METRO MISSIONS

OCTOBER 2026

We are a network of leaders helping one another fuel the mission of the local church

ISSUE NUMBER 8



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Jake Adams

Secretary
Jim Stratton

At-Large
Lee Herring
Hunter Thompson

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Bo Holland, Mike Lehew

Church Health
Jason Pyeatt, John McMinn

Leader Care
Scott Palmer, Jim Stratton

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From the TMBN Administrative Leadership Team

Dear TMBN family,

We are moving upward and onward in our mission to assist and support the work of our churches in Tulsa and the surrounding areas.

We had a wonderful time at our September Pastors' Fellowship. Attendance was strong, the spirit was encouraging, and we were especially glad to welcome a number of new pastors from across our network.

I want to thank Brother Paul Thompson for leading our monthly fellowships over the past couple of years. Brother Paul will be retiring at the end of this year, and I hope each of us will take an opportunity to let him know how much we appreciate his many years of faithful service in a variety of roles throughout our network.

I would also like to invite you to attend our Annual Celebration on Sunday, November 1, at Woodland Acres Baptist Church in Tulsa. We will present a new slate of officers and team members who are ready to serve our churches through our association. I hope you will make plans to join us for this special evening.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you through our network over the past year. I also want to personally thank the members of our Administrative Leadership Team for their faithful service and endurance through a very trying season.

As we continue moving forward together, I am grateful for your prayers, your partnership, and your commitment to the mission we share.

Blessings,

Kriss Haymes
President

Jake Adams
Vice President

Jim Stratton
Secretary

Lee Herring
At Large

Hunter Thompson
At Large

Mike Lehew
Bo Holland
Church Planting

Jason Pyeatt
John McMinn
Church Health

Scott Palmer
Jim Stratton
Leader Care

Bob Green
Jerry Jacobs
Ex Officio

We are a network of leaders helping one another fuel the mission of the local church

The Value of Our Tulsa Metro Baptist Network

As I began working with the team on next leader for our network, I have continually been asked about the future of associational work. In short, many are wondering if the Baptist association is destined to go the way of the Dodo?

It is not a bad question to process: Has the local association simply run its course? We are all bombarded with resources, conferences, podcasts, and leadership opportunities. Do we really still need the local association?

I believe the answer is a resounding yes. In fact, I believe there is tremendous opportunity in a vibrant local association of churches.

Several years ago, I had the privilege of meeting Tim Keller at the Museum of the Bible through the incredible Oklahoma-based ministry, Inspire. (By the way, if you are unfamiliar with Inspire, you should check out how they can serve your church. - www.inspire.org)

Now, Keller was a Presbyterian and we are good Southern Baptists, but we still, we are on the same Kingdom team! During dinner, our conversation shifted toward the value of denominational relationships. Keller made a compelling case for why relationships among churches still matter. Three ideas from that conversation have stayed with me.

First, accountability for biblical faithfulness is best received locally.

Every one of our churches is autonomous, but autonomy should never mean isolation. We need relationships with other pastors and churches who know us, love us, encourage us, and are willing to ask hard questions. Biblical faithfulness is strengthened when churches walk alongside other churches committed to the same Gospel.

A healthy association creates relationships where truth and trust can grow together.

Second, help in difficult ministry seasons is best experienced locally.

Ministry can be hard. Pastors walk through conflict, discouragement, staff transitions, personal crises, and seasons when they simply need a friend now more than ever.

Continued next page

Associational Missions Strategist Search Team

Please join us in praying for these men as they seek God's direction in identifying the next Associational Missions Strategist for the Tulsa Baptist Network.

Chris Wall, Chair

Cody Brumley
Manny Parker
LeRon West
Mike Lehew
Hunter Thompson

From the Associational Missions Strategist Search Team

Continued from previous page

A national organization can provide tremendous resources, but it probably will not be sitting across the table tomorrow morning when a pastor hits a wall. That is where local relationships become invaluable.

The association should help create an environment where no pastor has to lead alone and no church has to navigate a difficult season without support.

Third, Gospel partnership and impact are best developed locally.

Jesus has given every church the same Great Commission, but He has not called us to fulfill it alone.

When we pray, brainstorm, work and use our gifts together, we really do accomplish more than any one of our churches could accomplish alone. Together we are more effective at identifying lostness in our communities, planting and strengthening churches, developing leaders, serving our cities, responding to needs, and sending missionaries together.

