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# [ON MISSION]

On Mission highlights missionaries, chaplains and churches working to reach North America and the world for Christ. On Mission is a publication of the North American Mission Board (NAMB), Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). NAMB is an SBC entity supported by the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.® The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union.® Postmaster: Send address changes to: On Mission, North American Mission Board, 4200 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30022.

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# Where are the helpers?

By Kevin Ezell, NAMB president (@kevezell)

any kids in my generation grew up watching "Mr. Rogers." He often told a story from his childhood. Whenever he heard tragic or scary news too young to understand fully, his mother would encourage him by saying, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

We've recently heard a lot of desperate news across North America and the world, and some of it has touched on our work as Southern Baptists.

As I think about all the challenges we've faced as a network of churches, I've thought back to that quote from Mr. Rogers.

I've been asking, "Where are the helpers?"

We could all be encouraged by those striving to direct our Southern Baptist family back to the main thing: sharing the eternal hope of the gospel with our neighbors.

The gospel is, ultimately, the only hope we have for navigating the obstacles we face in finding solutions to the problems we've encountered in recent years.

Now more than ever, we need to remember the power of the gospel, stay obedient to its demands—repentance and faith in Christ—and embrace the gift of grace in our lives, individually and as a family of churches.

When we're fully aware of all Christ has done in us, we're most passionate about sharing the gospel with sinners and seekers who desperately need the hope Christ offers to the world.

So, who are the pastors, churches and leaders laser-focused on applying and sharing the gospel? I am aware of plenty, but we always need more.



Complaining and throwing stones come easy, but negativity is corrosive and deflating. Of course, we need to be aware of our challenges and not paper over them. The gospel requires us to look at sin and its effects honestly, but the solution of Christ crucified, buried and resurrected is strong enough to destroy the power of sin.

I hope we can all commit to helping, focused on sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and pointing people toward the only solution that will truly make a difference. **[OM]** 

Kevin Ezell is president of the North American Mission Board.



Find more resources to help your church in evangelism at namb.net/evangelism.

# the **pulse**



## A Contradicting Worldview

Among U.S. adults:

60% believe people are essentially good

66%

7] 0 deny all are guilty before

71%

500 agree that some people will be eternally punished in hell

59%

52% think the Bible should have authority over human actions

□ 52%

been disproven by science

40%

Source: Lifeway Research.com, September 19, 2022

#### Faith-shy Friends

**63%** of the unchurched say they have at least 2-4 good friends who are Christian, yet **60%** of Americans report that their Christian friends seldom discuss their faith.

Lifeway Research.com, January 5 and February 22, 2022

#### Effective Evangelism

**58%** of unbelieving youth do not find scripture quotation as a convincing form of evangelism, and **49%** do not want to be prayed over during a conversation about faith.

According to **55%** of non-Christian teens, using actions rather than words to explain faith is the most persuasive evangelism approach.

Source: Barna.com, November 10, 2021

#### **SBC** Impact

In 2022, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers reported over

7,200 Bibles distributed
19,600 gospel conversations
5,900 professions of faith

This year, SBC chaplains recorded over

75,000 gospel presentations

#### Church Influence

hristians are **split in half** between those who actively evangelize and those who do not. Those who attend church at least monthly are **20% more likely** to engage with their neighbors than irregular attenders.

Source: Lifeway Research.com, January 5 and July 1, 2022

#### **Eager to Tell**

This past summer, **335** GenSend student missionaries had **4,037** gospel conversations in **20** cities across

North America.

#### Ready to Hear

**46%** of teens around the world believe that Jesus offers hope to people.

Globally, **6 in 10** teens (**59%**) are interested in learning more about Jesus in their lifetime.

Source: Barna.com, October 2022

# Heard

You and your church are not in your neighborhood by accident; God is already working there. We have to join Him in His work."

John Mark Clifton, senior director of replanting at NAMB

We are called to be the light of the world, but sometimes we hide our light."

Tim Dowdy, vice president of Evangelism

We cannot manipulate change. We need God to revive our hearts as we surrender to Him!"

Michael Catt, retired pastor, Sherwood Church in Albany, Georgia

## the five

# 5 VOCIVS to share the gospel across cultures

By Katherine Hafley

We don't have to be experts to share the gospel with someone different from us. Instead, we need to remain faithfully obedient in sharing our faith.



#### l Contextualize the gospel.

When sharing with cultures different from ours, it's essential to explain it in a way that makes sense to their context. As long as the gospel remains the central message, we can help them understand.

**2 Ask lots of questions.** When we train mission teams, we always tell them to ask about the Five F's – family/friends, festivals, food, future and faith. These questions open the door to diving deeper and provide ways to clearly present the gospel.

3 Displaying our faith in little ways. One of the best ways to start gospel conversations is by interjecting our faith into conversations and actions. We can tell our friends we will pray for them if they are hurting or mention something from a recent sermon.

#### 4 Use visual resources.

Visual tools provide a great way to help present the gospel message. Whether it's the 3 Circles or a movie like "The JESUS Film" (translated into 2,000 languages!), visual resources provide a great way to ensure a clear gospel presentation.

