NORTH AMERICAN
BAPTIST CONFERENCE

Prospectus

2026/2027



Where are your donations going?

WHERE DO YOU FIT?

2026/2027 PROSPECTUS

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While there are many funds that support the various projects and efforts across the entire North American Baptist Conference, the two largest are the *Ministry Resource Fund* and the *Global Missions Fund.* Additionally, the *Connie Salios Church Planting Fund* works directly alongside the MRF to resource church multiplication.

MINISTRY RESOURCE FUND

The MRF is the general source of funding for every ministry out of the NAB International Office. To varying degrees, these ministries are funded directly by donors, but inevitable shortfalls are funded by the MRF.

GLOBAL MISSIONS FUND

The GMF is central to sustaining ongoing, collaborative ministry on an international scale. While every NAB international missionary has their own network of support, the GMF serves as the foundation that provides our missionaries and partners with the necessary resources, administrative support, and other help that allows them to focus on ministry in the field.

CONNIE SALIOS CHURCH PLANTING FUND

This fund, named in honor of one of the NAB church planting legends, supports the multiplication of the church here in North America.

The North American Baptist Conference has been in existence since 1851. We began as a gathering of churches of primarily German immigrants. Most had come to North America to escape religious persecution, political unrest, and economic hardship. They brought with them a deep and abiding faith in Jesus Christ. They believed God was forming them into the image of Jesus as they sought to live out what it means to fully love God, love their neighbors, and seek God's best for them.

We are a distinctly bi-national conference, having churches in thirty-six states in the United States and six provinces in Canada. The languages you will hear in NAB churches are no longer just English or even German but the languages of the nations of the world. We believe God calls us to share his love in Jesus with the people he has brought next to us and that he calls us to go and share the hope of Jesus with the nations of the world.

What makes us NAB? It is similar to what brought those original people and churches together in 1851: A shared faith in God through Jesus that depends on God's leading and God's power; a belief that the Christian life is lived by the power and formation of the Holy Spirit in community with other believers; a conviction that God is at work in redeeming mankind and all creation through Jesus and that God has called us as his people to join him in his working. This all begins with who God is and what God has done and is doing for us in Jesus and through the work of his Spirit in this world.

The work we believe God has called us to do together is directed by the Ends of the NAB. These Ends are:

1. **NAB churches will be trained for missional ministries –** This is about who God is and who God is forming us to be in Jesus Christ.
2. **NAB churches will seek opportunities to engage cross-culturally –** It is a priority for the NAB to work together with those different than us, culturally and ethnically.
3. **NAB churches will develop spiritual leaders –** The NAB will elevate emerging leaders by encouraging, equipping, and engaging these leaders.
4. **NAB churches will send and support international missionaries –** The NAB partners with national Christians in global ministries to share the message of Jesus with the world.

We recognize God is at work in and through the NAB. We see it evident in changed lives, flourishing churches, the sending of missionaries, and church multiplication. We see it whenever we see people engaging in God's mission, investing in emerging leaders, and loving our neighbors of every culture and ethnicity. It is evident in God's working in and through your life and mine. This is the visible evidence of a God-directed, God-inspired, and God-empowered movement.

This work of God – work we can accomplish better together than alone – requires your support: prayerfully and financially. This prospectus includes information about a number of NAB ministries we believe are helping us fulfill what God intends for us to do together. God asked us to be his people on mission, with him leading and directing and empowering. I ask that you and your church prayerfully engage in this mission with the NAB community of churches.

We thank God with great gratitude for those whom he, by his grace, continues to bring to be a part of the story of the NAB. This is a story God started in 1851 and continues to this day. Consider this an invitation for you to join us in this mission of God.



Harry Kelm

Dr. Harry Kelm
NAB Executive Director

CROSS-CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

Cross-cultural engagement in the NAB includes creating bridges of understanding and unity in the church, led by the Spirit of God and by his Word. The body of Christ is a community called to be a shining example of unity, composed of people with the same kinds of tensions and disunity we see outside the church.

