SOUTHWEST METROPLEX
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Book of Reports

162nd
Annual Meeting

November 8, 2026

Field Street Baptist Church

201 N. Field Street, Cleburne

WELCOME LETTER

Dear Pastors, Messengers, and Friends
of the Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association,

Welcome to our 162nd Annual Meeting!

When our forebears met in 1864, they could not have conceived of the societal shifts we face today. Yet, they purposed to gather like-minded Christians to spread the Gospel and plant churches. While our world looks vastly different now, the constancy of Scripture and the faithfulness of God have kept us anchored to one another, to His work, and to planting churches. ***Your association still exists to see the Gospel proclaimed, churches established, and the work of Christ strengthened.***

Our shared mission stretches from this county to far-flung places like India, Canada, and Tanzania. Through it all, however, we must remember that this association is not a single person, a building, or an individual church—it is ***all of us working together****. It has never been about any one leader, but about* ***unity among God's people following Him with one heart****.*

The Good News of Jesus Christ is needed more than ever. And to that end, the Association exists to help you and your church carry that message to our communities and beyond.

Thank you for your partnership in Kingdom work. If there is some way we can serve you or your church, please let us know.

Working together,
Scott Whitson

SOUTHWEST METROPLEX
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

AGENDA

162nd Annual Meeting
Field Street Baptist Church, Cleburne
November 8, 2026

Dinner - 5:00 PM

We will hear from several special guests related to our partnerships and ministry opportunities during the evening meal. If you have a motion to make during the Association's Annual Meeting, please present it in writing to the Moderator or Vice-Moderator prior to the start of the meeting.

Annual Meeting - 6:00-7:15 PM

Prelude	Celebration Orchestra
Welcome & Prayer	John Hall, Pastor, Field Street
Worship	Celebration Choir & Orchestra

Jerusalem

I Got Saved

Call to Order	Rusty Gilliam, Moderator, Pastor, Cross Timber
Adoption of Minutes	Moderator
Financial Report	Michel West, Treasurer, Cross Timber

TEAM REPORTS:

Church Planting	Ryan Michels, Pastor - Cleburne Community
Church Revitalization	John Tanner, Pastor - Bono Baptist
Partnership Missions	Ricky Gobert, Pastor - Cedar Creek
Ministry Team	Jeff Hensley, Pastor - Bar Cross
Administration Team	Chris Smith, Associate Pastor - FBC Cleburne

Unscheduled Business

Worship Celebration Choir & Orchestra

Midnight Cry

Executive Director's Report Scott Whitson, Cross Timber

Worship Celebration Choir & Orchestra

Because He Lives

Benediction Prayer Mike Acker, Pastor - New Hope Baptist

Benediction Celebration Choir & Orchestra

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 28, 2026
Location: New Hope Community Church, Venus

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Rusty Gilliam, Moderator.
Approval of Previous Minutes - The minutes from the May 10 meeting were presented for approval. One correction was noted regarding the revitalization funding. It was clarified that SWMBA collaborates with “SBTC Regenesis” and “BGCT PAVE” revitalization resources. A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Financial Report - Presented by Michel West, Treasurer:

- Director travel and conference expenses remain under budget.
- Building insurance expenses are currently over budget due to insurance coverage changes associated with the association-owned property at Lake Trail Church. Adjustments are expected later in the year.
- Cooperative giving continues to exceed expenses, despite normal fluctuations in church contributions.
- The association's financial position and checking account remain strong.

A motion was made to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Ministry Reports
Church Revitalization Cohort - A report was presented by Mike Acker on the recently completed Church Revitalization Cohort, which included 8 sessions (March-May). Sessions focused on Church health assessment, Demographic studies, Leadership development, Spiritual health, Measuring church effectiveness, Vision casting, and Pastor encouragement and accountability. Each participating church developed a practical revitalization strategy. Appreciation was expressed for the association's investment and additional churches were encouraged to participate in future cohorts.

Lake Trail Church Plant Update - A progress report was presented by Kirk Storseth, lead planting pastor, regarding the Lake Trail Church plant:

- Construction is on schedule with occupancy anticipated by the end of August.
- Approximately 60 individuals have committed to the launch team.
- Four staff members in place:
    - Lead Pastor; Discipleship/Life Groups - Led by AJ (present at meeting); Children's Ministry; Worship Ministry

Lake Trail Church Plant Update, Cont'd.