For us, that means a gospel adventure here, there, and everywhere.

Needless to say, I don't believe the association needs to disappear. I believe it needs to be vibrant.

A healthy association doesn't exist to get churches to serve the association. The association exists to help churches fulfill their God-given mission.

We are autonomous churches—but we don't have to be isolated churches.

There is still tremendous value in churches choosing to lock arms for biblical faithfulness, pastoral encouragement, and Gospel advance.

That kind of association doesn't belong with the Dodo. We need it now more than ever.

Chris Wall – Pastor – FBC Owasso/Mission





Throughout Scripture, God's focus is always on His people. Through His people He will bring a lost world to Himself. May this be a season when the churches of TMBN purpose to experience genuine revival.

As Henry Blackaby once wrote, "Revival isn't an evangelistic appeal; it is God's people getting right with God and then having an impact on their communities. When God's people demonstrate His life-changing power in their lives, the world will not only take notice but will also be uncontrollably drawn to Christ by the power of His presence."

We, the people of TMBN churches, have been chosen, called, and prepared by God to greatly impact our Tulsa Metro communities with the Gospel!

This fall, let us seek God together-asking Him to revive our hearts, renew our churches, and use us to share His magnificent love with those around us. May we fulfill our purpose and embrace the glorious ministry God has given us together!

> *"Revive our hearts, renew our churches, and use us to share His magnificent love.*



Bob Green
Tulsa Metro Baptist Network
Interim Director of Missions

PRAYING FOR CHURCHES IN TRANSITION

Please join us in lifting up these churches as they seek God's direction for leadership.

- Agape Chinese Baptist Church
- Community Baptist, Coweta
- Easton Heights Baptist Church
- International Baptist Church
- New Life Baptist Church
- Riverview Baptist Church
- Trinity Baptist, Sand Springs

May the Lord bring wisdom, provision, and godly leadership to each of these churches.

WHY START NEW GROUPS?

The Truth Behind Three Common Objections to Starting New Groups



When was the last time your church considered starting new groups? Did you weigh the pros and cons to determine if it was worth it? Well, consider these insights into the benefits of starting new groups and blast some myths which may be preventing you from taking the first step. Natasha Menifee, with Lifeway Christian Resources, suggests that we need to consider three key areas: The Financial Myth, The Participation Myth, and the Volunteer Myth.

01 THE FINANCIAL MYTH

"Our church can't afford to start new groups."

THE FINANCIAL TRUTH

New groups add to the church's finances. Yes, there is a cost associated with additional materials for a new group; however, a new group means additional giving. New groups, properly started, will add ten new people on average to the Sunday School/Group ministry. If a church's per capita giving is $35, you can be confident that one new group of ten people will give about $350 per week on average. The potential weekly giving makes up for the cost of material on a quarterly basis.

02 THE PARTICIPATION MYTH

"Everyone doesn't attend groups now, so a new group won't help."

THE PARTICIPATION TRUTH

The reality is, people may not be attending now because they have not found the group that meets their need. Even the best Sunday School/Group ministry must strive for continuous improvement. If 100 percent of your congregation is not in Bible study, there is an opportunity for a new group. Take some time to assess your congregation and see who is not connected in a group. Ask members questions to determine why they are not connected. The reason may be that they have not found a place where they feel community.

03 THE VOLUNTEER MYTH

"Our church has a shortage of volunteers now; how will we get new group leaders?"

THE VOLUNTEER TRUTH

Often what churches identify as volunteer shortage is a lack of opportunity. Starting new groups is an opportunity for the church to help people grow. If your church lacks an apprenitce-teacher pipeline, new groups can help start one. If it already has one, new groups give those teachers room to grow. An apprentice teacher who teaches an adult group once or twice every six months will not fully develop as teacher-leader until he or she has a group to lead.

Now, back to our original question: *"Why start new groups?"*

A better question would be "*WHY NOT?*"

New groups can increase finances, help the unreached and disconnected find community, and provide opportunities for student and teacher growth.