When we speak of cross-cultural engagement, we seek to give voice to those whose voices historically have not been received among the majority church. We seek to create space for conversation and understanding. The goal is the love that exists among people who love and serve the triune God, as Jesus commanded in John 13:34–35. As the church grows in this area, we become even more credible witnesses to the love God the Father has for the diverse world we live in, a world that does not yet know him. We become increasingly compelling witnesses to the power of Jesus to unite people in a divided world. The term cross-cultural reflects interaction across different cultures, but it also could mean engagement marked by the cross of Christ – the giving of oneself in sacrificial ways for the greater purposes of God's glory, which makes it challenging.

Through international students, immigrants, and refugees in our communities, God has brought the nations to us. Bud Fuchs offers seminars that provide coaching and training to help churches reach out to internationals in your own community. To show hospitality to those not in their own homeland is an ethic commanded throughout Scripture. Bud can lead a seminar to help your church cast a vision for reaching internationals and to train you to host events to help them with conversational English or international welcoming parties. He can guide you in ways to find and connect with your international community.

You can find out more about Cross-Cultural Engagement on the NAB website.

For more information about cross-cultural engagement, please contact Wayne Stapleton, VP of Cross-Cultural Engagement and Emerging Leader Engagement.



Wayne Stapleton
wstapleton@nabconf.org
(313) 530-7933



Meg Kempton
mkempton@nabconf.org

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

In the summer of 2026, Ally Turner and Wayne Stapleton led a series of four conversations with the Grace Community Church staff in Detroit, Michigan. The Cultural Stories Workshops were designed to help Grace grow in its ability to understand, discuss, and faithfully engage cultural difference as a Christian community. Across the four sessions, participants moved through a clear progression: Grace's story, our personal stories, God's biblical story, and our calling in today's cultural moment.

The first session explored Grace's self-described identity as a mosaic church, formed of people of varying cultural, generational, spiritual, educational, and economic backgrounds. The second session invited participants to reflect on their own cultural formation. Stories of family, race, class, church background, opportunity, pain, and personal assumptions helped people recognize that culture shapes how they understand and relate to others. Session three placed all these conversations within the biblical story, through passages such as Ephesians 2–3, Acts 10, Luke 10, and Revelation. The final session focused on how the staff at Grace, and ultimately its members, can live faithfully amid today's pressures, including racial pain, political polarization, loneliness, misinformation, financial stress, and cultural division. Participants identified curiosity, empathy, listening, humility, and Christlike presence as essential practices. They also recognized that discomfort can be part of healthy growth and that smaller conversations, personal invitations, and sustained relationships may be more transformative than large programs alone.

Overall, the workshops moved participants from identity to awareness, from awareness to biblical conviction, and from conviction toward practice. We did not attempt to resolve every cultural tension. Instead, we created space for honest reflection, deeper listening to one another and to oneself, theological grounding, and practical next steps.

One of the highlights of the workshops was that they treated cultural engagement neither as a political project nor as a superficial celebration of diversity. This conversation was grounded in the Gospel: God is forming one reconciled family in Christ, and the church is called to make that reality visible in how its people listen, belong, love, and live together.









EMERGING LEADER ENGAGEMENT

Our goal with Emerging Leader Engagement is to develop and deepen younger leaders. We seek to discover and deploy the voices, ideas, dreams, and presence of younger leaders in our conference of churches. We believe the way forward as a conference must be more fully and intentionally led by younger leaders, many of whom are already leading at the local church level. Those of us who are more seasoned continue to be needed as our conference moves into the future, but our continued leadership must be more and more oriented around pouring into, making room for, and unleashing the creative and Holy Spirit–inspired leadership of our younger leaders.

Our younger leaders have generational awareness and cultural proximity to the younger mission field before us. If we do our job well over the next few years, increasingly more of the leadership, dreaming, planning, and activity at the conference-level of the NAB will be heavily influenced by younger leaders. Our future demands it.







You can find out more about Emerging Leader Engagement on the NAB website.

For more information about cross-cultural engagement, please contact Wayne Stapleton, VP of Cross-Cultural Engagement and Emerging Leader Engagement.



Wayne Stapleton
wstapleton@nabconf.org
(313) 530-7933



Meg Kempton
mkempton@nabconf.org



YEAR of EQUIPPING



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: *YEAR OF EQUIPPING*

In January 2026, a group of emerging leaders from NAB Conference churches gathered for an in-person meeting of the Year of Equipping cohort in Detroit, Michigan. While we had spent months meeting over Zoom, this marked only the second time we were together in person. We gathered not only to learn more about the Father and his mission, but also to deepen our relationships with one another.

