



# **SOUTHWEST METROPLEX BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

## **Annual Meeting**

**October 22, 2023  
Bono Baptist Church  
6349 Bono Road  
Godley, Texas 76044  
5:00 PM**



**Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association  
159th Annual Meeting  
Bono Baptist Church  
October 22, 2023**

**Dinner - 5:00 PM**

*Welcome to the Annual Meeting! Please register and proceed through the dinner line in the Family Life Center. The blessing for the food will take place during the dinner hour.*

*During the evening meal we will hear from our State Convention representatives.*

*If you have a motion to make, please present it in writing to the moderator prior to the start of the Annual Meeting.*

**Annual Meeting - 6:00 PM**

**Worship**

Bono Baptist Worship Team

**Call to Order**

Adam Mathews, Moderator, Nolan River Road, Pastor

**Prayer**

**Planned Business**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| ❖ | Minutes from the July 18 Executive Board Meeting | Moderator                                    |
| ❖ | Financial Report                                 | Michel West, Treasurer, Cross Timber Baptist |
| ❖ | Special Reports                                  | Moderator                                    |
| ❖ | Executive Director's Report                      | Scott Whitson                                |
| ❖ | New Business                                     | Moderator                                    |

**Worship**

Bono Baptist Worship Team

**Benediction**

*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

*~ Philippians 1:3-6 ~*

## Officers

<b>Moderator</b>	Adam Mathews, Pastor Nolan River Rd. Baptist Church	817-645-5642 <a href="mailto:office@nrrbc.org">office@nrrbc.org</a>
<b>Vice-Mod.</b>	Wade Yarbrow, Pastor Chisholm Trail Cowboy Church	254-205-8901 <a href="mailto:info@chisholmtrailchurchoftx.org">info@chisholmtrailchurchoftx.org</a>
<b>Clerk</b>	Vicki Mayes, Layperson Field Street Baptist Church	817-645-8222 <a href="mailto:office@swmba.net">office@swmba.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Michel West, Layperson Cross Timber Baptist Church	817-454-0244 <a href="mailto:westmichel@gmail.com">westmichel@gmail.com</a>

## SWMBA Related Ministries

<b>WMU</b>	Betty Warren, Director	817-357-7893
<b>Cleburne Women's Job Corps</b>	Cynthia Allen, Chairman of the Board	817-645-9979 <a href="mailto:cynmarieallen@gmail.com">cynmarieallen@gmail.com</a>
<b>Hill College Cleburne BSM</b>	Megan Trotter, Director, Tarleton State University BSM	903-237-9005 <a href="mailto:hcclburnebsm@gmail.com">hcclburnebsm@gmail.com</a>

## Teams

### Administration Team:

Wade Taylor	Pastor, First Baptist Church, Alvarado	817-790-5181
Robert Adams	Layperson, First Baptist Church, Burleson	682-429-8149
Chris Smith	Associate Pastor, First Baptist Ch., Cleburne	817-357-7272
Adam Mathews	Pastor, Nolan River Road Baptist Church	817-645-5642
Keith Whitt	Pastor, North Cleburne Baptist Church	817-645-0111

### Church Planting Team:

Scott Sharman	Pastor, Alsbury Baptist Church	817-295-0134
Wade Yarbrow	Pastor, Chisholm Trail Cowboy Church	254-205-8901
Larry York	Layperson, Nolan River Road Baptist Church	817-219-5833

### Church Strengthening Team:

Rusty Gilliam	Pastor, Cross Timber Baptist Church	817-447-0051
Neale Oliver	Pastor, Henderson Street Baptist Church	817-645-7881
John Tanner	Pastor, Bono Baptist Church	817-517-5239

### Ministry Team:

### Partnership Missions Team:

Ricky Gobert	Pastor, Cedar Creek Baptist Church	254-221-0820
Michael Lehnhardt	Pastor, Chambers Creek Baptist Church	817-866-3144
Dave Collett	Pastor, First Baptist Church, Godley	817-309-3365

### Staff Team:

Scott Whitson	Executive Director, SWMBA / Cross Timber, Burleson
Vicki Mayes	Ministry Assistant, SWMBA / Field Street, Cleburne

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
NOLAN RIVER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH  
JULY 18, 2023

At the beginning of the meeting, Adam Mathews, Moderator of the Association and Pastor of the Nolan River Road Baptist Church, introduced Zachary Whitlow, the Associated Pastor of Next-Gen Ministries, Nolan River Road Baptist Church, and asked Zachary to open the meeting in prayer. Pastor Adam Mathews called the meeting to order.

Pastor Adam presented the Minutes from the last Executive Board Meeting, April 25, 2023, one correction, Michel was misspelled. Minutes were approved.

The 2023 Budget and Financial Report was reviewed, and stands approved.

The Executive Director, Scott Whitson, addressed the Sabbatical Policy; after 6 years as Director of the Association, you can take one month sabbatical, and after 12 years, two months. The Executive Director will have been in his position 13 years in October, 2023.

Introduction of new ministers in the Association: Zach Whitlow, Nolan River Road Baptist Church, Brandon Treadway, Minister of Music, First Baptist Church of Cleburne. Jeff Jones, Minister of Students, Cross Timber Baptist Church, was also referenced.

Keith Whitt, Pastor of the North Cleburne Baptist Church, referenced pastor-less churches in the Association; Iglesia Bíblica Redención. There was a reference to Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Sid Vanderland, Interim. College Heights Baptist Church, Royce Dodd, Interim Pastor, addressed the group. Parker Baptist Church, Allen Kyle, Interim. Cedar Cross Country Church, Dan Curry, Interim. There are two Hispanic Churches; Iglesia Bautista Agape de Cleburne. Primera Iglesia Bautista Emanuel is ordaining two Elders/Co-Pastors. First Baptist Church, Rio Vista, Anthony Svajda, Interim. Rusty Hall accompanied Bro. Keith as a messenger from North Cleburne Baptist Church.

Scott Whitson, Executive Director of the Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association, did present Lone Willow Baptist Church with a deed for two acres of property. He will present Cedar Cross Country Church with the deed for the Happy Hill Baptist Church facility, building, along with the property, at a later date. (As mentioned, Cedar Cross Country Church has a beautiful new sign.)