- Numerous churches have partnered through financial support and donated materials (including HVAC equipment and additional construction materials).
- Volunteers have completed painting, tree trimming, landscaping, and renovation work.
- Upcoming outreach event - Hulen Park, to introduce the church to the community
- The church expects to launch debt-free because of generous church partnerships. Appreciation was expressed for encouragement and financial support.

School Prayer Walk Initiative - An update was presented by Jeff Hensley regarding Johnson County School Prayer Walks:

- Monthly prayer walks have been organized for 6 schools in Alvarado.
- Plans are underway to establish prayer walks in Joshua and other communities throughout Johnson County.
- A Facebook event page has been created to coordinate participation and communication among churches. Churches were invited to participate and support the initiative.

Association Director's Report - Scott Whitson

- *Church Plant Support* - To support Lake trail, churches were encouraged to display provided Lake Trail flyer, utilize the Amazon wish list to purchase needed ministry supplies, and consider monthly financial support.
- *Tanzania Mission Trip* - October 8-23 - Airfare arrangements are being finalized. Eight participants are currently registered; additional participants are welcome.
- India Partnership - A report following a recent partnership trip to India - Churches were encouraged to consider special offerings for ministry projects, including transportation needs for the ministry. Several opportunities were presented for churches to participate financially.
- *Perspectives Course* - Information was shared regarding the upcoming Perspectives course offered at FBC Burleson, Aug 24-Nov 30. Churches were encouraged to promote participation in this 16-week missions education program.
- 2026 *Annual Meeting:* November 8, Field Street Baptist Church

Additional Announcements

- Updated church giving reports are available for each church to review with their treasurer.
- The Executive Director announced upcoming vacation dates and instructed churches to contact association staff if assistance is needed during that time.

Closing - The meeting adjourned following the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Tanner

Clerk January 28, 2026

Financial Report

The Southwest Metroplex BaptistAssociation continues to givethanks for God's faithfulness and the generosity of our churches as we work together to advance the Gospel throughout our communities and beyond.

1. Financial Highlights

Church contributions continue to provide a strong financial foundation for the Association.

- Budget through September: $177,056
- Church contributions through September: $182,193
  - Churches contributing: 44 of 63 member churches
- Contributions above budget: $5,137
- Church gifts through September show a 7% increase over the same period last year.

2. Budget Summary

	Amount
2026 Approved Budget	$236,075
Total Expenses Through September	$187,128

- Eight more churches have contributed this year compared to the same period last year.
- Spending remains in alignment with church giving.
- Over the past twenty years, church gifts have consistently exceeded anticipated budget projections, reflecting the faithful generosity of our churches and the Lord's continued provision.

CASH POSITION

The Association continues to maintain a healthy cash position.

Description	Amount
Checking Account Balance – January 2026	$85,024
Checking Account Balance – September 2026	$102, 200
Increase	$17,176

3. Church Planting Endowment – Edward Jones

In 2006, the Association voted to establish a Church Planting Endowment Account with Edward Jones in Cleburne. The account was initially funded with $250,000 from the sale of property originally purchased for a church plant.

As interest and investment earnings accumulated, the Association designated $400,000 as principal, allowing earnings beyond that amount to be available for future church planting opportunities.

- Planned Use: A portion of the earnings above the designated principal was used to purchase the church and property on Country Club Road in Cleburne for Lake Trail Church.
- Total Edward Jones Holdings for Church Planting, Outreach, and non-designated Funds for Associational Purposes: $702,959

4. Summary

Through the faithful generosity of our churches, responsible financial stewardship, and God's continued provision, the Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association remains financially positioned to support church planting, church revitalization, local outreach, and cooperative ministry efforts.

We are grateful for the continued partnership of our member churches and for the opportunity to work together in advancing God's Kingdom.

Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association

2026 BUDGET VS. SPENDING

January - September

Description	2026 Budget	2026 Expenses	Balance	2027 Budget
201 Admin. Discretionary	$400.00	$0.00	$400.00	**$400.00**
203 Ex. Dir. Travel/Conferences	$1,500.00	$1,738.50	($238.50)	**$1,500.00**
204 Ex. Dir. Mission Trip	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$0.00	**$5,000.00**
205 Ministry Reimbursement	$2,800.00	$2,303.75	$496.25	**$2,800.00**
206 Support Staff Development	$600.00	$544.64	$55.36	**$600.00**
207 Sympathy/bereavement	$500.00	$0.00	$500.00	**$500.00**
209 Supplies	$3,400.00	$2,951.38	$448.62	**$3,400.00**
210 Office Equip./Service	$1,500.00	$450.00	$1,050.00	**$1,500.00**
211 Leader to Leader	$2,500.00	$2,152.15	$347.85	**$2,500.00**
Total 200	**$18,200.00**	**$15,140.42**	**$3,059.58**	**$18,200.00**
301 Assoc. Mtgs./Annual Mtgs.	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$0.00	**$2,000.00**
304 Utilities	$7,300.00	$3,909.37	$3,390.63	**$7,300.00**
305 Building Insurance	$5,200.00	$9,057.56	($3,857.56)	**$5,200.00**
306 Worker's Compensation	$650.00	$437.00	$213.00	**$650.00**
307 Maintenance	$2,200.00	$1,872.00	$328.00	**$2,200.00**
308.1 Ex. Dir. Salary	$61,737.00	$48,365.19	$13,371.81	**$63,900.00**
308.2 Ex. Dir. Housing	$25,000.00	$18,749.97	$6,250.03	**$25,000.00**
308.3 Ex. Dir. Annuity/Emp	$7,000.00	$5,249.97	$1,750.03	**$7,000.00**
308.5 Insurance	$20,000.00	$13,762.70	$6,237.30	**$20,000.00**
310.1 Adm. Asst.	$37,188.00	$29,440.50	$7,747.50	**$38,500.00**
310.2 Adm. Asst. Annuity/Emp	$2,000.00	$1,500.03	$499.97	**$2,000.00**
312 Employer Taxes	$9,500.00	$7,417.44	$2,082.56	**$9,500.00**
Total 300	**$179,775.00**	**$141,761.73**	**$38,013.27**	**$183,250.00**
402 Church Revitalization	$2,600.00	$1,744.93	$855.07	$2,600.00
Total 400	**$2,600.00**	$1,744.93	**$855.07**	**$2,600.00**
501 New Church Funding	$16,000.00	$14,494.00	$1,506.00	$16,000.00
Total 501	**$16,000.00**	**$14,494.00**	**$1,506.00**	**$16,000.00**
600 Ministry Team				
601 BSM	$3,500.00	$3,987.05	($487.05)	**$3,500.00**
604 Latham Springs	$6,000.00	$4,000.00	$2,000.00	**$6,000.00**
605 WMU/CWJC	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$0.00	**$1,000.00**
Total 600	**$10,500.00**	**$8,987.05**	**$1,512.95**	**$10,500.00**

700 Partnership Missions	**$9,000.00**	**Expenses**	**Balance**	**$9,000.00**
702.1 Tanzania		$4,000.00		
702.3 Vancouver		$0.00		
702.4 India		$1,000.00		
Total 700 Partnership Missions	**$9,000.00**	**$5,000.00**	**$4,000.00**	**$9,000.00**

	2026 Budget	2026 Expenses	2026 Balance	2027 Budget
Budget Summary	**$236,075.00**	**$187,128.13**	**$48,946.87**	**$239,550.00**

2026 Church Gifts (Jan-SEPT)	**$182,193.18**

TOTAL Bank Account SUMMARY (as of 010/13/26)	
Opening Balance	**$85,197.24**
Current Balance	**$102,199.56**

Edward Jones Holdings:	
	Balance
ENDOWMENT PRINCIPLE	**$400,000.00**
GENERAL NON-DESIGNATED	**$150,000.00**
CHURCH REVITALIZATION	$68,255.07
OUTREACH	$4,441.15
CHURCH PLANTING	$80,262.42
TOTAL	**$702,958.64**

SOUTHWEST METROPLEX BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
2026 Church Gifts (January-September)