During our time in this cohort, we read various books and articles, listened to different voices, and engaged in meaningful discussions. More than that, we also practiced what it means to abide in the Spirit of God, to dwell in his presence and Word and ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom and understanding. While learning from others is an important part of leadership and our journey with Jesus, I believe true formation by the Holy Spirit matters even more.

Our journey together—learning about God in community, rediscovering his grace for us and the world, and responding to his call to love beyond the walls of the church—brought a sense of excitement and joy. During our time together at a retreat center in Detroit, we were amazed by the beauty of God's creation and were reminded of the beauty of the Creator himself. To behold the beauty of God is a gift I may never fully comprehend, but to do so with brothers and sisters in Christ makes it especially meaningful. In this cohort, I found a community that looks to God with awe and seeks to love those around them—walking with others not perfectly but with faithfulness and grace.

To anyone prayerfully considering this cohort in the years ahead, I would encourage you to take the leap, even if you feel uncertain or not quite ready. Often, it is in those very places of hesitation that God meets us most tenderly. Trust him with your "yes" and know that in this community you will find not only leaders who teach but people who will walk beside you as you grow in understanding God's heart and his mission.

C. J. Tubig
Pastor of Children's Ministry and Community Outreach
Grace Baptist Church in Calgary, Alberta

MISSIONAL INITIATIVES

MISSIONAL INITIATIVES

For those who are *in* Christ, there is a call to become *like* Christ (formation) so we might join *with* Christ on mission as he is about the Father's business of redeeming all things. As disciples of Christ, we are discovering our vocation is to be missionaries, both locally and globally, bearing witness to Christ in all we do. Because of this, the NAB seeks to provide training, resources, and opportunities that engage our churches in conversation, evoke them to change, and equip them to be *in, like, and with Christ as he is on mission.* We do this through our core initiatives: **Blue Ocean, Year of Equipping,** and **Discovery Project.** This year we are also excited to launch a new initiative, **Making the Shift**, designed to help churches understand the shifts necessary to participate more fully in God's mission. Alongside these core initiatives, additional learning opportunities will be offered throughout the year, which will culminate in a Missional Cooperative. Our desire is not simply to equip individual churches with new ideas or programs but to see the NAB become a movement of churches joining God on mission.

MISSIONAL INITIATIVES TEAM

As the NAB missional movement has grown, we, too, have expanded our Missional Initiatives Team to help resource us all as we seek to bear witness to our missionary God in all we do. Cam Roxburgh continues to serve as team lead. Deb Judas is responsible for administration and communications, as well as serving as the director of Formation. Wayne Stapleton oversees Year of Equipping, Merv Budd is the equipping evangelist, and Karen Wilk helps lead the area of Neighborhood Life. Luke Miller, Matt Styles, and David Williams are all serving as members of the Missional Initiatives Teaching Team.

BLUE OCEAN

Blue Ocean is a nine-month training experience with pastors and leaders



throughout North America, gathering in-person three times in three different locations. With the guidance of our teaching team – practitioners in missional and formational theology – attendees will reflect deeply on missional theology, spiritual formation, and what it means to be the church in a post-Christendom world. Our cohorts begin in the fall each year.

In addition to our regular Blue Ocean cohort, we will offer a special Blue Ocean experience in England, April 11–24, 2027. It will cover similar content while featuring world-renowned theologians who may not otherwise be available to us in North America. During the trip, we will explore missional theology in London and Oxford, spiritual formation during a retreat in the Lake District, and missional ecclesiology in Manchester and other locations. Applications for this special edition Blue Ocean will be available soon.

If you are interested in taking part in the next cohort, Blue Ocean England, or learning more about Blue Ocean, reach out to Deb.

For more information about Missional Initiatives, please contact Cam Roxburgh, VP of Missional Initiatives, or Deb Judas, Formation & Administration, Missional Initiatives.



