

508 N. Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37405

Non-Profit ORg.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Chattanooga, TN
Permit No. 28

a publication of the Hamilton County Baptist Association, David Al Myers, Editor
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Disaster Relief Training

Introductory Course
Saturday, October 4, 9 - 12 noon
Brainerd Baptist Church
Cost: \$5.00

Celebrate Your Church Staff during the month of October

Many churches follow the suggestion to intentionally express appreciation to the church staff during the month of October. These servants of the church and the Lord minister on your behalf and minister to you. An extra word, card, letter or gift can be the encouragement that makes the day for them.

An ongoing expression of appreciation and support comes as you provide the needed financial remuneration the staff members need. As budgets are being developed, be sure to take care of your staff's salary, hospitalization, life/disability insurance, retirement contributions, along with adequate business related expenses of housing, travel, book allowance, etc. The church needs to do what is right and appropriate in taking care of their staff.

The church's being faithful to support and encourage the leadership of their God-called staff honors the Lord and enriches the fellowship.

For up-to-date information,
visit the website:
www.baptistassociation.com

Tri-State Users Group Offers

ACS Training

December 8 & 9 • 9 am - 4 pm

Baptist Building, 508 N. Market

Day 1 - People 101 (Working with People Records)

Day 2 - Financial 101 (Common ACS Financial Tasks)

Register with ACStechologies.com. Costs for this hands on training ranges from \$169 to \$509 depending on days and current client status.

Tax Seminar, End of Year and Employment Law Review



December 2, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

WHO? Ministers, financial secretaries, treasurers, finance, personnel committee members, volunteer workers, and those who prepare the 941, W-2, payroll checks; pastors and other interested administrative staff are also invited to participate.

WHY? Do you know that the total of all four 941's must balance with the W2s and W3s? Do you know what insurance costs must be added to line 2 of the 941? Did you know that Christmas and other bonuses or love offerings must also be added to the final 941 before mailing? Did you know that housing does NOT go on a W2 or 941? Did you know that an interim pastor would be deemed to be an employee, and that would prohibit mileage between home and office as business miles? Do you know what wages paid to an ordained person can be considered ministerial wages?

These and other questions will be answered at this yearly seminar, led by Deborah Taylor, CPA from the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Call or email today to reserve your space.

The Bridge

A publication of the
Hamilton County Baptist
Association

David Al Myers, Editor

508 N. Market St.
Chattanooga, TN 37405

Volume LVIII Number 2 Fall 2008

Thornbury Completes 9 Year Tenure



R. C. Thornbury, a name synonymous with HaCoBACare Ministry Center, completes his tenure as Director of HaCoBACare on September 30. The ministry has developed under his leadership to be the number one provider of emergency groceries through referral from the city's 211 help line for more than seven years. With a dual focus, the theme of the center has been, "Sustenance for the Body and Soul." This has been the guiding principle. Records show that since 1999, more than 33,500 clients have been served, more than 75,500 persons have been provided groceries, over 3,000 professions of faith and more than 1300 persons have rededicated their lives to the Lord through the intentional witness of this ministry.

During the summer months alone, 84 persons made professions of faith, 746 persons received clothing, food or other items, 1099 received groceries, 258 received blood pressure readings, 78 pairs of reading glasses were issued, 4 clients were referred to medical professionals and 9 were referred to Volunteers in Medicine. With a staff of more than one hundred committed volunteers during a month, the center is open four days a week from 9:30 until 12:30.

Thornbury says, "Thank God for outstanding volunteers serving at HaCoBA-

Care." "The volunteers are fully dedicated to being in the service of their Lord not only in physical duties but also in material support," he reflects. R. C. often expresses gratitude to God for His blessing the work so faithfully and seeing many make professions of faith in the Lord.

He has led the center in developing new programs through these years. Forming working relationships with the Baptist Nursing Fellowship, job search, developing classes to teach basic computer skills and giving new Christmas toys annually (to more than six hundred children in 2007 alone) are three additional approaches to meeting the needs of community.

David Myers, Director of Missions, says, "There is no doubt in my mind that without the strong, visionary leadership of R. C., our center would not be the vital ministry it is today. We are grateful for his leadership."

Gerald Lawson, a five year volunteer at HaCoBACare, has been named the new director and will begin his duties on October 1. Gerald has been working along side R.C. to prepare to take the leadership. Under his leadership the work will remain strong and effective.

Annual Meeting set for Tuesday, October 21, 6:00pm
Concord Baptist Church

January Bible Prep for Pastors

Monday Morning
November 17

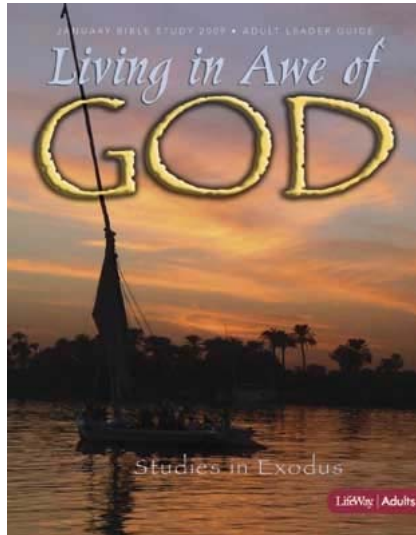
Ooltewah Baptist Sanctuary



Taught by Dr. Walter Crouch
8:30 am - coffee/bagels
9:00 - Noon



Free Student's book given
to first 20 pre-registered
by calling 267-3794



Senior Adult Holiday Meal December 11 10:30 AM East Ridge Baptist \$6.00 each

The annual Senior Adult Holiday Meal will be held at East Ridge Baptist Church, 4201 Ringgold Road, on Thursday morning, December 11, beginning at 10:30. The cost is six dollars per person. Reservations need to be made by Thursday, December 4, by calling the Baptist Building, 267-3794.