Alsbury Baptist Church
$12,093.32

Bar Cross Cowboy
$5,621.39

Bethesda Baptist Church
$2,304.12

Blackberry Fellowship
$227.00

Bono Baptist Church
$1,068.73

Buel Baptist Church
$450.00

Cana Baptist Church
$291.69

Cedar Creek Baptist Church
$1,982.10

Cedar Cross Country Church
$1,698.37

Chambers Creek Baptist Church
$900.00

Chisenhall
$ -

Chisholm Summit Community Church
$ -

Chisholm Trail Church
$11,528.96

Cleburne Community Church
$100.00

College Heights Baptist Church
$225.00 *

Cross Timber Baptist Church
$7,301.46

Crossroads Church
$ -

FBC Alvarado
$135.00

FBC Blum
$900.00

FBC Burleson
$40,665.51

** Gifts were received for October, but not reflected for this report*

2026 Church Gifts (January-September)

FBC Cleburne
$29,636.99*

FBC Covington
$1,800.00

FBC Godley
$5,927.26

FBC Grandview
$1,954.89

FBC Lillian
$2,873.55

FBC Rio Vista
$790.10

FBC Venus
$ -

Field Street Baptist Church
$12,000.06

Fort Victory Baptist Church
$ -

Friendship Baptist Church
$4,052.10 *

Grace Baptist Church
$900.00

Grace Springs Community Church
$732.51

Greenbrier Baptist Church
$500.00

Henderson Street Baptist Church
$4,017.38

I. Biblica Redención
$ -

I. Christiana El Camino
$ -

I.B. Agape de Cleburne
$ -

I.B. Nueva Amanecer
$ -

Impact Life Church
$ -

Lake Trail Church *
$ -

Lane Prairie Baptist Church
$ -

Lebanon Community Church
$ -

Living Proof Baptist Church
$780.02

** Gifts were received for October, but not reflected for this report*

2026 Church Gifts (January-September)

Living Word Laotian Baptist
$225.00

Lone Willow Baptist Church
$1,815.30

Marystown Baptist Church
$1,450.92

Misión Bautista Maranata
$ -

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
$675.00

New Hope Baptist Church
$1,735.86

New Hope Community Church
$2,034.75

Nolan River Road Baptist Church
$6,627.00

North Cleburne Baptist Church
$300.00

NorthPointe
$11,500.00

P. I. B. Emanuel
$600.00

P. I. B. Godley
$90.00

P. I. B. Nueva Vida
$ -

Parker Baptist Church
$ -

Reece Prairie Baptist Church
$ -

Rock Creek Baptist Church
$250.00

Sand Flat Baptist Church
$339.12

South Ft. Worth Baptist
$ -

The Refuge
$ -

Three Nails Bible Church
$1,092.72

Willow Springs Baptist Church
$ -

TOTAL Church Gifts through September

$ 182,193.18

** Gifts were received for October, but not reflected for this report*

SOUTHWEST METROPLEX
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

MINISTRY REPORTS

Church Planting Team Report

Since we last met, God has blessed our collective church planting efforts in remarkable ways, allowing us to expand both local and global gospel footprints.

Local Launch & Property Development
The association has partnered with NorthPointe Church to officially launch Lake Trail Church. To establish a permanent foundation, the association successfully leveraged its endowment funds to purchase a property on Country Club. In a beautiful display of unity, the new plant—in partnership with area churches and a host of local volunteers—fully renovated and expanded the facility. The association is committed to carrying on this partnership with consistent monthly support.

Global Plant Initiatives

We also continue our strategic, long-distance support for critical global works:

- Canada: Ongoing development of the Afghani Evangelical Fellowship church plant in Vancouver.
- Tanzania: Continued backing of the 10 active church plants, with the majority of this vital funding being raised through faithful individuals, Sunday School classes, and local churches.

Future Outlook & Strategy

Although we are gradually nearing the end of our scheduled financial support for some of these projects, we celebrate how God has sustained them. Thank you for partnering with the Association to see new churches planted. Looking ahead to next year, our prayerful hope is to see another church plant begin taking shape right here within our own Associational area.

Church Revitalization Team Report

The Church Revitalization Team remains dedicated to walking alongside our congregations as they seek structural renewal and spiritual growth. True revitalization refers to the process of a church evaluating where they are and seeking God for renewed direction and practical strategies to promote church health. In pursuit of this mission, our team focuses on connecting leaders with resources to evaluate and guide life-giving initiatives for their churches.

Strategic Cohorts & Collaborative Training

To foster shared learning and strategic growth, the association hosted a revitalization cohort involving 8 churches in the Spring. This collaborative environment allowed pastoral teams to assess local ministry impact, exchange best practices, and develop customized action plans tailored to their unique community contexts.