Cam Roxburg
croxburgh@nabconf.org
(778) 863-4471



Deb Judas
djudas@nabconf.org
(778) 773-6563



Luke Miller
lukem@sunrise.church

DISCOVERY PROJECT

Discovery Project is an introduction to missional theology and practices, addressing issues facing the church today and how to bear witness to God in everything we do amid an increasingly secular culture. Facilitated over two days, we help leadership and laypeople gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a faithful presence in our world as we live on mission in our local neighborhoods. It is our hope to help God's people see him through a missional lens and begin to have an imagination for how they might join him in the neighborhood.



MISSIONAL COOPERATIVE

For fifteen years, the NAB has been rekindling our early DNA and learning what it means to join with God on mission. Leaders and congregants from over 100 NAB churches have participated in this journey, learning what it means to *dwell* in our neighborhoods, *discern* where God is already at work, and *discover* how we might join him on mission. Along the way, we have come to understand more deeply what it means to be *in Christ, become like Christ, and join with Christ in his mission.*

Now, we are moving toward something more collaborative – a shared resource and a community. We will continue to gather each year at Bonfire, bringing together resources from multiple sources, sharing stories and experiences, with the goal of equipping and mutual learning. To that end, we have initiated the Missional Cooperative. Churches belonging to the Cooperative will benefit from all the NAB Missional Initiative Team has to offer, and they will contribute to the movement as a whole. We believe there is a wealth of wisdom and experience within the NAB, with leaders and churches who have much to offer one another. The Cooperative creates space for us to learn from and encourage one another as we continue to join God on mission.

Those who participate in the Cooperative will have access to the Missional Church Survey, along with the equipping resources and journey offered through our new initiative, Making the Shift. Together, we will explore eight shifts that invite us to rethink how we understand and live out our calling as the church.



For more information on the Cooperative or the Survey and Making the Shift, connect with Deb or Cam.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:
BLUE OCEAN 2025/26

Blue Ocean was a wonderful experience. It was a time to explore my God, a deep dive into my heart, and an honest look at my "neighbor" and how I respond to all. I walked away feeling unsettled in the best way. Bonus was getting to know a fine group of believers I now call friends. Highly recommend!

Donna Linenfelser
Cornerstone Church in Grand Island, New York

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:
DISCOVERY PROJECT

Discovery Project was a powerful weekend of interactive learning that left us with a renewed imagination for how we can step out as everyday missionaries. We were, and continue to be, excited to move out of our comfort zones and expand our reach right here in our neighborhood, particularly alongside our Hispanic community.

Rev. Mario Rodriguez
Tabor Kitchener in Kitchener, Ontario

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:
MISSIONAL COOPERATIVE

One big takeaway for me was that the best indicator of "success" in our ministry is through the evidence of changed lives and the best way to "measure" changed lives is through stories. And the more we share our stories IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES (and everywhere we can) the more we all will come to recognize God at work in and through and around us. Let's collect all the God-stories we can and remind our people that God really is at work doing miraculous things and changing lives every day.

Jathan Good
Sunrise Community Church in Fair Oaks, California

CHURCH MULTIPLICATION

SUSTAINING A MOVEMENT OF MULTIPLICATION

Church multiplication continues to happen across the NAB in significant ways. This should come as no surprise. From the beginning, God has been at work multiplying his people and extending his blessing into the world.

In Genesis, God instructed Adam and Eve to "be fruitful and multiply." He later promised Abraham his descendants would become "as numerous as the sand on the seashore" and through them all nations would be blessed. In Acts 13, as a multicultural group of leaders fasted and prayed, the Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." What followed was a staggering demonstration of what can happen when God's people cooperate with his invitation to multiply.

As the NAB family of churches and global ministries, multiplication is also part of our story.

What began with a few friends in Philadelphia seeking to partner for Gospel impact eventually grew into preaching stations and churches across South Dakota. Alberta experienced a church-planting movement through the ministry of Frederick Mueller in the late 1800s. In Northern California, NAB pastors came together in the 1970s to plant a church – and helped ignite a movement that eventually accounted for nearly forty new churches.

We celebrate those seasons. But we also recognize a challenge: church multiplication – in planting, revitalization, and ministry expansion – has too often experienced seasons of tremendous fruit followed by long periods of dormancy.

We believe now is the time to build toward something that can sustain.