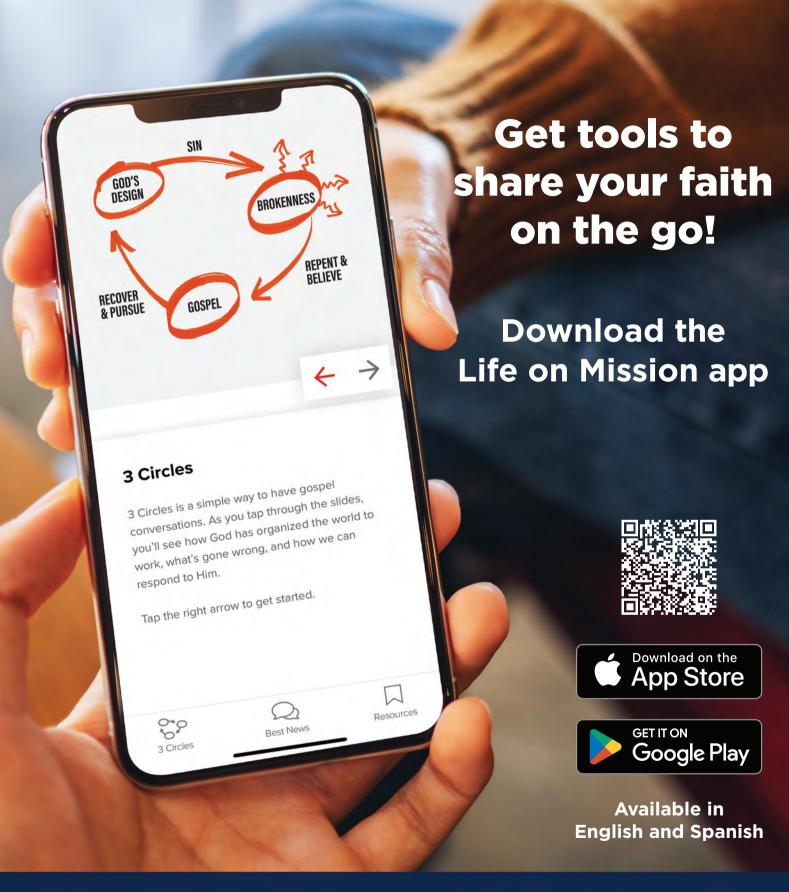
#### 5 Love them like Jesus.

It sounds simple and it is. When we love radically and unconditionally as Jesus does, our words and actions look different to those who don't know Him and people take notice. Many gospel conversations can start when our lives reflect the Savior, not the world.

Katherine Hafley works as a NAMB Journeyman in Clarkston, Georgia, where she spends her time serving refugees and helping to lead and train mission teams to do the same.



Find more tools to minister to refugees at SendRelief.org.





6



Stephen Frerichs
GenSend Team: 2016 Portland, Oregon

My experience with
GenSend clarified that daily
interactions are opportunities
to minister to overlooked
people, whether that's an
employee at the grocery
store, a coworker at a new
job or a reserved first-time
guest at church. As our team
spent six weeks in the Pacific
Northwest, the Lord showed
me that especially in
mundane moments, He
sovereignly guides us toward
the people He wants to reach."

**FAST FORWARD:** Today, Stephen serves on the deacon team of Providence Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, connecting first-time guests to the church body. He and his wife, Lauren, also lead a small group for young adults.



Matthew Hembree
GenSend Team: 2021 New Orleans, Louisiana

GenSend taught me that effective evangelism is built upon a relationship with God and with others. I learned how to build relationships with my community that lead to gospel conversations. I use this every day as I work with local homeowners and seek to build relationships with them, praying that they would hear and receive the good news of the gospel."

**FAST FORWARD:** Matthew serves as a Journeyman missionary with Send Relief in Puerto Rico, where he leads mission teams in construction projects for families whose homes have been damaged by natural disasters.





Trip Bumgarner GenSend Team: 2021 Ogden, Utah

As our team of seven went around the Ogden community building relationships, sharing the gospel, praying with people, listening to their stories and sharing our own, the Lord began to wreck my heart for the Latter Day Saints."

**FAST FORWARD:** After graduating college, Trip chose to find a full-time job in Ogden, where he serves at Redemption Church and disciples a small group of young men.



Emily Kitts
GenSend Team: 2021 Denver, Colorado

GenSend helped me understand what it truly means to live on mission in your city and to serve the people right in your backyard."

**FAST FORWARD:** During her summer as a GenSender in Colorado, Emily fell in love with serving refugees and those in need. She is now a Journeyman missionary in Denver.





Collin Whitney
GenSend Team: 2017 Toronto, Ontario

My experience with
GenSend equipped me with
practical experience and
inspiration to live on mission
in a metropolitan context.
Daily, I use skills and insights I
learned as I reach couples
and families in Memphis with
the hope of the gospel."



Josiah Gwyn
GenSend Team: 2017 Toronto, Ontario

GenSend equipped me to live out God's mission in a metropolitan area, one neighborhood at a time, with a passion for creating strong Christian communities that reach the lost."

**FAST FORWARD:** Collin and Josiah are now teammates at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, where Collin serves as Pastor of Groups for young couples and families and Josiah is the Director of Home Groups and Equip.

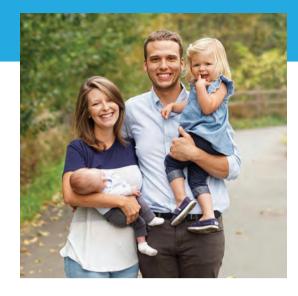


Tali Graham

GenSend Team: 2021 Boston, Massachusetts

My summer of GenSend taught me how to go meet people where they are when seeking to evangelize, like Jesus did with the woman at the well, instead of expecting them to come to me."

**FAST FORWARD:** Tali acutely saw Boston's need for the gospel after spending the summer with GenSend. Today, she works as the Assistant Director of GenSend Boston, mobilizing college students to live and serve in the city of Boston.



Christian and Laura Rowland

GenSend Team: 2016 Vancouver, British Columbia

During the summer of 2016, we served on Vancouver Island as part of the GenSend program. That's when we both sensed God calling us to plant a church in metro Vancouver."

**FAST FORWARD:** Christian and Lauren got married after serving together with GenSend. In 2018, they planted New Song Community Church, a multiethnic church in Vancouver, and continue to serve there today.









# SenSend

Influence a broken world with the *life-giving* hope of the gospel on a GenSend break or summer experience!



Send Network

# Baking bread to share the Bread OF LITE By Brandon Elrod

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We've been counting how many loaves of bread she's given away. She just passed 300. These go out to the whole neighborhood and to church members. Everyone knows about Kelsey's bread."

aking bread has become an excellent way for the Browns to connect with neighbors and church members. Kelsey Brown developed the skill during the 2020 pandemic lockdown and

has continued sharing loaves of bread to build relationships while she and her husband, Vergil, get to know people and introduce them to Jesus.