Partnership & Resource Allocation

Financing critical structural updates is vital for long-term health. To support these localized goals, our team actively assisted in funding a church with revitalization efforts in partnership with a state convention, leveraging shared denominational resources to maximize regional kingdom impact.

The Church Revitalization Team is honored to equip leaders and help congregations rediscover their vibrant, God-given mission.

Partnership Missions Team

The Association continues to carry on its deep commitment to strategic global networks by actively partnering with Rehoboth Ministries in India, the Afghani Evangelical Fellowship in Canada, and Tanzanian Baptist. Our mission remains rooted in providing crucial support and encouragement to sustain and grow our partnerships.

International Mobilization & Training

- India: Two of our ministry groups recently traveled to India to work with Rehoboth Ministries in providing leadership development conferences designed to equip local church planters and their wives.
- Tanzania: A dedicated team of 8 has just returned from Tanzania. During this trip, they spoke in area churches, hosted conferences for regional church leaders, and focused their field attention on developing a vital new church plant in the town of Bukoba.

Church Planting & Long-Term Fruitfulness

The Bukoba Association has wholeheartedly supported this new work in Bukoba and we are pleased to report that all 10 churches previously planted in Geita and Ngara are still active and growing. Demonstrating incredible health and local ownership, some of these congregations have already purchased their own land and built more permanent structures.

Looking ahead to 2027, our hope is to stay fully focused on these active initiatives, knowing that our long-term commitments will bring lasting ministry fruitfulness for many years to come.

AFGHAN EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP of CANADA

• WHO WE ARE
Afghan Evangelical Fellowship of Canada is a Christ-centered church serving the Afghan community in British Columbia. We exist to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, make disciples, strengthen believers and families, and equip Afghan Christians for faithful service and leadership.

• OUR STORY
Our story began in September 2024 with prayer, home Bible studies, and building relationships with Afghan families. In September 2025, we launched our public weekly worship gathering. Since then, by God's grace, new doors have opened for discipleship, evangelism and community outreach, family ministry, camps, youth ministry, and leadership development. Today, we continue to grow as an Afghan church family, making disciples and serving our community.

• OUR MISSION
To glorify God by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, making disciples rooted in God's Word, and equipping Afghan believers to serve, lead, and make disciples of others.

• OUR VISION
To see a thriving, Christ-centered Afghan church where lives and families are transformed by Jesus, a new generation of Afghan leaders is raised up, and the hope of the Gospel reaches Afghan communities across British Columbia and beyond.

GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

WORSHIP & BIBLICAL TEACHING-We gather to worship Jesus Christ, pray together, hear God's Word, and grow in faith as a church family.

DISCIPLESHIP & HOME GROUPS-Through Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and life together, believers grow deeper in Christ and learn to follow Him faithfully.

PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP- We pray together, encourage one another, and build Christ-centered relationships as a church family.

CHILDREN & YOUTH-We help children and young people know Jesus Christ, learn God's Word, and grow in faith.

WOMEN & FAMILIES-We encourage and strengthen women and families through biblical teaching, prayer, discipleship, and fellowship.

REACHING OUR COMMUNITY

EVANGELISM & COMMUNITY OUTREACH
We build relationships within the Afghan community and create opportunities to share the Gospel and the hope of Jesus Christ.

NEWCOMER SUPPORT & HOSPITALITY
We welcome Afghan newcomers and families through friendship, practical care, hospitality, community connections, and Christian fellowship.

FAMILY CAMPS & SPECIAL EVENTS-We create opportunities through family camps, youth gatherings, and special events to build relationships, strengthen families, encourage fellowship, and share the Gospel.

SERVING AFGHAN FAMILIES-We seek to walk alongside Afghan families with compassion, encouragement, practical support, and the hope of Christ as they build their lives in Canada.

EQUIPPING FOR THE FUTURE

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT-We identify, mentor, and equip Afghan believers to grow in character, biblical understanding, and ministry skills so they can serve and lead faithfully.

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION-We invest in young Afghan believers, helping them grow in faith, discover their gifts, and prepare to serve Christ and His Church.

MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES-We desire to see Afghan believers become faithful disciples who make disciples, serve others, and help carry the Gospel to Afghan families and communities.

OUR PRAYER FOR THE FUTURE-We pray for a growing generation of Afghan believers who are rooted in God's Word, faithful in following Christ, equipped to serve, and committed to carrying the Gospel to others.