The Director met with Johnson County Youth Leaders to cast a vision, connect, and plan. **MOVEMENT JC** helps students and leaders working to see a movement in Johnson County. Sinfulness is rampant. Resource churches in the area with prayer and spiritual awakening.

Scott shall be on Sabbatical, things are in place. If you need assistance, contact the Moderator, or contact the Association office.

Scott is grateful for partnerships; giving is 12% over expected, 1/3 of the leaders are very involved, 1/3 occasionally, and 1/3 not participating. About 50% contributed, 33 to 38 churches give.

The new church plant, Cleburne Community Church, average about 40 in attendance. Pastor, Ryan Michels, is discipling four. Last month's success is ongoing. Co-vocational, Pastor Michels, is now on the day shift.

Scott encouraged attendees to save the date, Sept. 18, SWMBA Pastor's lunch at the Bono Baptist Church, Godley.

Linda Stark gave an update on the 2023 Mission Trip to Africa. She shared how to start a ministry with children. She explained how the churches need Bibles; some of the churches only have one Bible for the church. Mike Acker, Pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church, Cleburne, spoke of barriers to evangelism. A different culture removes those barriers; hut to hut. The fields are ripe as sponges. So much hardness in our culture, preconceived notions, sinners in need of a Savior, "He doesn't hate you, He loves you." Mike led Elisabeth to the Lord and she was baptized, sometime in the past she had lost her sight, and she asked him to pray for her eyesight. Please pray for her eyesight. Michel West mentioned how often we are so busy doing good things, we are missing the important. In spite of passport issues, the Lord got us there. We just show up and God does the work. They receive us and treat us like royalty; It's humbling. Randy Stark said the strength of the Lord was felt. 34 were baptized in a stock tank, they were filled with joy and excitement to see the Holy Spirit work. 30 people were baptized in a hand dug baptistry. (As per Bro. Scott, many carrying bowls of water were doubly baptized.) Pray for 10 church plants, some meet under a tree, rescuing people out of darkness; 7 churches have been adopted. Go next year to see what God is doing here, cast a vision for the kingdom.

Scott Whitson asked if there were any questions for him or the Association. Two interim pastors expressed top-shelf prayer concerns.

Adam Mathews, Moderator and Pastor of Nolan River Road Baptist Church, asked, "Are there any other issues to address or do we have a motion to close the meeting." Keith Whitt, Pastor of the North Cleburne Baptist Church, made a motion to close the meeting, and Rusty Gilliam, Pastor of Cross Timber Baptist Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Adam Mathews gave the closing prayer and encouraged being an advocate of prayer.

Vicki Mayes, Clerk, July 18, 2023

# Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association

Jan - Sept 2023

Description	Budget	Spent	Balance	2024 Budget
201 Admin. Discretionary	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 300
203 Ex. Dir. Travel/Conferences	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
204 Ex. Dir. Mission Trip	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,200	\$ -	\$ 5,000
205 Ministry Reimbursement	\$ 2,800	\$ -	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800
206 Support Staff Development	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
207 Sympathy/bereavement	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250
209 Supplies	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,227	\$ 1,773	\$ 3,000
210 Office Equip./Service	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,531	\$ (531)	\$ 2,000
212 Leadership Development	\$ 3,800	\$ 1,290	\$ 2,510	\$ 3,800
<b>Total 200</b>	<b>\$ 18,450</b>	<b>\$ 9,248</b>	<b>\$ 9,202</b>	<b>\$ 19,250</b>

301 Assoc. Mtgs./Annual Mtgs.	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,172	\$ (672)	\$ 2,172
304 Utilities	\$ 7,100	\$ 5,201	\$ 1,899	\$ 7,100
305 Building Insurance	\$ 3,900	\$ 3,683	\$ 217	\$ 3,900
306 Worker's Compensation	\$ 1,000	\$ (228)	\$ 1,228	\$ 1,000
307 Maintenance	\$ 3,200	\$ 1,084	\$ 2,116	\$ 3,200
308.1 Ex. Dir. Salary	\$ 55,955	\$ 41,966	\$ 13,989	\$ 58,193
308.2 Ex. Dir. Housing	\$ 25,000	\$ 18,750	\$ 6,250	\$ 25,000
308.3 Ex. Dir. Annuity/Employer	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,200	\$ 1,800	\$ 7,000
308.5 Insurance	\$ 20,000	\$ 14,594	\$ 5,406	\$ 20,000
310.1 Adm. Asst.	\$ 33,705	\$ 25,284	\$ 8,421	\$ 35,053
310.2 Adm. Asst. Annuity/Employer	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 500	\$ 2,000
312 Employer Taxes	\$ 8,200	\$ 4,434	\$ 3,766	\$ 8,200
<b>Total 300</b>	<b>\$ 168,560</b>	<b>\$ 123,640</b>	<b>\$ 44,920</b>	<b>\$ 172,818</b>

401 Church Strengthening Projects	\$ 1,000	\$ 368	\$ 632	\$ 1,000
402 Church Revitalization	\$ 1,500	\$ 915	\$ 585	\$ 1,500
<b>Total 400</b>	<b>\$ 2,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,283</b>	<b>\$ 1,217</b>	<b>\$ 2,500</b>

501 New Church Funding	\$ 16,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 16,000
<b>Total 501</b>	<b>\$ 16,000</b>	<b>\$ 8,000</b>	<b>\$ 8,000</b>	<b>\$ 16,000</b>

601 BSM	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500
604 Latham Springs Encampment	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 6,000
605 WMU/CWJC	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
<b>Total 600</b>	<b>\$ 10,500</b>	<b>\$ 9,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>	<b>\$ 10,500</b>

701 Partnership Missions	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,000
702.1 Tanzania	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ -	
702.2 Mexico	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
702.3 Vancouver	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total 700</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 9,000</b>

<b><u>Budget Summary</u></b>	<b>\$ 222,010</b>	<b>\$ 157,171</b>	<b>\$ 64,839</b>	<b>\$ 230,068</b>
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**2023 Gifts Through Sept 30, 2023** \$ 185,784