"We've been counting how many loaves of bread she's given away," said Vergil. "She just passed 300. These go out to the whole neighborhood and to church members. Everyone knows about Kelsey's bread."

For missionaries with children, planting a church involves the entire family given the sacrifices each member makes, and that's been no different for the Browns as they plant Redemption Church in one of the most unchurched cities in North America.

Vergil and Kelsey moved to the city roughly 16 years ago to begin seminary. They planted a church in Gresham, a suburb east of Portland, where Vergil pastored for about a decade before the Lord began stirring his heart for something new, which they discerned meant planting a new church in northeast Portland.

"So, we moved our family into the city almost three years ago to begin work on planting this new church," Vergil said. "Our former church, Gresham Bible Church, partnered with Hinson Baptist Church to send us out and start Redemption Church."

"Our whole family came to Portland. Our whole family's planting this church," Kelsey said. "I prefer to do more behind the scenes things for support. Even my two little girls take their job seriously. They help with cleanup, and they help me greet sometimes, so it is definitely a family affair."

Seeing their kids buy into the missionary effort has been a blessing to Vergil and Kelsey.

"I'm really happy to see my kids involved in the life and ministry of our church," said Vergil. "They're inviting their friends to church. They're being hospitable with new people walking in who have kids. So, our kids are like little ambassadors."

Portland is known as one of the most religiously unaffiliated metro areas in the U.S. An estimated 42% of people choose not to identify with any particular religious tradition, but Vergil quickly learned that did not mean residents are closed off to learning about Christianity.

"I believe that Portlanders are really open to the gospel," said Vergil. "Our experience after moving into the city almost three years ago is that people are open and curious about God, open to having discussions about Jesus and spiritual conversations."



Baking and sharing bread helped the family build bridges to have more of those conversations.

"I started bringing bread every Sunday, just looking for people to give it to, and then also started giving it to our neighbors," said Kelsey. "When new people move into our neighborhood, we'll bring them a loaf of bread with our information."

The phrase expressive individualism captures the culture of Portland. People are expected to find whatever works best for them and live that out. That helps residents be open, welcoming and curious about others' beliefs, Kelsey said, but that

attitude also makes it difficult for them to recognize the need to look outside themselves toward the hope of the gospel.

"We're hoping to be a light in our community, show people what community really looks like, to show people what God's love looks like, to show them what salvation and forgiveness and mercy look like," said Kelsey.

"So, I hope that our church can be a community where people can find a home, can find healing and hear the truth about their sin and their need for a Savior."





My kids are inviting their friends to church. They're being hospitable with new people walking in who have kids. So, our kids are like little ambassadors."

The Browns look around their community and the rest of the city of Portland and see a need for more faithful, gospel-proclaiming churches, and they hope to be a launching pad for sending out more people to make disciples and start new churches.

"We really pray and hope that the young people who are with us in this church, and some of the adults too, would be inspired by the work that God is doing to plant Redemption Church," Vergil said, "and that the Lord would use that in their life down the road to see some of them as church planters or missionaries. We want to see this thing multiply."

As people around North America pray for the Brown family and for Redemption Church, Vergil cited courage to share the gospel as a top priority.

"We ask that you'd be praying for boldness, that we would be bold in bearing witness of Jesus Christ," he said. "That we'd be faithful to that call, faithful stewards of the opportunity and the time that we have to see this new church established." [OM]

Brandon Elrod writes for the North American Mission Board.



See more missionary stories and give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering at AnnieArmstrong.com.

## Evangelism

# Who's Your One emphasis leads to salvations, baptisms

For the past year and a half, Lane Prairie Baptist Church has taken time each Sunday to celebrate the tremendous work God is doing through their Who's Your One focused evangelism efforts. So far the members have shared the gospel hundreds of times and witnessed dozens come to faith in Jesus Christ.

By Timothy Cockes

ane Prairie members have the opportunity
each week to report to the church if they have
prayed for their "one," or had a gospel conversation throughout the week.

These updates, as well as any announcements about decisions for Christ or baptisms, are celebrated and highlighted through a display of different color ping pong balls representing each update.

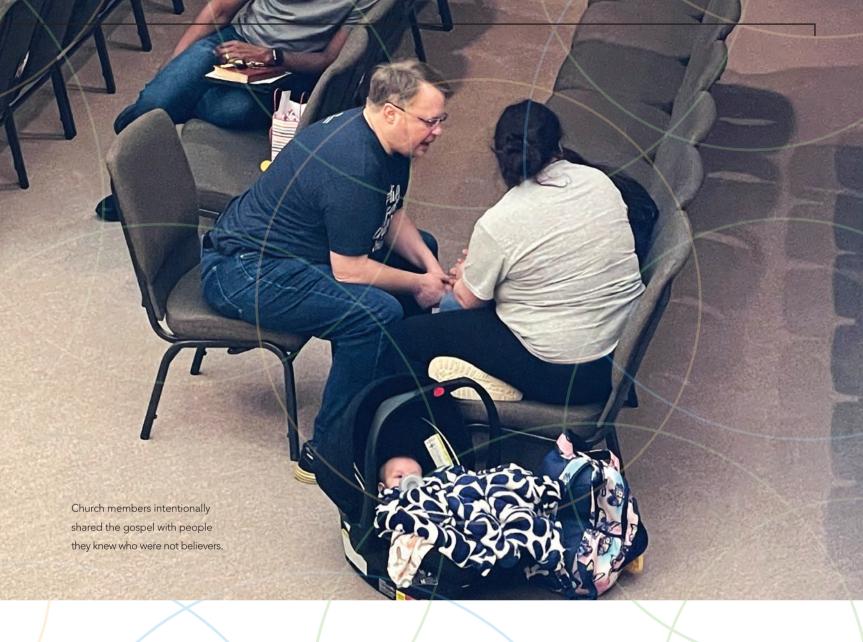
White ping pong balls represent a person's "one" being prayed for, orange balls represent a gospel conversation, green balls represent a profession of faith and blue balls represent a baptized believer beginning their discipleship process.