Study your Sunday School/Group organization. Where does a new group need to be added in order to reach new people in your church and community? Pray – then enlist a teacher; enlist two other couples who can come in and help jump start the class; find a meeting room; and provide study materials. Keep praying—then, **stand back and watch it grow!**

Jerry Jacobs
Tulsa Metro Baptist Network
Sunday School, Small Groups, Discipleshi





Let Grace Fill the Gap

As I went to bed a few nights ago, instead of sleeping, thoughts of all the "ministry" I hadn't yet accomplished overwhelmed me. I'd planned to attend a women's event to support a new leader, but my daughter's school program is rescheduled for the very same time. I'd forgotten to make blueberry muffins for the upcoming church breakfast. I'd also run out of time to edit some pages for a fellow Christian writer whose deadline was looming. So often, as ministry wives, a gap exists between what we want to give and what our strength, time, and energy allow. We care deeply. We are available and serving. But only so many hours in a day exist and only so much of each of us is there to go around. If this resonates with you, I want to encourage you this month with some very important truths.

Truth #1 — In ministry, there will always be things left undone.

For anyone who's been in ministry awhile, you know that needs abound. Another email needs sending, another lesson needs preparing, another person needs listening, another event needs planning, another meal needs making. Like laundry, ministry life has no real finish line. It just keeps coming. Learning to accept this truth is the best way to combat the feelings of "not doing enough." At times, it takes effort to accept, but when we remember our ministry is not ours, but *His*, we can find rest. God is in charge. He sees the needs of others and knows our human limitations too.

Ginger McPherson
Tulsa Metro Baptist Network
Ministry Wives Ministry



Truth #2 — God measures our faithfulness differently than we measure our productivity.

This world celebrates people who accomplish. Accomplishments, after all, have sharp edges we can see, feel, and wrap our minds around. We sit inside a pile of bricks that make up a beautiful building. We follow a finger down those checkmarks on a completed list of to-dos. However, God doesn't measure ministry like this at all. Rather, He sees our intentions *and* our actions. He knows the obstacles and hardships we face. The challenge is letting our sense of security rest in His overflowing grace. Embracing grace helps us fight against feelings of inadequacy. Grace fills the gap between our perceived efforts and His ultimate will.

> *"Grace fills the gap between our perceived efforts and His ultimate will."*

Truth #3 — Grace exists enough for today.

When God brought food to the Israelites in the wilderness, it came each morning – just enough for that day (see Exodus 16:14-15). The Israelites called it manna, which literally meant *"what is it?"* The Israelites couldn't fully understand how God's provision worked. What they did do, however, is gather and gobble it up. Grace works like manna. We don't have to fully understand it. What we must do, though, is gobble up our daily supply. As we seek Him, He provides enough for today. We may not *feel* like we are enough, especially if our worries tempt us to reach for tomorrow's grace. Some things may go undone. Some needs may have to wait. But as we lay our heads down each night, we can rest by remembering God loves you and me unconditionally. "His grace is sufficient" for each new day (2 Cor. 12:9).

MINISTRY WIVES' GATHERINGS

Both at Panera Bread

Tuesday, October 13
1624 E 15th St. // 6:30PM

Thursday, October 15
7110 S 101st E Ave. // 6:30PM

Love People Back to Life

Relentless Church is reaching its community with a simple mission: love people where they are and help them discover new life in Christ.

For Pastor Anthony Oroteo and Relentless Church, church planting is about much more than gathering people for worship. It is about showing up in people's lives.

One man walked into the church still drunk from the night before. Alcoholism had left him broken and on the verge of losing his wife and children. The church welcomed him, introduced him to Jesus, and helped him find the support he needed. A year and a half later, his entire family has been saved and baptized. His wife serves in guest services, and today he leads the church's worship team.

Stories like his reflect the mission at the heart of Relentless Church: ***"Love People Back to Life."***

That mission extends beyond Sunday worship. The church regularly serves Tulsa's homeless community, provides weekly food distributions, and creates opportunities for families and children through events such as Trunk or Treat, Christmas giveaways, and movies in the park. Food and clothing outreach continue to be an important part of the ministry.

As the young congregation grows, so do its opportunities—and needs. Relentless Church is praying for ministry partners who can help expand its community outreach, provide Christmas gifts for families, send children to camp next year, and make needed improvements to its building and livestream equipment.

For Relentless Church, every need represents another opportunity to serve—and another life to love.

