



## 2024 Year in Review

2024 has been an awesome year for the Heart of Texas Baptist Network. We have been able to see God show His faithfulness over and over again. As we close 2024 and look towards 2025 I wanted to take a moment and recount some of the ways we have seen God work in our Network and our family of churches.



Our Evangelistic Block Party Trailer has been an amazing tool for reaching out to our communities. Throughout 2024 13 of our churches were able to use the Block Party Trailer for different events such as VBS, Fall Festival, Back to School, End of School parties, and parties in local parks. Some of these churches were able to use the trailer multiple times. We want every church in our Network to be able to use this awesome tool as an outreach to your community. Even if you don't think you have enough volunteers to put on a block party please reach out to us. We have many who would love to come and set up the trailer, put on a block party, and allow you to share the Gospel with those around your church.

In June we took another mission trip to Wisconsin. We had two teams who spent time in Milwaukee helping the Arabic Church of Milwaukee and Madison helping Shalom Christian Assembly and Emmanuel Church. Our partnership with these three churches has been a huge blessing these past three years. If your church is looking for a mission opportunity I would love to talk to you about going to Wisconsin with us this summer from July 17-22. This trip is designed for people of all ages and capabilities to be able to be a part of God's work in Wisconsin.

We were able to provide three conferences this year to equip leaders in our Network. In the Spring we hosted Dr. Katie McCoy for a frank and timely discussion on gender and sexuality. This Fall we hosted VisionBridge Consulting for a practical training on church security and safety.



At our Annual Meeting in October Dr. Jeff Clark from the Rural Church Institute at Wheaton College and the International Mission Board led a conference on "Returning to a Missional Mindset in the Rural Church." These Equipping Events are a vital part of our Network so please be looking for more information on the events we have planned for 2025.



Also, at our Annual Meeting we unanimously voted to create a new ministry line item titled "Church Planting and Revitalization." With this vote we have moved \$10,000 into this new line item to be able to be proactive in the work of planting new churches and revitalizing dying churches. This exciting new focus will help us as a Network play a vital role as God continues to advance His Kingdom in our area.



One of the most practical ways your giving makes a difference in our Network is with our Missionary in Residence House. Because of the gifts of our churches we are able to offer this house free of charge to missionaries who are in the States for furlough or longer breaks. Staci Powers has been in our house in 2024 and in the Spring of 2025 we will have a new couple coming to town. As those dates get closer I will be reaching out to let you know of ways your church can be a blessing to this family while they stay in our area.



Each and every week we have a breakfast for church leaders here at our office. Our Ministry Assistant, Abbie, makes a homemade breakfast that is always amazing. This is a time of fellowship that reminds leaders each and every week they are not alone in the work of ministry. If you are a pastor, staff member, or leader we would love to have you join us every Wednesday at 8:15 am.

Throughout the year I have been able to train search committees, sit in on meetings, provide conflict resolution, lead deacon trainings, provide pulpit supply, connect local churches to resources from state conventions, and be able to be a help to our churches in many other ways. If I can be a resource to you and your church in any way please let me know.

● equip ● encourage ● inspire

As we look towards 2025 we are so grateful for the generosity and commitment of our churches and know God has great things in store for us this new year. Thank you for continuing to support the essential work of the Network as we seek to equip, encourage, and inspire by connecting our churches to one another and God's work in the world.