The display is seen prominently at the front of the church on the right side.

Ricky Fuchs, lead pastor at Lane Prairie, told Baptist Press the church officially launched the initiative in July 2021, and they plan to continue the weekly updates as part of their Sunday morning services from now on.

He said before the *Who's Your One* emphasis was church-wide, it started with the burden of one adult Bible study.

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Each Wednesday night, while children and teenagers would attend Awana and youth group, a group of about 40-50 adults would meet for Bible study and prayer.

Fuchs, who has been the lead pastor for almost two years, said although the church has always valued evangelism over its 150-year history, this Bible study's members developed a deeper heart for reaching people.

"God just gave us a burden to pray for others outside of our congregation," Fuchs said. "If we wanted to see God work in saving people, we needed to pray to that end."

Starting in March 2021, Fuchs challenged each person in the group to find one lost person to pray for and share the gospel. The results were incredible.

Over the next few months, members of the Bible study would report 57 professions of faith through their evangelism efforts.

"We saw God really explode our efforts and we saw many of our members being faithful in evangelism and people were getting saved," Fuchs said.

"Even beyond the personal aspect of Who's Your One, in prioritizing a person you know, our people started to become more obedient in evangelism God just gave us a burden to pray for others outside of our congregation. If we wanted to see God work in saving people, we needed to pray to that end."





Ping pong balls of different colors were a visual reminder and encouragement to the congregation as they prayed for and shared the gospel with their "ones."

in their daily lives. We heard amazing accounts of members sharing the gospel on vacation, at hotels, over the phone and in everyday encounters."

Fuchs and the church leadership decided to take the initiative church-wide and had a launch Sunday on July 25, 2021. Since then, the church has seen:

- 248 "ones" be prayed for
- 1,971 gospel conversations reported
- 405 professions of faith
- 42 baptisms through the initiative

Fuchs explained the church records numbers for all conversions or baptisms that resulted from the evangelism of church members, even if the conversion or baptism occurred outside of Lane Prairie specifically.

"We want this to not just be about building our church, but about building the kingdom," Fuchs said.

Matt Queen is the associate pastor of evangelism at Lane Prairie, and also serves as the associate dean of the Roy J. Fish School of Evangelism and Missions at Southwestern Seminary.

After coming on staff at the church in 2021, Queen partnered with Fuchs to create the church-wide emphasis and help teach the congregation to value all aspects of the evangelism process.

"I think as Baptists we sometimes have conditioned ourselves to only celebrate when someone gets saved or baptized, but we teach our people that success in evangelism is simply doing it," Queen said.

He explained Lane Prairie has shown other signs of positive spiritual growth since the initiative began,

---

including an increase in Cooperative Program giving, an increase in their Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong offerings as well as the continued support of two IMB missionary families.

Several churches have reached out to Queen about wanting to replicate the program in their church.

Additionally, as a consultant for the Southern

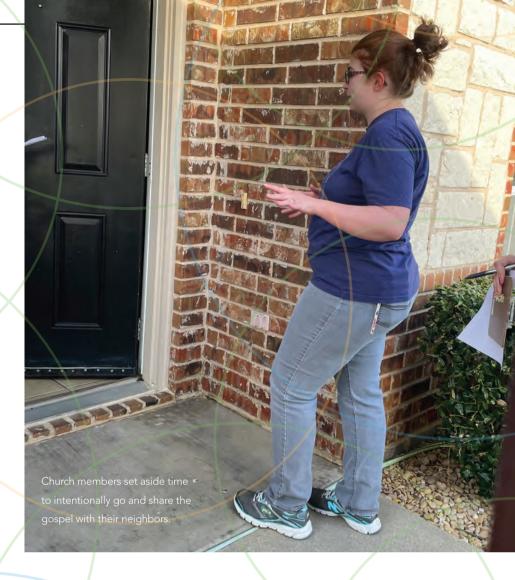
Baptists of Texas Convention, Queen is working on an evangelism program for the convention with the partnership of NAMB called Who's Your One:

Advancing the Movement.

Queen said he desires all churches to value evangelism, regardless of how they choose to celebrate success.

"A church should do whatever it needs to do in order to be intentional and bring awareness of the importance of evangelism, whether that looks like ping pong balls or not," Queen said. "People will replicate what we celebrate."

When asked how churches can get such an initiative started, Fuchs exhorted fellow pastors to set the examples themselves.



"It has to start from the top and the pastor has to be on board," Fuchs said. "You have to be the champion and lead by example. Not by dictating, but by going out and doing it yourself. What the pastor celebrates, that's what the church will do." [OM]

Timothy Cockes writes for Baptist Press.

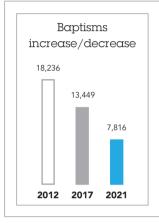
This story originally appeared in Baptist Press and is used with permission.



Get free evangelism resources at namb.net/evangelism.

# Regional Convention Evangelism Resource Guide

This simple resource guide lists contacts and resources used by Baptist conventions throughout North America. In Southern states, each convention has a full-time director of evangelism focused on resourcing churches. In regions outside the South, NAMB provides funding for an evangelism team member for conventions that want one.



#### Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions

State Executive Director

**Rick Lance** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Daniel Wilson** 

SDOE Email

dwilson@alsbom.org

SDOE Phone number

334-613-2320

Baptisms in 2021

7.816

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+18%

Population of state

5,135,367

Number of congregations in 2021 **3,242** 

Baptism-to-population ratio 1:657

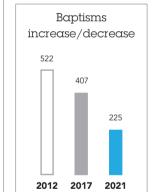
1:65/

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

3.63

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Who's Your One, The Best News



#### Alaska Baptist Resource Network

State Executive Director

**Randy Covington** 

State Director of Evangelism

Jimmy Stewart

SDOE Email

jimmy@alaskabrn.com

SDOE Phone number

907-344-9627

Baptisms in 2021

225

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

-2%

Population of state

690,774

Number of congregations in 2021

116

Baptism-to-population ratio

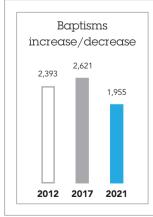
1:3,070

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

5.3

Primary evangelism tool

\_



#### Arizona Mission Network of Southern Baptists

State Executive Director **David Johnson** 

State Director of Evangelism/ Discipleship Facilitator

Edward Pearson

SDOE Email

eddy@azsbc.org

SDOE Phone number **520-940-3750** 

Baptisms in 2021

1,955

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+32%

Population of state

11,984,018

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:6,129

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

5.91

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Who's Your One,
Rooftop Evangelism

22

#### Arkansas Baptist State Convention

State Executive Director J.D. Sonny Tucker

State Director of Evangelism

Vacant

SDOE Email

SDOE Phone number

Baptisms in 2021

5,411

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+16%

Population of state

Baptisms in 2021

from previous year

Population of region

14,674744

3,286,434

Number of congregations in 2021

1,501

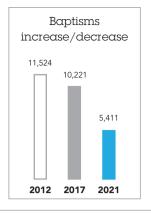
Baptism-to-population ratio

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

5.00

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, 3 Circles, VBS



#### Baptist Churches of New England

1,232

State Executive Director

**Terry Dorsett** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Terry Dorsett** 

SED Email

tdorsett@bcne.net

SED Phone number 508-393-6013

Number of congregations in 2021

Percentage of increase/decrease

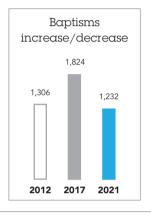
Baptism-to-population ratio

1:11,911

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

Primary evangelism tool

Who's Your One



#### Baptist Convention of Iowa

State Executive Director

**Tim Lubinus** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Chris Eller** SDOE Email

celler@bciowa.org

SDOE Phone number

501-402-1410

Baptisms in 2021

1,035

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+33%

Population of state

5,947,444

Number of congregations in 2021

116

Baptism-to-population ratio

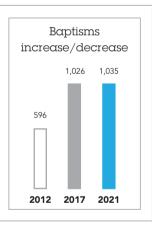
1:5,746

Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

5.23

Primary evangelism tool



#### Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware

State Executive Director

**Michael Crawford** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Mark Dooley** 

SDOE Email

mdooley@bcmd.org

SDOE Phone number

240-577-1601

Baptisms in 2021

653

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+13%

Population of region

11,129,984

Number of congregations in 2021

467

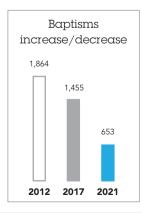
Baptism-to-population ratio

1:17,044

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

2.99

Primary evangelism tools 3 Circles, One Verse



#### Baptist Convention of New Mexico

State Executive Director

Steve Ballew

State Director of Evangelism

Tar Henderson

SDOE Email

thenderson@bcnm.com

SDOE Phone number

505-924-2314

Baptisms in 2021

1,832

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+46%

Population of region

2,115,877

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:1,155

Baptisms per 100 in worship

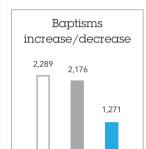
attendance

7.03

Primary evangelism tools

Four Fields, 3 Circles, Evangecube, One Verse Evangelism,

conversational evangelism, tracts



2017

2021

2012

#### Baptist Convention of New York

State Executive Director

Terry M. Robertson

State Director of Evangelism

Terry M. Robertson

SDOE Email

trobertson@bcnysbc.org

SDOE Phone number

315-433-1001

Baptisms in 2021

1.271

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+61%

Population of state

30,432,060

Number of congregations in 2021

510

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:30,432,060

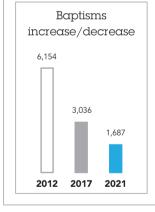
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

3.81

Primary evangelism tool

3 Circles



#### Baptist General Association of Virginia

State Executive Director

Wayne D. Faison

State Director of Evangelism

Vacant

SED Email

wayne.faison@bgav.org

SED Phone number

800-255-2428

Baptisms in 2021

1,687

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+59%

Population of state

Number of congregations in 2021

1,223

Baptism-to-population ratio

Baptisms per 100 in worship

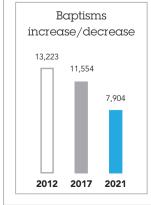
attendance

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, More to Life, Who's Your

One, FAITH Evangelism

\*Baptism-to-population ratio is based on combined baptisms of BGAV and SBCV for accuracy since some congregations are dually aligned.



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#### Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma

State Executive Director

**Todd Fisher** 

State Director of Evangelism

Vacant

SDOE Email

SDOE Phone number

Baptisms in 2021

7,904

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+31%

Population of state

4,411,238

Number of congregations in 2021 1,742

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:558

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

6.28

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, One Great God, One Great Hope, One Verse Evangelism, Can We Talk

#### Baptist Resource Network of Pennsylvania-South Jersey

State Executive Director

**Barry Whitworth** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Larry Anderson** 

SDOE Email

larrya@brunited.org

SDOE Phone number

717 652 5856

Baptisms in 2021

767

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+45%

Population of state

18,507,095

Number of congregations in 2021

307

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:24,129

Baptisms per 100 in worship

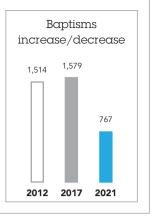
attendance

4.37

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, Three Circles,

**Love PASJ Resources** 



#### Baptist State Convention of Michigan

State Executive Director

**Tim Patterson** 

State Director of Evangelism

Mike Durbin

SDOE Email

mike@bscm.org

SDOE Phone number

810-714-1907

Baptisms in 2021

629

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

-25%

Population of state

8,808,193

Number of congregations in 2021

285

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:14,299

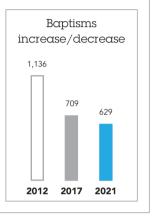
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