RELENTLESS IN THE COMMUNITY

WEEKLY
Food Distribution

SERVING
Tulsa's Homeless Community

CONNECTING
With Families and Children

GIVING
Christmas Outreach







Upcoming Events

— TULSA METRO BAPTIST NETWORK —

These events and more at: bit.ly/tmbncalendar

PASTORS' FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, Oct 8 | 11:30am
Tulsa Metro Baptist Network

RSVP ONLINE

Guest: Pastor Kolby Thomas, Garnett Road

Caterer: 2 Pops Catering

MINISTRY WIVES *"Come to the Table!"*

We have a seat saved just for you! As always, dinner is free. All you have to do is come, just as you are!

TUESDAY, OCT 13, 6:30PM
Panera Bread
1624 E 15th St., Tulsa (Downtown)

THURSDAY, OCT 15, 6:30PM
Panera Bread
7110 S 101st East Ave., Tulsa (South)

PASTOR / STAFF ROUNDTABLES

A Pastor/Staff Roundtable is a group that meets occasionally to discuss a ministry topic, encourage one another, and pray together.

Ministers are invited to attend one that is convenient to them.

See our **online calendar** for upcoming dates.

PRIORITY TEAM MEETINGS & A-TEAM LUNCHEON

Thursday, Oct 29, 2026 Tulsa Metro Baptist Network

11:00am Priority Team Meetings
(Pastors and members of TMBN churches)

- **Church Planting Team**
- **Church Health Team**
- **Leader Care Team**

Noon • Administrative Team Meeting

FUNDING REQUESTS

Submit completed forms by 4pm the Wednesday prior:

918-622-1862

susan@tmbn.net

4502 E 29th St., Tulsa, OK 74114

RSVP FOR LUNCH

- **Online** or **918-743-4545**
- **Email susan@tmbn.net**



Fueling the Mission – August

We are a network of leaders helping one another fuel the mission of the local church

Bixby, Bixby Church	0.00	0.00
Bixby, Broken Rice Church	0.00	0.00
Bixby, Crossroads	0.00	1,800.00
Bixby, Evergreen	1,666.67	13,333.32
Bixby, First	0.00	0.00
Bixby, New Beginning	1,250.00	10,000.00
Bixby, Riverview	189.83	1,542.04
Bixby, Tulsa Awakening	200.00	200.00
Broken Arrow, Agape Chinese	0.00	0.00
Broken Arrow, Arrow Heights	167.00	1,336.00
Broken Arrow, Aspen Park	0.00	350.00
Broken Arrow, BattleCreek Church	0.00	0.00
Broken Arrow, Clearview Baptist Church	0.00	350.00
Broken Arrow, County Line	0.00	913.00
Broken Arrow, Deaf Church at Battle Creek	0.00	0.00
Broken Arrow, Emmanuel Zo	473.00	1,793.00
Broken Arrow, First	0.00	0.00
Broken Arrow, Forest Ridge	97.26	900.59
Broken Arrow, Freedom Hope Church	0.00	0.00
Broken Arrow, Gloryland Baptist Church	0.00	778.00
Broken Arrow, Korean Church of Tulsa	0.00	1,200.00
Broken Arrow, New Life Baptist	100.00	804.00
Broken Arrow, Sequoyah Creek	0.00	1,211.00
Broken Arrow, South BA Baptist	0.00	0.00
Broken Arrow, Sunnyside	293.50	1,118.03
Broken Arrow, Tulsa Vietnamese	150.00	1,200.00
Collinsville, Eastside	100.72	760.75
Collinsville, First	821.71	5,368.06
Collinsville, Meadowview	0.00	0.00
Coweta, Community	0.00	0.00
Coweta, CrossPoint Baptist Church	0.00	7,767.10
Coweta, Jackson Grove Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Glenpool, First	194.70	2,062.38
Glenpool, Solid Rock	0.00	0.00
Inola, Trinity	0.00	0.00
Jenks, Beaver Street	2.00	9.00
Jenks, First	0.00	700.00
Jenks, Southside	0.00	0.00
Keifer, Relentless Church	0.00	0.00
Leonard, First	0.00	0.00
Mannford, First	219.11	1,469.38
Mannford, New Hope	375.15	3,559.62
Mounds, Liberty Baptist Chapel	107.48	893.34
Muskogee, New Community Church	0.00	0.00
Oakhurst, Oakhurst Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Owasso, Bethel Baptist Church	525.00	1,575.00
Owasso, Central Baptist Church	0.00	6,708.31
Owasso, Cowboy Up Cowboy Church	0.00	0.00
Owasso, Dalton Hill	120.34	1,020.45
Owasso, First	2,781.97	22,721.59
Owasso, Freedom	50.00	400.00
Owasso, LAMB House Church	0.00	30.00
Owasso, The Refuge	105.40	783.75
Sand Springs, Angus Acres	0.00	567.11
Sand Springs, Broadway	0.00	0.00
Sand Springs, Calvary Baptist Church	0.00	236.52
Sand Springs, Church That Matters	312.81	1,657.76
Sand Springs, Hillspring Church	250.00	2,250.00
Sand Springs, Keystone Hills	0.00	0.00
Sand Springs, Limestone	0.00	1,331.33
Sand Springs, New Covenant Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Sand Springs, The Father's House	0.00	0.00
Sand Springs, Trinity	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, Calvary Baptist	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, Church Inside Out	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, Coalition Church	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, Faith	759.27	5,130.30
Sapulpa, First	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, Foundation Church	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, South Heights	0.00	0.00
Sapulpa, The Way Church	0.00	0.00
Skiatook, Lakeview Southern	0.00	4,934.82
Skiatook, Riveted Church	0.00	0.00
Sperry, First	120.75	833.56