**TOTAL FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

Opening Balance	Jan. 01, 2023	\$ 167,460	
Balance/Checking	Sept. 30, 2023		<b>\$ 185,998</b>

**Allocated Monies**

TZ Designated Funds	\$ 10,993
Hispanic Bible Institute	\$ 1,268
Bi-vocational Minister's Retreat	\$ 1,500
WMU	\$ 4,672
<b>Total Allocated Monies</b>	<b>\$ 18,433</b>

Edward Jones /Church Planting Endowment*	<b>\$ 630,421</b>
<b>TOTAL MONETARY ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 816,419</b>

\*Edward Jones Portfolio, Statement Period Ending Sept. 29, 2023



2023 Church Gifts	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Alsibury Baptist Church	1007.84	1214.46	1254.71	1621.33	1472.57	1650.34	1562.29	1341.53	1085.5				12210.57
Alvarado, FBC	876.7		383.6				343		378.16				1981.46
Bar Cross Cowboy	469.74	339.43	432.22	600.12	440.28	440	454.67	468.75	554.07				4199.28
Bethesda Baptist Church	431.18	347.3	392.24	325.55	329.54	317.46	349.37	336.8	333.03				3162.47
Blackberry Fellowship	187	40	51	38	70								386
Blum, FBC													0
Bono Baptist Church	196.77	130.24	110.92	170.16	150.6	138.92	83.46	290.8	90.64				1362.51
Buel Baptist Church	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50				450
Burleson, FBC	4746.9	5182.58	5919.81	6015.28	4880.69	5085.06	4992.89	4942.61	4181.25				45947.07
Cana Baptist Church	41.67	41.67	41.67				83.34	41.67	41.67				291.69
Cedar Creek Baptist Church	127	162.8		249	115.8	170.6	222.6	178	142.8	163.2			1531.8
Cedar Cross Country Church	212.14	201	388.56	263.16	219.54		141.52	151	155.93				1732.85
Chambers Creek Baptist Church	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100				1000
Chisholm Trail Church	2,800.35			2507.7		2821.45	3352.8			3099.05			14581.35
Cleburne Community Church	51.6	100		100	200	100		200	100				851.6
Cleburne, FBC	2425.24	1590.46	1873.46	2300.75	3176.27	2057.66	2646.76	1762.38	4495.89				22328.87
College Heights Baptist Church	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50				450
Covington, FBC		250	62.5	187.5	125	125	125	125	125				1125
Cresmont Baptist Church	131.26	91.11	91.18	114.24	64.21		183.6	91.85	69.59				837.04
Crossroads Church													0
Cross Timber Baptist Church	699.35	696.98	805.61	840.45	617.16	730.15	924.56	683.08	704.23				6701.57
Field Street Baptist Church	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34	1333.34				13333.4
Fort Victory Baptist Church													0
Friendship Baptist Church	436.77	402.91	592.09	383.7	375.58	271.56	283.14	427.08	294.92	397.23			3864.98
Godley, FBC	838.73	879.25	829.03	708.81	1097.08	550.21	577.24		1249.63				6729.98
Grandview, FBC	518.33	192.57	164.48	195.17	174.13	169.39	167.7	134	146.52				1862.29
Greenbrier Baptist Church		200			200		400						800
Henderson Street Baptist Church	326.38	367.4	596.52	431.2	362.33	414.86	692.71	517.68		342.88			4051.96
Hill Church, Cleburne													0
I.B. Agape de Cleburne													0
I.B. Nueva Amanecer													0
I. Biblica Redención													0
I. Christiana El Camino													0
Impact Life Church													0
Lane Prairie Baptist Church													0
Lebanon Community Church													0
Lillian, FBC	631.67		534.85			582							1748.52
Living Proof Baptist Church	231.88		270.64				218.02	50.8	137.84				909.18
Living Word Laotian Baptist	25	25	50	50			100			50			250
Lone Willow Baptist Church	125	139	141	163	134.65	93.24	134.65	166.29	110.25				1207.08
Marystown Baptist Church	169.83	220.62	155.19	199.45	153.09	178.14	426.81	167.82	175.23				1846.18
Misión Bautista Mananata													0
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35				315
New Hope Baptist Church									3590.1				3590.1
New Hope Community Church	131.13	137.9	105.24	109.49	149.02	97.2	123.02	241.5	195.8				1290.3
Nolan River Road Baptist Church	1657.06	1376.46	2124.06	893.46	660.04		2052.5	1042.32	740.46				10546.36
North Cleburne Baptist Church	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50				500
ST Page 1	21114.86	15947.48	18133.43	20891.35	16785.92	17611.58	22259.99	14979.3	20681.85	5570.7	0	0	173976.46

2023 Church Gifts	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
ST Page 1	21114.86	15947.48	18133.43	20891.35	16785.92	17611.58	22259.99	14979.3	20681.85	5570.7			173976.46
NorthPointe, FBC Joshua	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	472.33	500			4972.33
Parker Baptist Church	167.52			113			77.28						357.8
P. I. B. Emanuel						600							600
P. I. B. Godley	90			90			90						270
P. I. B. Nueva Vida													0
Reece Prairie Baptist Church													0
The Refuge													0
Rio Vista, FBC	966.66	986.41	655.04	797.17	769.09	1825.39	571.56	673.02	887.82				8132.16
Rock Creek Baptist Church	100	50	100	50		100	307.06	100	50				550
Sand Flat Baptist Church	98.89	299.6	190.9										896.45
S. Burlison Baptist Church													0
S. Ft. Worth Baptist Fellowship													0
Three Nails Bible Church			342.36						757.52				1099.88
Venus, FBC													0
Willow Springs Baptist Church													0
Grace Baptist Church	100	100	200	100	100	100	100	100	100				1000
Total Page 1 and Page 2	23137.93	17883.49	20121.73	22541.52	18155.01	20736.97	23905.89	16352.32	22949.52	6070.7	0	0	191855.08
Quarterly			61143.15		61433.5		63207.73						6070.7

185784.38

122576.65 146482.54 162834.86

Thank you for your partnership with Tanzanian Baptists in Planting 10 new churches in 2023 through our Association! God is working in powerful ways...including the 44 who accepted Christ *last week* while showing the Jesus Film!