TANZANIA MISSIONS PARTNERSHIP

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1. Executive Summary

Since **2009**, our association's partnership with Tanzanian Baptists has transformed struggling congregations into self-sustaining, multiplying networks. Moving strategically from Karagwe to Geita, Ngara, and now Bukoba, this initiative combines pastoral training, association funding, and local generosity. The work has culminated in an upcoming major urban church launch set for **January 2027**.

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2. Chronological Progression & Regional Impact

Phase I: Karagwe District (2009 – Transition)

- **Baseline Status:** Initiated with only **7 struggling churches**.
- **Interventions:** Led conferences for pastors and wives, conducted revivals, and partnered in evangelism.
- **Current Outcomes:** Grew to **over 30 churches**; the Karagwe Association now runs its own Bible School for ongoing training.

Phase II: Geita and Ngara Districts (Three Years Ago – Present)

- **Strategic Shift:** Repositioned to high-need areas with a vision to plant **10 new churches**.
- **Interventions:** Mission teams spent three years visiting and leading leadership conferences.
- **Current Outcomes:** All **10 churches survived**, and most own property and buildings. The Ngara group officially formed the **Ngara Baptist Association** last year and is now independently planting churches.

Phase III: Bukoba Urban Launch (Current Focus – 2027)

- **Strategic Shift:** Focused this year on Bukoba, a key district center on Lake Victoria with an urban area population of **350,000**.
- **Current Status:** During our 2026 trip, leaders agreed an urban church is essential. Thanks to extraordinary generosity from **Field Street** members, the Bukoba Association purchased land with two unfinished buildings.
- **2027 Outlook:** Following construction completion, the new church is poised to launch in **January 2027**, backed by area pastors pledging financial support and house-to-house evangelism teams.

3. Financial Model and Stewardship Analysis

The financial health of these church plants highlights excellent stewardship and growing local ownership.

- **Association Commitment:** Budgeted a foundational **$1,000/year per church** to establish the Geita and Ngara works.
- **Funding Efficiency:** Due to generous gifts from individuals and churches, the association only needed to contribute **50%** of that commitment.
- **Local Sustainability:** Tanzanian pastors have fully embraced the Bukoba vision, pledging their own funds and volunteer teams to drive the mission forward.

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4. Conclusion

From 7 fragile churches in 2009 to a thriving network of independent associations launching an urban center plant in 2027, God is visibly at work in Tanzania!

India Ministry Update

Rehoboth Ministries Int'l, Inc.

Thank You for Your Prayers and Support!

This year, we were blessed to **train and send out 95 church planters and pastors** to serve in Gospel ministry. We also provided sewing skills training to **10 poor and destitute women**, shared the Gospel with them, and blessed each student with a free sewing machine to help them develop a source of income.

We continue to care for **20 children at our orphanage**, providing for their needs and sharing God's love with them. The Lord also continues to open doors for us to take the Gospel to many villages and towns throughout India.

Looking Ahead to 2027

We have many more men who are eager to receive theological training and serve the Lord in church planting ministry. Therefore, we would like to continue and expand our theological training program in 2027.

We also need more people who are willing to come to India and serve alongside us. We especially need help with:

- Training pastors and church planters for Gospel ministry.
- Teaching and caring for children at our orphanage.
- Working with and encouraging women in our churches.

How You Can Pray

1. Pray for India and for the Gospel to reach many more villages and towns.
2. Pray for the 95 church planters and pastors who have been trained and sent out.
3. Pray for God's provision to continue the theological training program in 2027.
4. Pray for the children at our orphanage and the women receiving skills training.
5. Pray that God will send willing people to India to help us in these ministries.

Thank you for your faithful prayers, encouragement, and partnership. Together, we can continue reaching the people of India with the love and saving message of Jesus Christ.

May God receive all the glory!
Sastry & Paige Meesala
www.rehobothministriesintl.org

Ministry Team Report

The Ministry Team is tasked with helping the association carry on work collectively, leveraging our shared resources to maximize local kingdom impact. It has been a true joy this season to walk alongside our congregations, directly helping churches with their various outreach events, including a vital prayer walking initiative in our public schools.