Fueling the Mission – August

We are a network of leaders helping one another fuel the mission of the local church

Tulsa, Belview Baptist Church	89.04	554.79
Tulsa, Berryhill Baptist Church	0.00	154.22
Tulsa, Braden Park Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Brookside Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Canyon Road Baptist Church	263.37	1,849.54
Tulsa, Centro Cristiano Eben-Ezer	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Church Inside Out @ Red Fork	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Cognizant Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Concord Community Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Easton Heights	162.91	1,323.89
Tulsa, Eastwood	345.98	1,818.88
Tulsa, First	3,917.15	24,384.94
Tulsa, First Bowden	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, First Korean	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, First Slavic	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Garden City	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Garnett Road	125.00	900.00
Tulsa, Gilcrease Hills	0.00	50.00
Tulsa, Good News Church	0.00	125.00
Tulsa, Greater Mount Rose Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Greater New Grove Baptist	0.00	350.00
Tulsa, Harbor of Grace	0.00	500.00
Tulsa, Harvard Avenue	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Hispanic Agape	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Hope Fellowship Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Iglesia Bautista El Camino	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Iglesia Evangelica	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Indian Fellowship	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, International	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Living Hope	0.00	125.00
Tulsa, Marshallese Church	0.00	25.00
Tulsa, Memorial	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Mercyview	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Micronesia Chuukese Church-Living Hope	0.00	25.00
Tulsa, Myanmar Zomi Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Native Stone Baptist Church	9,214.35	9,214.35
Tulsa, New Hope Community	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, New Joy Fellowship	25.00	200.00
Tulsa, Nogales Avenue	0.00	180.00
Tulsa, Oakridge	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Olivet Baptist Church	978.94	6,497.74
Tulsa, Owen Park	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Palabras de Vida	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Parkview	0.00	5,120.68
Tulsa, Peniel Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Primera Iglesia Bautista	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Ranch Acres	135.42	1,083.36
Tulsa, Ridge Crest	234.70	2,246.87
Tulsa, Rose of Sharon	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Sequoyah Hills	0.00	400.00
Tulsa, Skelly Drive	237.62	1,584.79
Tulsa, Sojourn Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, South Tulsa	333.33	2,666.64
Tulsa, Southern Hills	0.00	1,250.00
Tulsa, Southwood	166.66	1,333.28
Tulsa, Springdale	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Springs of Grace Bible Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Trinity	0.00	2,252.84
Tulsa, Tulsa Baptist Church	0.00	721.12
Tulsa, Tulsa International	0.00	100.00
Tulsa, Tulsa ZOMI Baptist Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Turn Church	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, View Acres	210.38	2,533.10
Tulsa, Winnetka Heights	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Woodland Acres	125.52	886.98
Tulsa, ZBCM of Tulsa	0.00	0.00
Tulsa, Zion Community Church	0.00	0.00
Turley, First	0.00	0.00

TOTAL

August $27,999.04 ..... YTD $182,057.12