Pray about joining us next year. The tentative date for 2024 is May 7-23.





## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Another great year has been recorded for Christian camping at Latham Springs Camp & Retreat Center. This marks the 100<sup>th</sup> year that Latham Springs has been serving God's people.

**Total Attendance: 17,079**

**Professions of Faith: 872**

**Rededications: 262**

**Special Service: 104**

**Total Public Decisions: 1,455**

The camp celebrated its 100 year anniversary in May with more than 300 people in attendance. What a great time celebrating this milestone in ministry.

10,653 campers attended the 10+ weeks of summer camp season. A special 'thanks' goes out to all those whose hard work and dedication made each week of camp a success.

Construction on the new adult conference center is progressing rapidly. This new facility will include approximately 80 motel type rooms, a worship center, several conference rooms, lobby/welcome center, fellowship lounge, and a dining facility. Anticipated completion is January 2024. Volunteer help is needed to finish this project.

The camp is still looking for additional churches/groups to join in our 'Adopt-a-Cabin' program. This gives our local churches the opportunity to partner with us in praying for specific cabins, along with helping provide volunteer labor for annual upkeep. For more information on how your group can get involved with this new program, please contact the office.

Latham Springs is looking for volunteer crews to help with various projects around the campus.

Exciting days are ahead for the ministry of Latham Springs. The Board of Trustees continues to promote the process that will lead to the expansion of facilities, to enhance this great ministry. Please remember that Latham Springs is not funded by any state or national conventions, and depends on camp fees and your gifts to operate. The staff and trustees of Latham Springs wish to thank you for your support during the past year. We pray that this cooperative mission effort to reach and minister to individuals and groups might continue to bring glory to HIM.

Please call the Latham Springs office to let us know how we can help with your camp or retreat needs.

*"Come to the waters, all who thirst"*

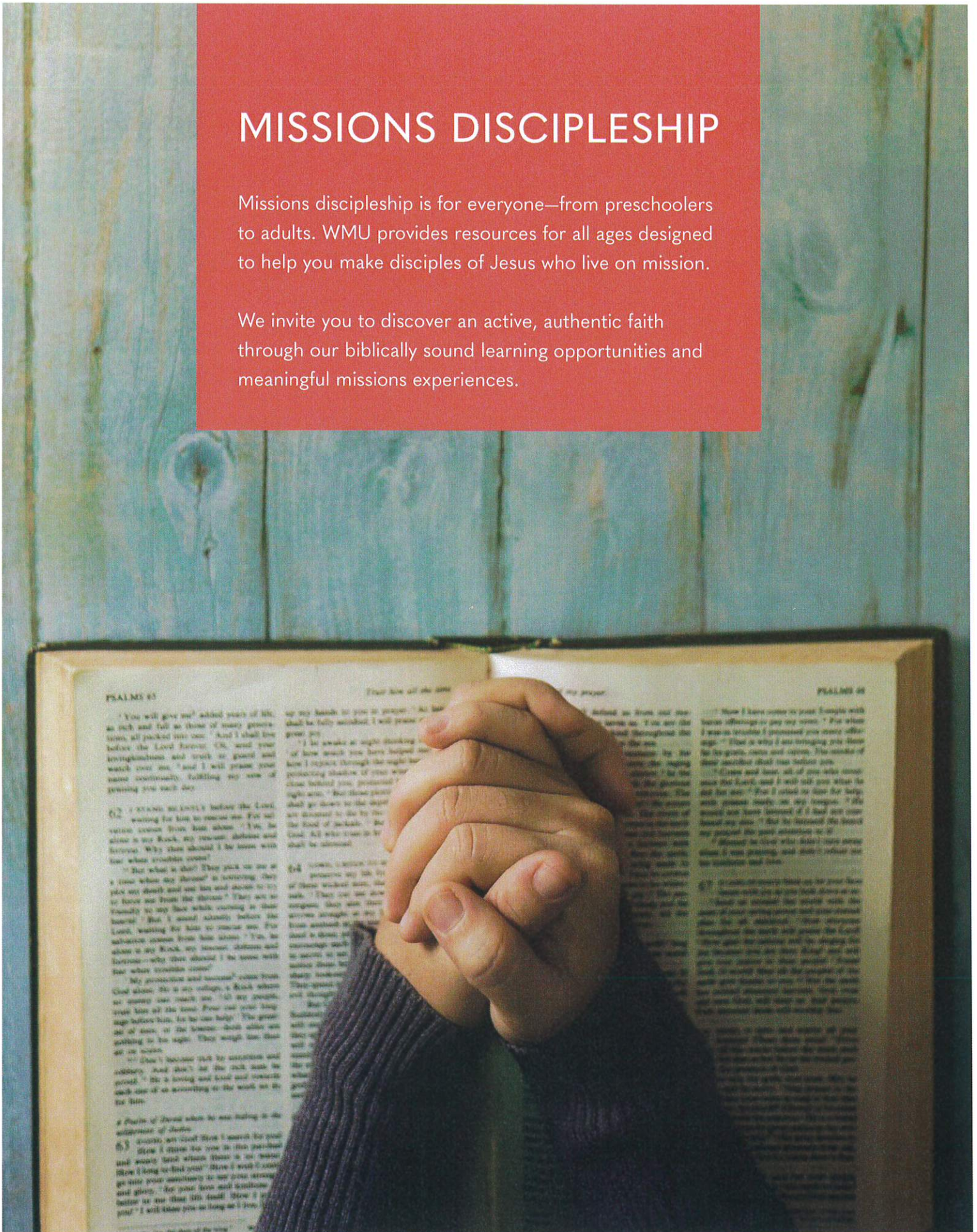
Isaiah 55:1



# MISSIONS DISCIPLESHIP

Missions discipleship is for everyone—from preschoolers to adults. WMU provides resources for all ages designed to help you make disciples of Jesus who live on mission.