3.49

Primary evangelism tool

3 Circles



#### Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

State Executive Director

**Todd Unzicker** 

State Director of Evangelism

Vacant

SDOE Email

\_

SDOE Phone number

\_

Baptisms in 2021

11,553

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+43%

Population of state

11,508,207

Number of congregations in 2021

4,279

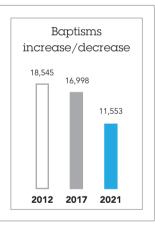
Baptism-to-population ratio **1:996** 

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

4.2

Primary evangelism tool

3 Circles



#### California Southern Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Pete Ramirez** 

State Director of Evangelism

Jason Blankenship

SDOE Email

559-229-9533

jblankenship@csbc.com

SDOE Phone number

Baptisms in 2021

3,219

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

-29%

Population of state

39,345,003

Number of congregations in 2021

2,249

Baptism-to-population ratio **1:12,222** 

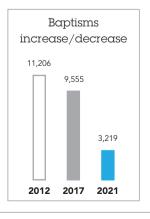
Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

2.49

Primary evangelism tools

Workshops, Cohort Groups,

Grants



#### Canadian National Baptist Convention

Team Leader CNBC National Ministries

#### Jeff Christopherson

Director of Evangelism

#### Cesar Parra

DOE Emails

#### cparra@cnbc.ca

DOE Phone number

403-932-5688

Baptisms in 2021

#### 404

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

#### -20%

Population of region

#### 35,151,728

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

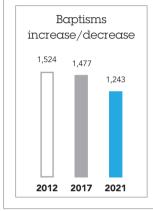
#### 1:87,008

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

#### 2.15

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, God's Story, D5



#### Colorado Baptist General Convention

State Executive Director

#### Mike Proud

State Director of Evangelism

#### Vacant

SDOE Email

SDOE Phone number

Baptisms in 2021

#### 1.243

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

#### -22%

Population of state

#### 5,776,43

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio 1:4.647

Baptisms per 100 in worship

#### attendance

4.61

Primary evangelism tools 3 Circles, Four Fields

360

#### **Baptisms** increase/decrease 104 2012 2017 2021

#### Convention of Southern Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico

State Executive Director

#### **Luis Soto**

State Director of Evangelism

#### **Luis Soto**

SDOE Email

#### luissoto08@gmail.com

SDOE Phone number

939-464-2427

Baptisms in 2021

#### 104

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

#### -2%

Population

3,256,028

Number of congregations in 2021

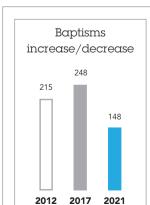
53

Baptism-to-population ratio

#### 1:31,308

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

Primary evangelism tool



#### Dakota Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

#### Fred MacDonald

State Director of Evangelism

#### **Chad McCord**

SDOE Email

#### chad@dakotabaptist.com

SDOE Phone number

605-877-1163

Baptisms in 2021

#### 148

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

-2%

Population of state

#### 1,328,945

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

#### 1:8,979

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

4.27

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Who's Your One, Bless Every Home, Live This,

**TELL (Three Stories)** 

#### Florida Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

Tommy Green

State Director of Evangelism

**Wayne Briant** 

SDOE Email

wbriant@flbaptist.org

SDOE Phone number

941-780-6950

Baptisms in 2021

18,268

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+42%

Population of state

23,015,196

Number of congregations in 2021

2,729

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:1,259

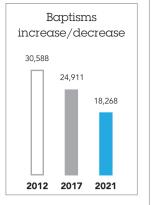
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance **5.35** 

Primary evangelism tools

Regional evangelism conferences,

ethnic evangelism conferences, 3 Circles, local church revivals, Acts 2:41, baptism emphasis



#### Georgia Baptist Mission Board

State Executive Director

**Thomas Hammond** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Vacant** 

SDOE Email

\_

SDOE Phone number

\_

Baptisms in 2021

12.931

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+28%

Population of state

10,799,566

Number of congregations in 2021

3,374

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:835

3.86

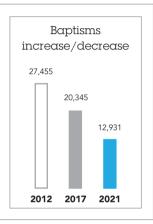
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

Primary evangelism tools

**Domino Effect, No Sweat** 

**Evangelism** 



#### Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Chris Martin** 

State Director of Evangelism

Brian Smart

SDOE Email brian@hpbaptist.net

SDOE Phone number

808-946-9581

Baptisms in 2021

191

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+40%

Population of state

1,448,133

Number of congregations in 2021

119

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:7,581

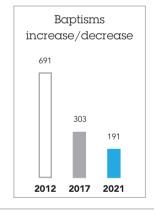
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

4.23

Primary evangelism tool

**Everyday Evangelism** 



#### Illinois Baptist State Association

State Executive Director

**Nate Adams** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Scott Harris** SDOE Email

217-391-3101

scottharris@ibsa.org

SDOE Phone number

Baptisms in 2021

1,981

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

-3%

Population of state

13,082,476

Number of congregations in 2021

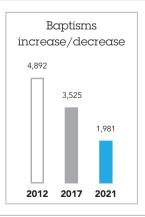
910

Baptism-to-population ratio **1:6,603** 

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

3.92

Primary evangelism tools
Who's Your One, 3 Circles



#### Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists

State Executive Director

**David Manner** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Andy Addis** 

SDOE Email

andy@crosspointnow.net

SDOE Phone number

785-228-6800

Baptisms in 2021

882

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

-17%

Population of state

5,180,670

Number of congregations in 2021

446

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:5,873

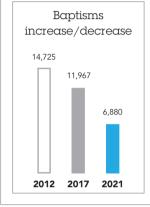
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance **2.59** 