Delicious food, good fellowship and a program of beautiful music are planned.

Disaster Relief Units Called Out

Following Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, Disaster Relief trailer units from Hamilton County Baptist churches have been activated to work with the Red Cross. Volunteers have also been called out to help operate these and other units from other states that are experiencing extended assignments because of the continued devastation and needs. Pray for those who are suffering and for our men and women as they respond in Christ's Name.

WMU Ministers in Birthing Center

Seven women from Hamilton County Association went on a mission trip in August to the Greenbrier Birthing Center in West Virginia. These women had wonderful stories to share on their return. They ministered to thirteen moms or moms-to-be and eleven babies. The birthing center is a part of the penal system provided for women with babies or expecting babies. Bible studies were conducted along with other ministries.

Annual Meeting Set for Concord Baptist October 21 6:00 pm

The Annual Meeting of the Hamilton County Baptist Association will meet at Concord Baptist Church on Tuesday evening, October 21. The meeting begins with a meal, followed by a business period and worship experience in the sanctuary. While the meal will be provided by the Tennessee Baptist Convention, reservations are required by calling 267-3794 by October 13.

This year's emphasis will be the Cooperative Program, the plan of giving that supports state and national convention ministries. Testimonies will be given, music will be provided by the music ministry of the Concord Church and the message will be brought by Dr. James Porch, Executive Director/Treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Everyone is invited to attend by making reservations. **Each church is encouraged to elect two messengers** for its first sixty members, or fraction thereof, and one additional messenger for each additional hundred members or fraction thereof, but no church shall be entitled to more than fifteen messengers. Guests are welcome.

The work of Baptists is supported on the local level through churches giving directly to our association. The work of the state and national conventions is supported through Cooperative Program giving from the churches.

Fall Challenge and Opportunities at HaCoBACare

■ Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are near. **Hams and turkeys are needed.** These may be brought to the center now. HaCoBACare has a walk-in freezer to store these until needed. Purchase at today's prices to increase the supply. Canned meats are needed, too.

■ New toys are needed to provide Christmas for hundreds of children. Christmas 2007, more than 600 bags of new toys were given to parents for their children. Storage is available as toys are brought to the center during the fall.

■ The enormous amount of groceries needed to provide a

week's supply for more than thirty families per day is a constant challenge. More groups are needed to adopt a product to provide on a regular basis. More churches are needed to collect groceries on an ongoing basis. More Christians are needed to be concerned for the hungry in this community.

The challenge is ever facing HaCoBACare -- how can we challenge our church members to give to this ministry more regularly in response to the great opportunity we have to offer nourishment to body and soul? Will you help? Call 821-4724 or 267-3794.

Please help by telling Internationals about this!

Free English Classes Begin

A large corps of volunteers from this association begin the new school year teaching English as a Second Language in six sites across the association. Trained and certified teachers spend several hours a week preparing and teaching ethnics who live in this community. The classes are free because the association provides the student books as well as the teaching manuals and library for the centers. Below is a listing of the classes and locations:

	Wednesday
Sunday	Concord Baptist 9:30 - 11:30 am
	Primera Iglesea Bautista Hispana 4:00 - 6:00 pm
	Red Bank Baptist 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Monday	Brainerd Baptist 9:30 - 11:30 am
	Red Bank Baptist 7:00 - 8:30 pm
	Abba's House 6:00 - 7:30 PM
	Thursday
	First Baptist, Chattanooga 9:30 - 11:30 am
	East Lake Recreational C'tr 6:00 - 7:00 pm
	Saturday
	First Baptist, Chattanooga 4:00 - 6:00 pm

- Open Enrollment -
Students may enroll
at any time

Cooperative Program Sunday to Follow Annual Meeting

Churches within the association will have the opportunity to have a guest speaker for the morning or evening service on Sunday, October 26, to give a Cooperative Program emphasis. The speaker can provide the message or share a brief word of encouragement. To secure a speaker for your church, call the Baptist Building by October 13. The Tennessee Baptist Convention will arrange the speaker and take care of all expenses.

World Changers 2008

World Changers 2008 was an incredible experience, July 12-26.

548 participants
25 houses painted and roofing
28 houses roofed

Most importantly, the gospel of Jesus Christ was shared over 600 times with 15 people accepting Christ as their personal Savior.

Bobby Boutwell, association World Changers coordinator, reports, **"I would like to thank the 30 Hamilton County Baptist Association churches** and hundreds of volunteers that helped provide lunches daily for the participants at their worksite. We couldn't have done it without you. Go ahead and mark your calendar for July 18 - August 1, 2009, when World Changers return to Chattanooga."