Campus Evangelism & Engagement
We are deeply grateful for our ongoing partnership with Tarleton's Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) and the faithful associational churches that provide weekly meals on the campus of Hill College. This strategic feeding ministry allows us to engage students, faculty, and employees in life-changing spiritual conversations. Each week, 60–70 individuals come for a free meal, opening doors for deeper relationships.

Auxiliaries & Camp Ministries
The team also continues to support the critical, ongoing work of our foundational ministries:

- *Woman's Missionary Union (WMU)* & *Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC)*: Providing essential discipleship, job skills training, and community empowerment.
- *Latham Springs Encampment*: We celebrate a phenomenal season of youth and family ministry, as the camp celebrated record attendance this year.

By working together, our association continues to strengthen local leaders and reach the next generation.



Hill College BSM

The Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) at Hill College in Cleburne is a welcoming community where students can grow in faith, friendship, and purpose. We host weekly events like Noon Lunch and Bible Study, offering a space to connect with others and explore God's Word together. Recently, we started Bible study 30 minutes earlier than usual to accommodate most students 1pm class schedule. Starting at 12:30 we now have up to 7 students joining us!

Students are welcome to join us the Baptist Student Ministries every other Tuesday, for lunch in the Student Center. Lunch will be served from 12-1 p.m.



Christian Women Job Corps

Here at Cleburne Christian Women's Job Corps - we call ourselves a "Job Readiness" program. Christian Women's Job Corps is a nationally certified program through the SBC and WMU. Head quartered in Waco and under the supervision of Chris Rowley.

We, the leadership, Jocelyn Morgan, Kim Amis and Donnave Abt are trained and certified with both Level 1 and Level 2. This ministry is staffed with 100% volunteer teachers from throughout our community with expertise in many many areas.

We have morphed through the years into an exceptionally fine tuned (God tuned) program. Each class and emphasis dove tailing together for an overall effectiveness with the Holy Spirit rolling through every part of it!!!!

LATHAM SPRINGS
Camp and Retreat Center

2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Another great year has been recorded for Christian camping at Latham Springs Camp & Retreat Center. This marks the 103rd year that Latham Springs has been serving God's people.

Total Attendance: 16,121

Professions of Faith: 877
Rededications: 815
Special Service: 183
Total Public Decisions: 1,875

10,478 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.

This year has presented new challenges for Christian camps across Texas. Following the heartbreaking tragedy in the Hill Country last summer, state lawmakers enacted new safety requirements for licensed youth camps. In response, Latham Springs has furthered strengthened our commitment to camper safety by enhancing our comprehensive Emergency Action Plan, installing a PA system, improving weather monitoring capabilities, adding additional outdoor safety lighting, expanding staff training and updating our evacuation procedures.

Our new Adult Conference Center is ready to host your next adult church retreat. This new facility includes 80 motel type rooms, a worship center, several conference rooms, lobby/welcome center, fellowship lounge, and a dining facility. We are currently finishing up an outdoor deck and pergola with fire pits behind the fellowship lounge offering a beautiful scenic view of our lake.

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"

Savoring Peace

February 26-27, 2027

Latham Springs Retreat Center

Founders Ladies Retreat



The Speaker

Melissa Spoelstra is a women's conference speaker, Bible teacher, and author who is madly in love with Jesus and passionate about studying God's Word and helping women of all ages to seek Christ and know Him more intimately through serious Bible study. Having a degree in Bible theology, she enjoys teaching God's Word to the body of Christ and traveling to diverse groups and churches across the nation.

Melissa is the author of several Bible studies and books, including Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting God More; Acts: Awakening to God in Everyday Life; and more. She is a regular contributor to the Proverbs 31 First Five App and the Girlfriends in God online daily devotional. Melissa lives in Waxahachie, TX with her pastor husband, Sean, and enjoys spending time with four grown children: Zach, Abby, Sara, and Rachel.

Breakout Sessions

Savoring Peace Through God's Word

Savoring Peace Through Creativity

Savoring Peace Through Prayer

Savoring Peace Through Hope

Savoring Peace by Sharing His Love

Savoring Peace in a Chaotic World

Savoring Peace Together

Learn More & Register Here

Follow us on Facebook: Founders Ladies Retreat

Missions Report

The mission of the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) is to inform and inspire Christians to influence their world for Christ. Our "watchword" is found in **John 15:16–17:**

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another."