We invite you to discover an active, authentic faith through our biblically sound learning opportunities and meaningful missions experiences.





## WMU EVENTS

### WMU

#### Women on Mission

Meet with us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

College Heights Baptist Church

1007 Phillips

Cleburne, Texas

10: A.M. in Fellowship Hall.

Singing, Praying, Mission Moments, Mission Projects

### **Lottie Moon**

#### **Craft & Bake Sale**

Henderson Street Baptist Church

919 E. Henderson St.

Cleburne, TX 76031

Dec. 5 – 8, 2023

Tuesday, December 5th – Drop off day. 10:00 a.m. –

Wednesday, December 6 – 7, Sale Day, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Note: Tamales only available on Wednesday.

Friday, December 8, Sale Day, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Noon

Friday, December 8, pick-up unsold items or indicate otherwise.

For more information, contact Betty Warren at the Association, phone (817)

645-8222, or e-mail [office@swmba.net](mailto:office@swmba.net)

# Welcome to WMU!

We believe missions is a lifestyle; therefore, we provide missions education resources for all age-levels—from preschoolers to senior adults. Whatever your age or stage in life, we have missions resources for you. Through missions, others may hear of Jesus, the giver of eternal life.

## WMU Overview

Founded in 1888, WMU® is a missions organization that has educated and involved generations upon generations in Christian missions. Our purpose—to challenge Christian believers to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God—is accomplished through our age-level missions organizations, hands-on missions opportunities, and additional resources produced by WMU.

WMU is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, that offers a vast array of missions resources including curriculum for age-level organizations in churches, volunteer opportunities, conferences, leadership training, ministry ideas and models, books, and much more. To financially support our ministry, we operate three lines of business: WMU missions education resources, WorldCrafts<sup>SM</sup>, and New Hope® Publishers.

## WMU Missions Education Resources

The main purpose of WMU is to educate and involve preschoolers, children, students, and adults in the cause of Christian missions. WMU supports the following organizations through age-appropriate magazines and/or products:

- **Women on Mission®**—for women
- **Adults on Mission<sup>SM</sup>**—for men and women
- **myMISSION<sup>SM</sup>**—for collegiate and young women
- **Acteens®**—for girls grades 7–12
- **Challengers®**—for boys grades 7–12
- **Youth on Mission<sup>SM</sup>**—for boys and girls grades 7–12
- **Girls in Action®**—for girls grades 1–6
- **Royal Ambassadors®**—for boys grades 1–6
- **Children in Action<sup>SM</sup>**—for boys and girls grades 1–6
- **Mission Friends®**—for preschool girls and boys birth through kindergarten

Numerous books were released for various audiences, and selected materials were also produced in Cambodian, Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

## WorldCrafts

**WorldCrafts** is a nonprofit, fair-trade ministry of WMU which imports and markets unique handmade gifts in the United States from more than 25 countries on 5 continents. Begun in 1996, WorldCrafts works with artisans and develops their businesses according to Fair Trade Federation guidelines.

This ministry provides a microenterprise opportunity that helps local contacts cross cultural boundaries as they establish relationships with local communities and people groups by helping to alleviate poverty. Some crafts are made in very small villages where the money



earned goes toward creating a better living environment for the artisans, and in some cases, for the whole village.

## New Hope Publishers

**New Hope Publishers** is the general trade publishing division for WMU begun in 1985 to reach the broader Christian market with missional resources. There are three lines of resources printed under the New Hope imprint:

Arise—Inspiring Women. Changing Lives. Grow—Faith-Building Bible Studies and Teach Resources Impact—Engaging Believers in a Missional Community

Through New Hope, we are committed to providing books and Bible studies that equip, encourage, and challenge readers in areas that are relevant to current issues of Christian living and serving.

## How to Get Involved

There are many ways lives are changed—and you can help change the lives of others—through WMU. Need some help in getting started? Here are some suggestions:

- Join or lead a WMU age-level missions organization in your church.
- Don't have WMU in your church? What a great opportunity to begin a **Mission Friends, Girls in Action**, or **Women on Mission** organization! [Click here](#) to download free starter packs. Curriculum is available for every age group, and new organizations can enjoy a limited supply of free curriculum materials for the first six months (contact [your state WMU office](#) for details).
- Get involved in WMU hands-on ministries where opportunities to serve others abound! Experience missions first-hand during **FamilyFEST<sup>SM</sup>**; mentor a **Christian Women's Job Corps** participant; or host a **WorldCrafts<sup>SM</sup>** party.
- Shop [wmustore.com](#) for quality missions resources from WMU, Bible studies and inspiring books from New Hope Publishers, and unique, hand-crafted items from WorldCrafts. National WMU is supported through the sale of magazines and products, so your purchase from WMU directly helps to support our mission.
- Give to the **WMU Foundation**. Established in 1995, the WMU Foundation exists to support the mission and ministries of WMU. With more than 125 different funds and endowments held by the Foundation, you are sure to find precisely the way you want to support missions through WMU.