Primary evangelism tools

Systematizing Evangelism Change,

Challenge and Cheer



#### Kentucky Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Todd Gray** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Rob Patterson** 

SDOE Email

rob.patterson@kybaptist.org

SDOE Phone number

502-489-3576

Baptisms in 2021

6.880

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+3%

Population of state

4,701,899

Number of congregations in 2021

2,367

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:683

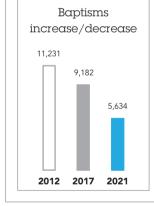
Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

4.27

Primary evangelism tools

Multiple statewide equipping events, one-on-one evangelism

consultations



#### Louisiana Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

Steve Horn

State Director of Evangelism

**Keith Manuel** 

SDOE Email

keith.manuel@lbc.org

SDOE Phone number

318-448-3402

Baptisms in 2021

5,634

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

0%

Population of state

4,633,692

Number of congregations in 2021

1,568

Baptism-to-population ratio **1:822** 

1:822

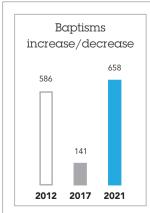
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

Primary evangelism tools

Harvest Events, Revivals, One-on-One Evangelism, 3 Circles, Who's

Your One



#### Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

Leo Endel

State Director of Evangelism

Leo Endel

SDOE Email

endel@mwbc.org

SDOE Phone number **507-282-3636** 

Baptisms in 2021

658

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+74%

Population of state

8,870,339

Number of congregations in 2021 **189** 

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:13,480

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

5.66

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, Evangecube, block parties, 3 Circles

28

#### Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

State Executive Director

**Shawn Parker** 

State Director of Evangelism

Don Lum

SDOE Email dlum@mbcb.org

SDOE Phone number

601-292-3280

Baptisms in 2021

5,591

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+18%

Population of state

4,287,492

Number of congregations in 2021

2,066

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:766

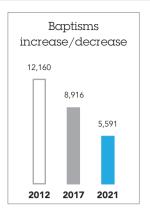
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

4.03

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, The Best News, tracts, pocket cross, Hope video, evangelism soccer balls, Bibles, revivals and crusades



#### Missouri Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

John Yeats

State Director of Evangelism

**Brad Bennett** 

SDOE Email

bbennett@mobaptist.org

SDOE Phone number

573-636-0400

Baptisms in 2021

4.546

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

-12%

Population of state

7,307,200

Number of congregations in 2021

1,780

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:1,607

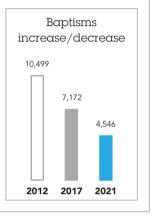
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

3.68

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Who's Your One, Three Story, Simplifying Evangelism



#### Montana Southern Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Barrett Duke** 

State Director of Evangelism

Darren Hales

SDOE Email

dhales@mtsbc.org

SDOE Phone number

406-252-7537

Baptisms in 2021

402

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

-4%

Population of state

1,142,935

Number of congregations in 2021

123

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:2,843

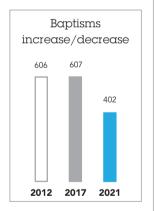
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

4.87

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, 3 Circles



#### Nevada Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Damian Cirincione** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Bradley Linkins**SDOE Email

775-786-0406

bradley@nevadabc.org

SDOE Phone number

Baptisms in 2021

655

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+58%

Population of state

3,217,757

Number of congregations in 2021

165

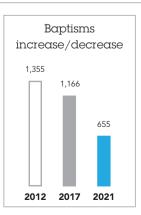
Baptism-to-population ratio **1:4,912** 

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

3.21

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Sharing Jesus Without Fear, The Best News, Who's Your One



#### Northwest Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

Randy Adams

State Director of Evangelism

Lance Caddel

SDOE Email

lancec@nwbaptist.org

SDOE Phone number

360-882-2121

Baptisms in 2021

1,005

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+3%

Population 12.047.634

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

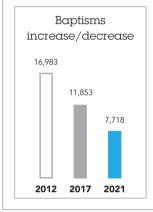
1:11,987

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

3.86

Primary evangelism tools

God Space, MY316



#### South Carolina Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Gary Hollingsworth** 

State Director of Evangelism

Michael Pigg

SDOE Email

michaelpigg@scbaptist.org

SDOE Phone number

803-765-0030

Baptisms in 2021

7.718

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+35%

Population of state

6,377,567

Number of congregations in 2021

2,008

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:826

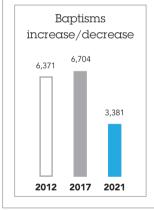
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

4.12

Primary evangelism tools

Bless Every Home, 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations, 3 Circles, Who's Your One, One Night, Neighboring Initiatives, Discipleship SC, What's Your Story



#### Southern Baptist Convention of Virginia

State Executive Director

**Brian Autry** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Steve Bradshaw** 

SDOE Email

sbradshaw@sbcv.org

SDOE Phone number

804-270-1848

Baptisms in 2021

3,381

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+70%

Population of state

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

Baptisms per 100 in worship

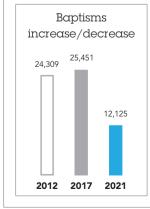
attendance

Primary evangelism tools

Bless Every Home, Who's Your

One, 3 Circles

\*Baptism-to-population ratio is based on combined baptisms of SBCV and BGAV for accuracy since some congregations are dually aligned



30

#### Southern Baptists of Texas Convention

State Executive Director

**Nathan Lorick** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Tony Mathews** 

SDOE Email

tmathews@sbtexas.com

SDOE Phone number

817-552-2500

Baptisms in 2021

12,125

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+81%

Population of state

Number of congregations in 2021 2,678

Baptism-to-population ratio

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

3.98

Primary evangelism tools Toolbox approach with

contextually appropriate tools

\*Baptism-to-population ratio is based on combined baptisms of SBTC and BGCT for accuracy since some congregations are dually aligned.