Over the last decade, the NAB family has planted more than sixty churches and revitalized others across the United States and Canada. We have rebuilt our assessment process to better discern fit and prepare leaders for missional and formational ministry. Sending Church Cohorts now create opportunities for peer-to-peer learning among churches committed to sending and supporting multipliers. And a vibrant community of NAB multipliers has emerged, eager to follow the Spirit's leading together.

Our international missions history offers an important parallel. After our first missionaries were sent in the late 1800s, much of the strategy and support for missions was led for three decades by Dr. William Huhn. Following his retirement in 1946, the NAB entered a new era, establishing structures that allowed missionary work to endure and expand far beyond the leadership of any one person. The result is the global mission legacy we have the privilege of stewarding today.

We believe NAB Multipliers has arrived at a similar moment.

God has produced remarkable fruit in recent years. Now is the time to assemble the team, strengthen systems of support, and address weaknesses in how we recruit, prepare, send, and sustain multipliers.



In the summer of 2026, a group of leading NAB multipliers gathered with Dr. Harry Kelm and Stu Streeter in Portland, Oregon, for prayer, discussion, and planning. We called it the Multiplier Strategy Laboratory, or Strat Lab. Our goal was to discern how we might faithfully steward what God is already doing while building structures capable of supporting multiplication for years to come.

From that work emerged an updated Multiplier Pathway – a clearer way to identify, prepare, send, and support the people and churches God is calling to multiply.

MULTIPLIER PATHWAY

EARLY DISCERNMENT
This includes storytelling, assisting sending churches, partnerships with regions and networks, internal connections, pipeline development, mentoring/coaching, prayer, and congregational affirmation.

ASSESSMENT & PLANNING
This expands assessment beyond Fit Assessment alone. It includes the development of Regional Fit Assessments, sending-church assessment, revitalization diagnostics, missional/formational training, and post-assessment soul care.

TRAINING & SUPPORT
This includes ongoing coaching, spiritual formation experiences, practical training, spouse/family soul care, year-one on-site support reviews, fundraising resources, theological/ministry education, and intentional multiplier-to-multiplier connection.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR
This includes Multipliers Summit / Triennial / Bonfire, storytelling, peer-to-peer connection, theological unity, and an expectation that seasoned multipliers eventually help assess, coach, train, encourage, and develop those coming behind them.

WANT TO EXPLORE WHAT YOUR CHURCH'S NEXT STEP COULD BE?

Contact Stu to start the conversation.



Stu Streeter
sstreeter@nabconf.org
(916) 783-1529

WAYS YOUR CHURCH CAN PLUG IN AND BE RESOURCED

FIT ASSESSMENT
Offered three times each year, Fit Assessment is a 2.5-day discernment experience for leaders exploring church planting, revitalization, or international missions. A team drawn from more than sixty trained NAB pastors and leaders helps candidates discern both their calling and the strengths, support, and systems they will need to flourish in ministry. The NAB International Office covers lodging and all assessment costs once participants arrive in the host city.

fit assessment

SENDING CHURCH COHORT
Designed for churches actively sending or preparing to send multipliers, this cohort brings pastors and leaders together twice a year at NAB churches engaged in multiplication. These small gatherings create space to learn directly from sending churches, share experiences, and build relationships with others pursuing multiplication. The NAB International Office covers lodging, meals, and gathering expenses once participants arrive.

NAB Event Calendar

TRIENNIAL + MULTIPLIERS SUMMIT
Our annual Multipliers Summit brings NAB planters and revitalizers together for encouragement, formation, and community. In a Triennial year, the Summit moves alongside the Triennial Conference, with evening gatherings, shared meals, breakout sessions, and intentional connection throughout the week. Triennial registration and Multipliers Summit expenses are covered for NAB Multipliers. These are just a few ways the NAB is investing in churches and leaders who want to expand the reach of the Gospel through multiplication.

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

GOING, SENDING, PRAYING AND CELEBRATING

The call to make disciples of all nations has defined who we are and what we do as the NAB since our very beginnings. Historically, this has meant evangelizing and planting churches among immigrant communities in North America and sending missionaries to countries beyond Canada and the US through going, sending, praying, and celebrating.

God calls individuals of all ages and stages of life to go and proclaim the Gospel among the nations. It is the responsibility of every local NAB church to create opportunities for people to hear and discern the Spirit's call to global mission and be equipped to go in obedience, whether across cultures or continents (Romans 10:13–15).