## Contact Us

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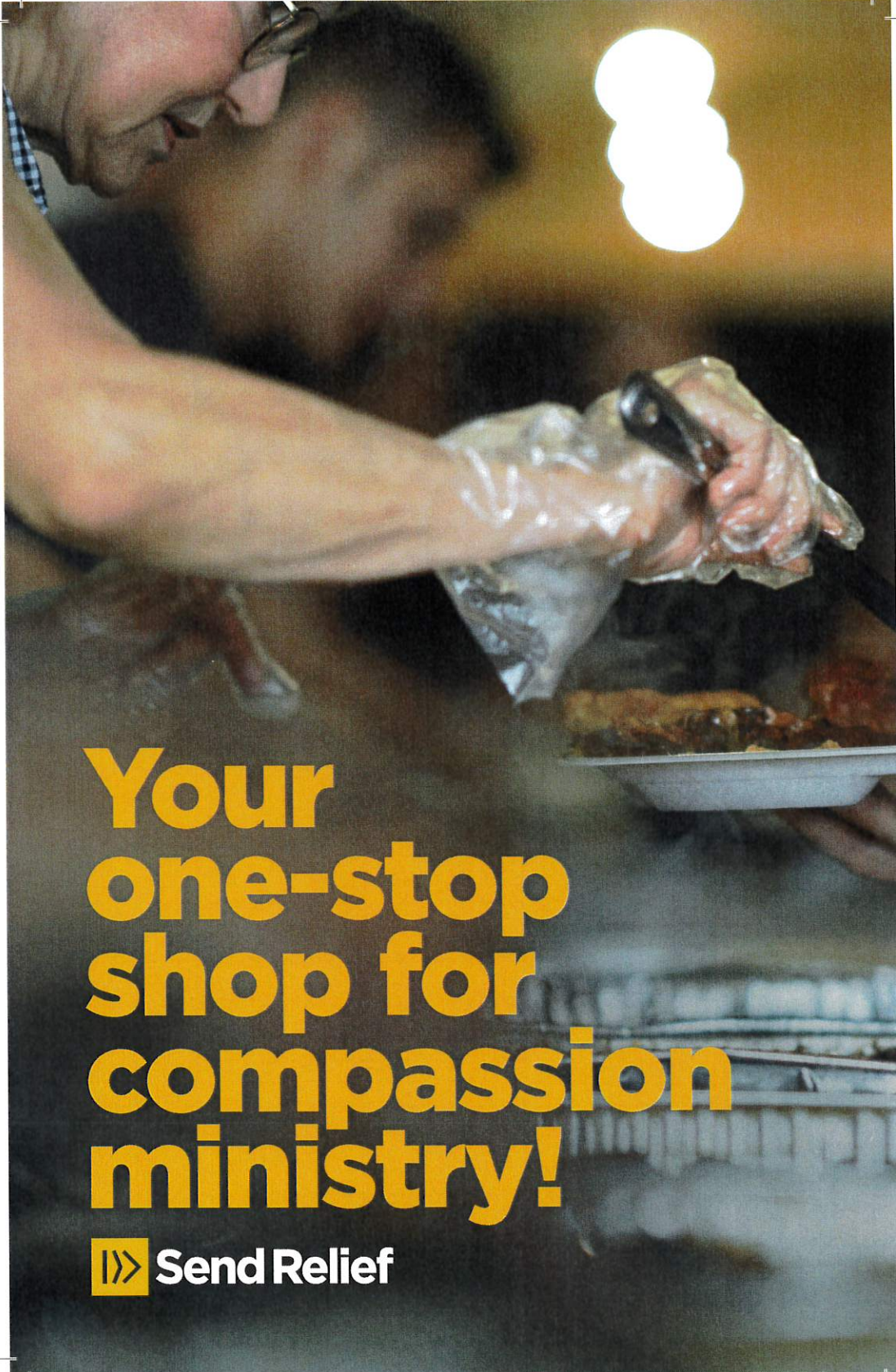
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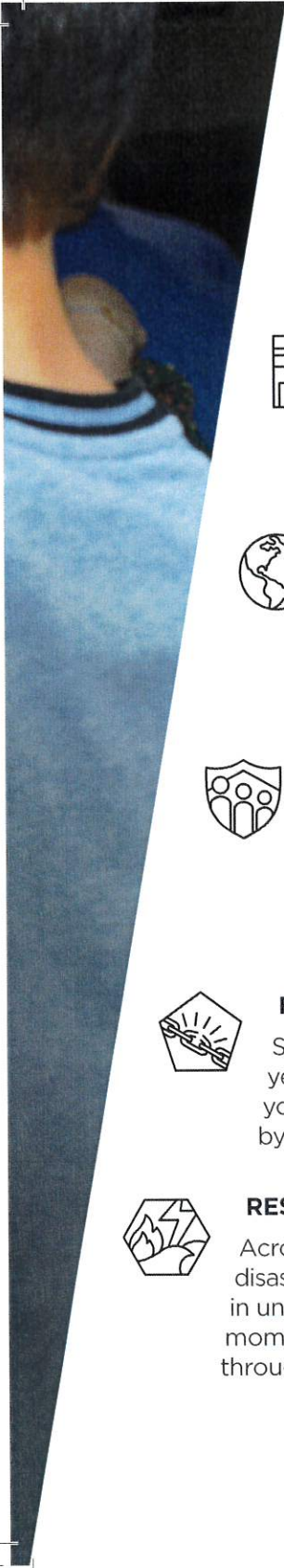


## Responding to life-altering moments with the life-giving gospel of Jesus

A collaborative effort between the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board, Send Relief helps you and your church make an impact in your community and beyond. With ministry partners on the ground in dozens of countries and ministry centers across North America, we connect people in need with people who care.

As your church's one-stop shop for compassion ministry, Send Relief offers:

- Free training resources
- Personalized coaching sessions from compassion ministry experts
- Exciting mission trip opportunities across North America and around the world
- Opportunities to help support projects that are meeting needs and changing lives from Appalachia to Africa



## Focus Areas



### **STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES**

Communities all over the world don't have access to basic human necessities. But together, we can equip communities to make sustainable changes while sharing the love of Christ.



### **CARE FOR REFUGEES**

Every day, refugees are forced to leave their homes and families. You can be the hands and feet of Jesus by helping them find spiritual, physical and emotional healing through Send Relief's projects.



### **PROTECT CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Around the world, children are suffering from malnutrition and a lack of educational opportunities. In North America, the need for foster and adoptive families has never been greater. We can connect you with opportunities to be part of the solution.



### **FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Survivors of human trafficking are trying to recover from years of trauma. But there is hope! Through Send Relief, you can help transform lives and have a lasting impact by fighting for their physical and spiritual freedom.



### **RESPOND TO CRISIS**

Across North America and around the world, natural disasters, pandemics and conflicts are changing communities in unimaginable ways. You can respond to these life-altering moments, providing hope and practical care to survivors, through Send Relief's gospel-centered projects.