State Executive Director

**Ryan Strother** 

State Director of Evangelism

Scooter Kellum

SDOE Email

skellum@scbi.org

SDOE Phone number

317-481-2400

Baptisms in 2021

767

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+18%

Population of state

6,806,067

Number of congregations in 2021

439

Baptism-to-population ratio

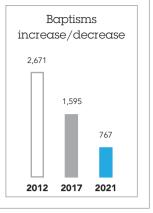
1:8,873

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

3.11

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, 3 Circles



#### State Convention of Baptists in Ohio

State Executive Director

Jeremy Westbrook

State Director of Evangelism

Jack Helton

SDOE Email

jackhelton@scbo.org

SDOE Phone number

614-309-9738

Baptisms in 2021 **1,698** 

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+2%

Population of state

12,548,978

Number of congregations in 2021

702

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:7,390

Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

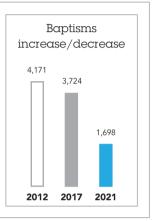
3.67

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Event Evangelism,

Connect Christ to Your Community

**Initiatives** 



#### Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

State Executive Director

**Randy Davis** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Roc Collins** 

SDOE Email

rcollins@tnbaptist.org

SDOE Phone number

615-371-7925

Baptisms in 2021

14,157

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+49%

Population of state

9,523,285

Number of congregations in 2021

3,102

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:672

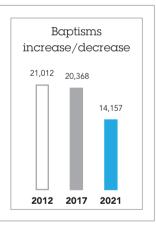
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

5.37

Primary evangelism tool

Who's Your One



#### Texas Baptists

State Executive Director

Vacant

State Director of Evangelism

**Leighton Flowers** 

SDOE Email

leighton.flowers@txb.org

SDOE Phone number

214-828-5120

Baptisms in 2021

12,506

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+43%

Population of state

\_

Number of congregations in 2021

5,193

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:---\*

Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

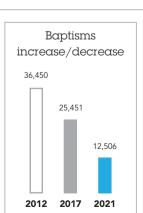
3.98

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Who's Your One, TrueLife.org, One Verse

**Evangelism** 





#### Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention

State Executive Director

**Rob Lee** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Rob Lee** 

SDOE Email

rlee@uisbc.org

SDOE Phone number

801 572 5350

Baptisms in 2021

186

Percentage of increase/decrease

from previous year

+45%

Population of region

5,238,898

Number of congregations in 2021

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:28,166

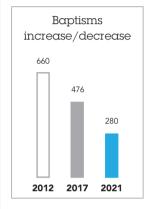
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance 2.73

Primary evangelism tools

3 Circles, Reclaim This Land,

**Bless Every Home** 



#### West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists

State Executive Director

**Eric Ramsey** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Tim Turner** 

SDOE Email

tim@wvcsb.org

SDOE Phone number

304-757-0944

Baptisms in 2021

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+15%

Population of state

1,930,186

Number of congregations in 2021

218

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:6.893

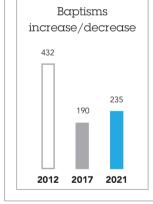
Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

3.28

Primary evangelism tool

3 Circles



#### Wyoming Southern Baptist Mission Network

State Executive Director

**Quin Williams** 

State Director of Evangelism

**Quin Williams** 

SDOE Email

quin@wyomingsbc.org

SDOE Phone number

307-472-4087

Baptisms in 2021

235

Percentage of increase/decrease from previous year

+11%

Population of state

576,365

Number of congregations in 2021

Number of congregations

97

Baptism-to-population ratio

1:2,452

Baptisms per 100 in worship

attendance

Primary evangelism tools

Who's Your One, variety of personal evangelism programs

## Totals for SBC

Baptisms in 2021

154,696

Baptisms in 2017

Baptisms in 2012

Percentage of increase/

254,122

in 2021 50,420 Baptisms per 100 in worship attendance

4.29

26%

decrease from previous year 314,956

Percent reporting based on Lifeway's definition of reporting introduced in 2016. Sources: US Census, Annual Church Profile, 2010 to 2021, Lifeway Christian Resources; Annual Church Profile, Canadian National Baptist Convention Compiled by: Center for Missional Research, North American Mission Board. Prepared by: Lifeway Insights, Lifeway Christian Resources

## myturn

# 3,300 Chaplains sharing the gospel

By Doug Carver

often describe the chaplaincy as ministry on steroids. The SBC has more than 3,300 endorsed chaplains who take the gospel daily into all kinds of institutional settings outside the church. Here are a couple of their stories.

Chaplain David Umfreville has served as missions pastor and director of prison, jail and juvenile ministry at First Baptist of Dallas, Texas, for almost three decades.

He has found many evangelistic opportunities at the Dallas Union Gospel Mission, and he founded Prison to Praise International, partnering with churches to support prison ministry to inmates and their families.

Chaplain Umfreville remarked, "God called me to the evangelism ministry behind prison bars with the promise that every 'word that goes out from my mouth shall not return to empty but shall accomplish God's purposes to seek and save the lost' (Isaiah 55:11)."

Army Chaplain (Captain) Chris Rice spent the past five years serving as a Basic Combat Training Chaplain at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. During every training cycle, he relies heavily on the "ministry of presence" to visit, listen, encourage,

pray and share the gospel with the 500-1,100 trainees every 10 weeks.



Chaplain Rice has had the opportunity to share the gospel thousands of times with young 18-24-year-old men and women who are hearing the good news of Jesus for the very first time.

He has baptized more than 1,600 new believers, distributed 10,000+ Bibles to trainees and discipled soldiers who graduated from Basic Combat Training to become "mobile missionaries" in duty stations worldwide. **[OM]** 

Chaplain (Major General), Retired, Doug Carver is the executive director of chaplaincy at NAMB.



# BOOST YOUR CHURCH'S EVANGELISM EFFORTS

Check out namb.net/evangelism for helpful tools!



