The BC of the CBA

The Monthly Newsletter of the Cumberland Baptist Association

Dr. Rick Stevens, Associational Missionary

Our Mission is Strategically Resourcing Churches to Carry out the Great Commission

Cumberland Baptist Association September 2023

REE ADMISSIO CITY WIDE STUDENT EVENT (6TH-12TH) **DOWNTOWN COMMONS** 6:30-8:30PM WEDNESDAY 9/27 **FOOD TRUCKS** NATHAN PEARSON **SPEAKER** UNITED

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The CBA office
will be closed
Monday,
September 04, 2023
for
Labor Day.

From the Missionary



CBA Church Family,

This month in our newsletter I want to remind you of a basic purpose for our work together. In Southern Baptist life in previous generations, connection to a local association like ours was often marked by large gatherings that involved the physical presence of both pastors and church members. Themes and activities were

Rick Stevens

emphasized and celebrated in a context of mutual fellowship and common investment. Our culture inside and outside the church has changed radically. Gone are most large physical gatherings and numerous big events in Associational life. The causes of this shift are complex, but they include the rapid changes of technology, communication methods, and patterns of engagement of members and their churches. In the midst of this change, the Association remains an important part of our cooperation and connection. The CBA is supported to this day, primarily by the generous support of our member churches. Allow me to say a word about our current work.

If we are not seeing large gatherings and multiple physical events every month, what are we doing to carry out our purpose? First, what is our purpose? The stated mission of the CBA is "Strategically Resourcing Churches to Carry out the Great **Commission."** We primarily do this in three ways. We **equip** in ministry by providing training, information, various types of resources, and serving in a role of encouragement. Secondly, we **connect**. This is the work of helping churches and people to be introduced to people, processes, relationships, and ministry partners that can serve to mutually benefit that leader or church and others. Third, we go. By this, we want to physically go in the process of carrying out the Great Commission. We want to collaborate with churches in partnership with other churches in doing hands on ministry. We go in the form of Disaster Relief, Mission Trips, Evangelism Projects, Church Planting/Replanting, Campus Ministry, and other types of work that are both evangelistic and mission minded. Those three general expressions of our work allow us to serve the variety and uniqueness of our 45+ congregations in a multitude of ways. However, one thing that is essential for success is a relationship. My desire and goal, as your Associational leader, is to be in healthy relationships so that I can be of assistance and serve you well. We are a group that is voluntarily associated together, as opposed to a structure of hierarchical authority.

This month marks 11 years that I have served the CBA. It is my joy to continue to pursue God's calling with you here. God is bringing the world to Clarksville. I am grateful to the Lord for the opportunity to serve Him here as we seek to make a gospel impact on our community and beyond. In preparation for the Annual Meeting on October 23, my article next month will focus on where our priorities are for the future.

In Christ,

Bro. Rick Stevens

Churches Without Pastors

FBC Ashland City, Cumberland City, Erin, Excell, Gum Springs, Little West Fork, One Heart, Spring Creek & Northeast

ACP Information

Be on the lookout for your ACP Packet soon.

The packet will be either delivered or mailed by August 25th.

They are due back to the CBA office by Friday, October 06, 2023.

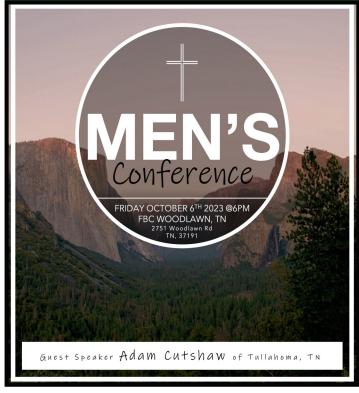
Please contact the office if you need any assistance in completing this vital information.



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Christian Counseling We are here to help.

Dr. Melvin Felts
Appointments available
Tuesday/Thursday
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
by appointment only
Call (931) 358-9036





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Notice:

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Schedule of Events			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
September 7, 2023	Leader's Encouragement Day with Jim Cymbala	FBC Clarksville	8:00 a.m 2:00 p.m.
September 10 - 17, 2023	Tennessee Missions Emphasis Week of Prayer		
September 27, 2023	Clarksville United	Downtown Commons	6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m.
September 30, 2023	Women in Ministry Leadership Training - Register by Sept. 23rd	Hilldale BC - Building B.	10:00 a.m 2:15 p.m.
October 6, 2023	ACP Packet Due	CBA Office	
October 6, 2023	Men's Conference	FBC Woodlawn	6:00 p.m.
October 23, 2023	CBA Annual Meeting	Living Hope at	6:30 p.m.
November 12 - 15, 2023	Summit—The Gathering of Tennessee Baptist	Chattanooga, TN	See Website for Details.