For more information about projects, training  
and coaching opportunities or mission trips,  
visit [SendRelief.org](https://SendRelief.org)



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**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**SOUTHWEST METROPLEX BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
Revised October, 2016

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**CONSTITUTION**  
**Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association**

**Article I - Name**

SECTION 1. The name of the organization shall be the Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association, Inc. hereafter referred to as the Association.

**Article II - Purpose**

The purpose of the Association is:

SECTION 1. To encourage a spirit of cooperation among the churches.

SECTION 2. To assist the churches in accomplishing their work of fulfilling the Great Commission.

**Article III - Membership**

SECTION 1. This Association shall be composed of autonomous Baptist churches cooperatively networking to expand God's kingdom locally and globally and substantially ascribing to The Baptist Faith and Message of 1963 or any of its revisions as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

SECTION 2. Cooperation in the Association is defined by this body to mean: (1) participation in the various activities of the Association, and (2) regular and systematic financial support of the Association, and (3) regular reporting through the Annual Church Profile.

SECTION 3. Each church cooperating with the Association shall be entitled to three messengers and one additional messenger for each fifty resident members or major fraction thereof above fifty, providing no church shall have more than fifteen messengers.

SECTION 4. A church desiring to enter into cooperation shall petition the Association through the Administration Team by letter at least 90 days before the Annual Meeting. Said letter shall set forth the church's Statement of Faith and provide evidence of its cooperation with the Association. Upon a two-thirds majority vote at the Annual Meeting, the Church shall then be under the watchcare of the Administration Team for one year. At the next Annual Meeting the Administration Team shall bring a recommendation to accept or reject the petition or to extend the period of watchcare for the petitioning church. Admittance to the fellowship of the Association shall be by a two-thirds majority vote.

SECTION 5. At such time as any mission, which is sponsored by a church affiliated with the Association, is constituted as a church, it shall become part of the Association according to Article III, Section 4, except that the one-year watchcare may be waived upon recommendation by the Administration Team.

SECTION 6. The Association reserves to itself the right to withdraw fellowship from any church that may become unsound in doctrine or disorderly in practice, or non-cooperative. Such action should be referred to the Administration Team by the Executive Board for review and recommendation to the next Annual Meeting. Fellowship may be withdrawn by a two-thirds majority vote in the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 7. Any church may withdraw from affiliation with the Association by giving written notice of such desire to the Annual Meeting.

**Article IV - Authority**

SECTION 1. Each church participating in the Association is autonomous, and the Association shall never attempt to exercise any tribute of authority over any church.

## **Article V - Meetings**

SECTION 1. This Association shall meet annually.

SECTION 2. The Annual Meeting shall be composed of messengers elected by member churches of the Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association.

SECTION 3. At least twenty-five percent of the churches cooperating with this Association must be represented by seated messengers to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

## **Article VI - Officers**

SECTION 1. All of the officers of the Association must be members of churches within the Association.

SECTION 2. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, a Vice-Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer.

SECTION 3. The Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be nominated by the Administration Team at the Annual Meeting. Elected messengers may also bring nominations during the Annual Meeting. These officers shall assume their respective offices at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting in which they were elected.

SECTION 4. The Moderator shall be able to serve no more than two consecutive one-year terms.

SECTION 5. In the event an officer cannot complete the full term, the Administration Team shall have the authority to appoint an interim officer.

SECTION 6. The officers of the Association shall serve as Trustees; three Trustees shall have the power to act on matters of business as instructed by the Association or the Executive Board.

## **Article VII - Decorum**

In all questions covering the proceedings of the Association, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall be the authority used by the presiding officer and by the Association.

## **Article VIII - Executive Board**

SECTION 1. The Executive Board of the Association shall consist of the called ministerial staff of the member churches, officers of the Association, and one lay member elected from each church. The ex officio members shall consist of the Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association Staff and retired ministers who are members of cooperating churches.

SECTION 2. The officers of the Association shall serve as officers of the Executive Board.

SECTION 3. The Executive Board of the Association, which shall meet quarterly unless changed by the Executive Board, shall have power to act in behalf of the Association on all matters of business which shall arise between sessions of the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 4. The Moderator shall have power to call extra sessions of the Executive Board as needed when all the member churches have been notified in writing of the called meeting.

SECTION 5. Board members from ten churches shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 6. In the event that neither the Moderator nor the Vice-Moderator is present to preside over the meeting of the Executive Board, the Board shall elect a moderator for that meeting.

## **Article IX - Amendments**

Amendments to the Constitution shall require notice and presentation in writing at an Executive Board meeting at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting at which those changes shall be considered. All proposals must be presented in writing at the first session of the Annual Meeting, and the vote shall be taken at the second session of the Annual Meeting. Two-thirds of the messengers voting must cast affirmative votes to authorize the change.

**BY-LAWS**  
**Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association**  
Revised October, 2022

**SECTION 1: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

1. The fiscal year for the Association shall be from the first day of January to the last day of December, inclusive.
2. The Treasurer's report shall be reviewed at the close of the year, and a report shall be made to the Executive Board for approval. The review shall be performed by the Administration Team or by an alternate designated by the Administration Team.
3. The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be in the month of October. The date, place and time of the next Annual Meeting shall be recommended by the Administrative Team during the Annual Meeting. A change in the date, location, and / or time of the annual meeting shall be approved by the Executive Board upon the recommendation of the Administrative Team a minimum of three months prior to the proposed Annual Meeting. All churches in the Association will be notified at least two months prior as to the amended date, location, and / or time of the Annual Meeting.
4. When a vacancy occurs in the position of Executive Director, the Executive Board shall elect a Search Committee of five persons. Upon the Search Committee's recommendation, the Executive Board shall vote. A seventy-five percent affirmative vote shall be required to constitute a call.
5. Dismissal shall require a recommendation from the Administration Team to the Executive Board and a seventy-five percent vote of the Executive Board present and voting to dismiss the Executive Director.
6. Two signatories shall be required for the disbursement of funds.
7. These By-laws may be amended at any Executive Board Meeting or Annual Meeting upon the recommendation of the Administration Team and a two-thirds vote, provided that the recommended changes have been publicized to the Executive Board at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

