**Worship Leader: Peggy Reeves**  
**You may stop by the association office to pick up informational brochures.**

## Church News

**4<sup>th</sup> place health** Calvary Baptist Church, Lenoir City is now offering **First Place 4 Health**, the all new Christ-centered weight loss and healthy living program that focuses on the four essentials of health and well being: the mind, emotions, body, and spirit! See how putting God first can lead to successful weight loss. Introductory Session begins Thursday, August 28 at 6:30 p.m. This session will end right before the holidays begin. Call the church office at 986-3567 to register.

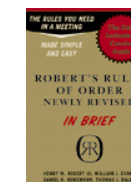


Calvary Baptist Church, Lenoir City welcomes Donny Crass as their full time Pastor. Donny Crass and his wife Velva, his children Brent and Lindsay accepted the call to Calvary on Sunday, May 4, 2008. Donny is a long time resident of Lenoir City and has served in ministry since 1992. He started his ministry as Deacon at West Broadway Baptist Church and later was ordained as Pastor. After that, he served as Pastor at Vaughn Chapel Baptist Church. In 2005 he served as Minister of Education at Highland Park Baptist Church.

You are invited to a book signing for "From the Corn Field into God's Vineyard" an autobiography by T. Eugene (Gene) Oody, Pastor to Senior Adults Loudon First Baptist Church on July 19 from 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. at Loudon First Baptist Church.

## Association News

**Stepping Up, by Beth Moore, A Journey Through the 15 Psalms. Join us beginning August 6 at 1:00 p.m. at the Association Office to begin this great study.**



**Do you know how to properly conduct business in the church?** LCBA is hosting a training event that will help you learn how to conduct business in the church, which will be based on "Robert's Rules of Order". The training will be at the Loudon County Baptist Association Office on Thursday, October 23 at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP or find out more about this training event, call the association office.