Over the past year, WMU has supported several mission and outreach efforts. We sent potholders to Hope Is Strong Ministry (founded by Becky Willyard) for pastors' wives in Tanzania. We also donated funds to Nolan River Road Baptist Church to help purchase supplies for its Back-to-School Project. Through our ongoing outreach program, we sent postcards to missionaries each month to encourage them and remind them of God's love and our continued support.

Craft Fair & Bake Sale to Support Lottie Moon Missions

The WMU will host a Craft Fair at Cross Timber Baptist Church in Burleson to support Lottie Moon Christmas Offering missions. Donations are welcome! We are accepting handmade crafts, Christmas items (gently used are OK), jewelry, gently-read books, handmade toys, carvings, scripture plaques, baking mixes in a jar, baked goods, candies, jellies, and breads of all kinds! All money raised will be given directly to the International Mission Board through SWMBA for use by our missionaries; some of whom have stayed in our Mission House in Burleson. *Please drop off all donations to* ***Cross Timber Baptist Church on Tuesday, December 1 at 1-4pm.***

We will also need volunteers to "run the sale".
Please Contact Glenna Fowler: 817-266-3186 (cell) or 817-295-2930 (home)

(See flyer, next page.)



AN ANNUAL EVENT
SPONSORED BY SWMBA WMU

Lottie Moon
Craft Fair & Bake Sale

SET-UP:
TUESDAY, DEC 1ST
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

EVENT DATES:

Wednesday
DECEMBER 2ND
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Thursday
DECEMBER 3RD
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Friday
DECEMBER 4TH
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cross Timber Baptist Church
2560 FM 731, Burleson - 76028

Celebration Choir & Orchestra



Celebration exists to bring glory and honor to our Lord Jesus Christ through music in churches and other venues across Johnson County.
We'd love to bring worship to your church.
Contact Loyce for scheduling. Join us!

Loyce G. Milam, President & Director
214-507-8823
loycemilam@gmail.com

How good it is to give thanks to You, O Lord, to sing in Your honor, O Most High God,
to proclaim Your constant love every morning and Your faithfulness every night,
with the music of stringed instruments and with melody on the harp.
Your mighty deeds, O Lord, make me glad;
because of what You have done, I sing for joy.
Psalm 92:1-4

Admin Team Report

The Administration Team continues to fulfill the directives of the Association, ensuring operational excellence and strict stewardship across all branches.

Financial Oversight & Governance
The team continues to oversee the quarterly financial reports and the association's finances while strictly ensuring our association follows its guiding documents and policies to maintain absolute transparency and structural compliance.

Human Resources & Expansion
The team successfully finalized institutional reviews for establishing personnel salaries while actively working with our Executive Director to address requests to join the association to streamline the vetting process for new member cohorts.

Church and Associational Needs
The team coordinated a critical relief initiative focused on helping a church in need with emergency resources while simultaneously ensuring the success of the association's gatherings and collaborative events.

(Continued, next page)

Admin Team Report, Continued

Motions:

- **To add the following individuals to the indicated teams:**
  - Linda Stark (Field Street) to Partnership Missions Team
  - Drew Smith (NorthPointe, Elder) to Church Planting Team
  - Mark Crosby (Parker, Pastor) to Church Revitalization Team
  - Barbara Marchbanks (Buel), to Ministry Team

- To move $100,000 of excess Associational funds to our Church Planting Endowment

- To approve the proposed 2027 Budget

- To accept Pursuit Bible Church under watchcare for 2027

- To accept the following individuals as Associational Officers for 2027
  - Moderator, Mike Acker (New Hope Baptist, Pastor)
  - Vice-Moderator, Chris Wigley (FBC Burleson, Pastor)
  - Treasurer, Michel West (Cross Timber)
  - Clerk, Dawn Tanner (Bono)

- To accept next year's annual meeting at NorthPointe Church, October 17, 2027.

SOUTHWEST METROPLEX
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

&

BYLAWS

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

S**ECTION 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 May 5, 2026

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 Revitalization 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 at least three members and may serve consecutive one-year terms with the approval of the Administration Team.The Moderator and Executive Director shall serve as ex officio members of all Teams.

SECTION 3: DUTIES OF ASSOCIATION TEAMS, Cont'd.

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 Revitalization Team:** The Church Revitalization 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.

SECTION 4: Descriptions of Association Teams, Cont'd.

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.

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SOUTHWEST METROPLEX
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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