



Baptist Beacon

International Pastors and Wives Banquet

On Saturday, December 10, we had our second annual Ethnic pastors and wives Christmas Banquet. Bob Cook, pastor of the Church at Grace Park, helped sponsor and provide catering for the event. We had a fun and festive evening celebrating the birth of the Savior of the world, complete with gift-giving and prayers for the nations.



We celebrated the arrival of Oscar and Miriam Aguilar. Oscar is the pastor emeritus of Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida that continues to meet in East Nashville. Oscar, as many of you know, suffered a stroke this past January, and it was no small miracle that he was able to be at this event and walk up the stairs of the associational office after being confined to a wheelchair for most of the year. Miriam gave testimony to how grateful they were to the association and to individual churches that have loved and helped their family in this difficult period. Please keep the Aguilars in your prayers.

Pastor Zhang of the Nashville Chinese Baptist Church was in attendance with his wife. Pastor Joshua, as he is known by many, gave an inspirational update from his church. Although it is the only Chinese Baptist church in Nashville, they continue to multiply. He shared his heart and vision to try to reach the nearly 20,000 Chinese speakers in Nashville. Their church has an open position for a youth minister who desires to minister in English but in a cross-cultural environment within Nashville. Write me if you know anyone interested.

David and Hom Soukasene were also at the party. David used to pastor a Laotian church that was based in Nashville, as they are from Laos in Southeast Asia, but God has really given them a heart to lead an international church that reaches out to the refugee community in Smyrna and Antioch areas. They also minister to many MTSU students.

These are just a few of the pastors and wives that were at the banquet that represent the nations who have gathered in and around Nashville. Both Bob Cook and my family were deeply blessed by giving these ministers a memorable evening. My question is this, which churches in Nashville wish to share in this blessing next year?

Brett Boesch, *International Ministry Strategist*

Webinars

Peer Learning Webinar

Each month, the association will offer a Peer Learning Webinar in which a church leader from our association will share valuable and practical skills and insight relevant to a particular area of ministry.

Topic: Creating a Ministry to Individuals and Families with Special Needs

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 17 at noon

Presenters: Joe Stegall and John Whitenack of Providence Baptist Church

Registration: nashvillebaptists.com/peer-learning

Check this page regularly for upcoming topics and presenters

Churches Planting Churches Webinar

Our Church Planting Strategist leads a discussion about how our churches can plant and grow new congregations in Nashville and the surrounding areas.

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 31 at 11:00am

Presenters: Dwayne Lewis and Michael Kelley

Registration:

nashvillebaptists.com/churches-planting-churches

CHURCHES PLANTING CHURCHES

MONTHLY WEBINAR

January 31, 2023 11:00am

PRESENTED BY
THE NASHVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
CHURCH PLANTING TEAM



Michael Kelley
Executive Director
Nashville Baptist Association

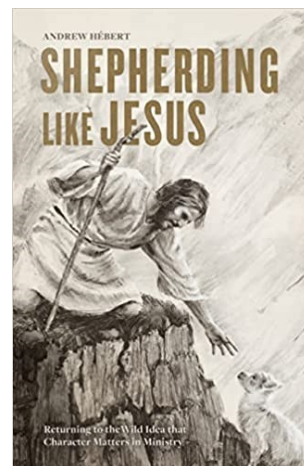
Free Resource

Each month, the association will provide a free resource to the readers of the newsletter. These resources are meant to be practical, helpful, and relatable, just as we are working to be as an association.

This month's free resource is *Shepherding Like Jesus: Returning to the Wild Idea that Character Matters in Ministry* by Andrew Hebert.

Poor in spirit. Broken. Humble. Hungry. Sympathetic. Pure. Reconciling. Enduring.

These are not words that describe the typical picture of the modern-day pastor, but these are the words Jesus said should characterize the lives of His twelve disciples. In many circles, the image of what a pastor is or does looks nothing like the picture Jesus paints for His disciples of the character that marks citizens of His Kingdom.



Shepherding Like Jesus is a call to rebel against much of what our culture understands pastoral leadership to be and return to being the shepherd God has called pastors to be. It's an invitation to recover the most essential element of pastoral ministry: the character of Christ.

We have copies of this resource available to the first 15 people who contact the office to request one. To request a copy, please email general@nashvillebaptists.com or call (615)-259-3034.

NBA Staff

Michael Kelley, Executive Director
mkelley@nashvillebaptists.com

Rusty Sumrall, Lead Coach/Consultant
rsumrall@nashvillebaptists.com

Alicia Darnell, Office Manager
adarnell@nashvillebaptists.com

Dwayne Lewis, Church Planting Strategist
dlewis@nashvillebaptists.com

Brett Boesch, International Ministry Strategist
bboesch@nashvillebaptists.com

John Wright, Bookkeeper
jwright@nashvillebaptists.com

Pastor Profile

Andre Newsom

First Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstFellowshipMBC>

Andre Newsom has been married to Gale for 43 years. They have three children and five grandchildren. Andre is a native Nashvillian, though he did spend several years in Houston before returning. He has pastored First Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church for 20 years.

What is your favorite local Nashville restaurant?

PF Chang's

How would you spend a day off with no ministry responsibilities?

I would spend time with my grandchildren. My youngest grandchild is 9 months old, and she just started walking.

What Bible verse or passage is particularly meaningful to you right now?

Psalms 1:2. This psalm really sums up the work of the pastor as well as our spiritual lives in general. We need the whole book of the law to live rightly with God, and we must be in prayer and meditation on a continual basis.

Is there a quote that has stuck with you and influenced the way you have thought or behaved?

"Every man has to give an account for himself," Romans 14:12.

What is one exciting thing God is doing in your church right now?

Our people have a renewed energy for sharing the gospel with those around them.



Around the Association

TBMB Acts 2:17 Listening Sessions

After its launch during the 2022 Summit, the Acts 2:17 initiative will continue this coming year with a series of listening sessions around the state.

Currently, two are planned for NBA churches:

Dickson First Baptist Church, Jan 23 at 6:30pm

Haywood Hills Baptist Church, Feb 13 at 10am

For more information, visit tnbaptist.org/acts217.

First Baptist Joelton

The Student Ministry of First Baptist Joelton is partnering with six other associational churches for a region-wide DiscipleNow event January 26-27. There is still time for additional churches to jump on board. To learn more about the event and how your church can partner in it, visit fbcjnextgen.com or contact Brian Saylor at bsaylor@fbcjoelton.org.



To see your church event, need, or accomplishment listed here, please call the NBA office or email Alicia at adarnell@nashvillebaptists.com.

Baptist Beacon
Nashville Baptist Association
420 Main Street
Nashville TN 37206

Openings & Opportunities

To have your resume forwarded to churches seeking a pastor, worship leader, or other ministry personnel, please submit a current resume to general@nashvillebaptists.com.

Current Openings

Valley View Baptist Church is looking for a part-time Youth Director. Please contact Charles Specht at charles@charlesspecht.com or (559) 916-2649.

More openings can be found on our website at nashvillebaptists.com/jobs.

Nashville Baptist Association has a policy of publishing job openings for ministerial and support positions when a church requests us to do so. In our desire to assist churches to fill vacancies, NBA will continue to offer this service at no charge.

For more information, call 615-259-3034.