**SECTION 2: DUTIES OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

1. **MODERATOR:** The Moderator shall call to order and preside over the meetings of the Association and the Executive Board and direct the affairs of the Association in an orderly manner and in a Christian Spirit. The Moderator may ask other officers or members of the body to preside as necessary. The Moderator of the Association shall be recognized as an ex officio member of all Teams and committees of the Association. The Moderator shall have power to appoint committees authorized by the Association or Executive Board.
2. **VICE-MODERATOR:** The Vice-Moderator may, if the Moderator so directs, preside over the meetings of the sessions of the Association or Executive Board. The Vice-Moderator shall also assist the Moderator in such matters as the Moderator may direct.
3. **CLERK:** The Clerk shall keep a full and accurate record of all business and recommendations of the Association and Executive Board. At each meeting the Clerk shall present the minutes of the previous meeting. All records for at least one year shall be on hand at each meeting.
4. **TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall ensure all funds for the Association have been received and disbursed in accordance with the adopted Association's budget or the specific instructions of the Association and upon receipt of a bill or voucher properly authorized. The Treasurer shall ensure the Association maintains accurate records of all monies received with sources and designations of same.

### SECTION 3: DUTIES OF ASSOCIATION TEAMS

1. Overview: The coordination and implementation of the Association's work shall be carried out through Teams. On-going Teams will be the Staff Team, the Administration Team, the Church Strengthening Team, the Church Planting Team, the Ministry Team, and the Partnership Missions Team.
2. Membership: A nominating committee, composed of the Vice-Moderator (who will serve as Chair), and the chairs of the other Teams will have the sole responsibility to nominate Administration Team members and bring a recommendation to the Annual Meeting. Other Team members, who must be members of churches in the Association, shall be nominated by the Administration Team and voted on by the Association at the Annual Meeting. At least fifty percent of the membership of each team must be composed of church staff members. The Administration Team may appoint Interim Team members with full authority to serve should a vacancy arise. The Interim members shall be presented to the Executive Board or at the Annual Meeting to be duly elected to their Team. Except for the Staff Team, all Teams should have 6 or 9 members with members serving a three-year term. One third of the Team members will rotate off the Team each year. Those rotating off any Team may not serve on that Team for at least one full year, but are eligible to serve on a different Team if nominated and elected. Anyone designated to fill an unexpired term of less than one year, may be considered eligible to be nominated and elected to then serve a full three-year term. The Moderator and Executive Director shall serve as ex officio members of all Teams.
3. Responsibility: Teams are to seek vision, think creatively, develop strategy, and implement agreed upon plans in keeping with the purpose of the Association (see Constitution, Article II). Each Team will submit its plans and budget request to the Administration Team prior to the Annual Meeting.
4. Authority: Teams shall have the authority to develop strategies in keeping with the vision and purpose of the Association and Executive Board, request an annual budget, disburse approved funds, and temporarily appoint individuals or subcommittees to carry out specific Team assignments. As a representative body within the Association, no Team members shall have authority over the local church or the Association. Each Team shall elect its own Chairperson and other officers as needed.
5. Accountability: Each Team shall maintain a record of its activities and is to work in a spirit of cooperation with the Executive Director and Executive Board. All Teams shall present a report of their activities during the Annual Meeting.
6. Meetings: Team meetings are to be called by the Team Chairperson or Executive Director. Teams are recommended to meet at least quarterly.

### SECTION 4: DESCRIPTIONS OF ASSOCIATION TEAMS

1. Staff Team: The Staff Team shall consist of all personnel recognized by the Association as staff. The Executive Director shall serve as ex officio member of all teams, leading and coordinating the work of the association. The Staff Team shall handle the day-to-day work of the Association in keeping with Association's job descriptions and operating procedures.
2. Administration Team: The Administration Team shall provide oversight and direction to the Association. Its responsibilities shall include carrying out duties assigned by the Executive Board; acting on behalf of the Association between Executive Board Meetings; overseeing all matters related to Associational personnel (hiring, job descriptions, benefits, salary, etc.); directing the Association in matters related to its existing property and major purchases; developing the Association budget; enlisting Team members; coordinating the Association calendar; planning and coordinating all matters related to the Annual Meeting and Executive Board Meetings; evaluating requests to join the Association; and appointing Associational representatives as needed.



3. Church Strengthening Team: The Church Strengthening Team shall develop and implement strategies to help bring health and vitality to local churches. Specific actions to consider include planning educational opportunities for church leaders; providing churches with training and consultation to foster discipleship and spiritual transformation; helping churches evaluate their ministries and discover new ways of fulfilling their purpose; providing support for particular events that promote spiritual health and vitality; cultivating opportunities for deeper relationships within churches and between churches; and equipping churches to fulfill their mission.
4. Church Planting Team: The Church Planting Team shall assist the Association and all of its churches become active participants in church planting. The Team will be involved in such activities as researching where new work needs to begin; identifying pockets of unreached people in our communities; recruiting and training potential church planters; exploring new ways of starting churches; educating and encouraging churches to become involved in church planting; motivating churches to become missional and evangelistic; mobilizing believers to live as missionaries in their communities; budgeting Associational funds to help establish new churches; prayer walking strategic areas for future work; encouraging, supporting and providing learning opportunities for church planters in the Association; and helping the Association and its churches stay focused and passionate about new work.
5. Ministry Team: The Ministry Team will seek to create and maintain ministries that help the Association's churches work together and minister in our communities. Responsibilities of this Team include helping churches evaluate needed ministries; identifying opportunities for working cooperatively in existing ministries; providing information and organizing educational opportunities concerning new ministry opportunities; enlisting leaders and volunteers for Associational ministry teams; evaluating whether or not Associational ministries are effective; and providing oversight, support and encouragement for Associational ministries.
6. Partnership Missions Team: The Partnership Missions Team will facilitate cooperative missions participation between the Association and its churches beyond the local field of ministry. Responsibilities of this Team include leading the Association to explore and create new partnerships; identifying where Associational churches are already doing missions; networking churches to partner together in missions; promoting missions education and training in the Association; evaluating Associational partnerships; providing scholarships and other funding for partnership trips; and identifying and making available mission resources.