Sending is not a passive process; it is an engaged, participatory, Spirit-led ministry of local churches joining together to send missionaries (3 John 5–8). It includes actively discerning and affirming God's call, providing financial and relational support, and maintaining active care for those we send (Philippians 2:25, 4:15–16; Romans 15:24).

Prayer is frontline participation in mission. The early church "commended" Kingdom workers to the grace of God through prayer (Acts 14:26–27). Collectively and individually, we are called to engage directly in the advancement of the Gospel through laboring in prayer.

Celebration gives glory to God, honors the obedience of those sent, inspires future faithfulness, and reminds us our prayers, gifts, and obedience bear eternal fruit (Philippians 1:3–5). It inspires thanksgiving, renews passion, strengthens partnerships, and invites others into the mission of God.

CALLED TO BE A PEOPLE ON MISSION WITH GOD

Only one-third of the world's population of 8.3 billion are Christians. That means 5.5 billion people remain to be reached with the Gospel. Partner with NAB International Missions as we revitalize a movement of sending and supporting missionaries from NAB churches to the nations across the world and to the unreached diaspora peoples who live in Canada and the US.

Together, let us discover anew the joy of collective, sacrificial participation in God's redemptive, reconciling, and restorative mission. Let us be churches that listen to the Spirit's call, send our best with joy, uphold them in prayer, and celebrate the stories of God's grace – all to "declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples" (Psalm 96:3 NRSV).

For more information about NAB international missions, including how you can get involved through either sending or going contact Joel David, VP of International Missions, or Caryn Young, director of Administration, International Missions.



Joel David
jdavid@nabconf.org



Shan Reed
sreed@nabconf.org
(279) 225-1998



Caryn Young
cyoung@nabconf.org
(916) 797-6250

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: *INDIA*

Did you know that the very first missionary to go overseas from the NAB family of churches was to India in 1882? Emma Rauschenbusch-Clough (1859–1940) joined a group of Baptist missionaries working among the Telugu-speaking people in southern India. John Everett Clough (1836–1910), whom she married in 1894, had been leading a movement to Christ; By 1883, his church had already expanded to 21,000 members, making it the largest Baptist church in the world at that time.[1]

Today, India has 1.4 billion people still to be reached with the Gospel and more than 2,000 unreached people groups. The need for more missionaries – both from within India and from other nations – to work among the unreached is HUGE! Joshua Project estimates nearly 29,000 additional mission workers are needed.

Several significant barriers challenge mission work in India: The political climate has led to increasing hostility to Christian pastors, churches, and ministries, with increasing numbers of reported incidents of violence and intimidation. Several states have passed anti-conversion laws. The central government has clamped down on foreign funding for Christian ministries, and they continue to work on new laws and amendments to existing statues that create further burdens on Christian organizations.

Though opposition to Gospel work has greatly increased, the church in India is growing, and there is evidence of deep hunger for God and a responsiveness to Christ. Christian missions has a venerable history in India, and the church, though small, is resilient.

God has recently opened up an opportunity for the NAB to re-engage in India. Due to security concerns, we cannot mention names or details here, but contact us if you would like to know more. We invite you to connect with Joel David to discuss what we can do there together as we explore other ministry opportunities and partnerships in India. Unreached peoples still await the Good News from the one and true God – who is their God, too: the Lord Jesus Christ.

[1]*https://dcbasia.org/biography/rauschenbusch-clough-emma*

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: *BRAZIL*

For decades, southern Brazil has been a hard soil in which to plant churches. The things that bore good fruit elsewhere often do not yield much here, and due to a lack of resources and support, most church planters must support themselves and their families with a full-time job, adding burden to their ministries that often leads to burnout.

Last year, our NAB Brazil Field teamed up with two area missionaries to come alongside church planters in our region by creating a support network. Our initial meeting had over twenty church planters where we heard from the church planters, about their challenges and shared the various benefits the network could offer. Our team served as their hosts and discussion facilitators as they shared their ups and downs, praises and prayer requests, and advice based on their experiences.





As far as benefits go, our network offers free Bibles and help with projects for their church buildings, such as sound equipment. Our team members also offer mentoring, pastoral care, retreats, continuing education, equipping series, pulpit supply, and connections with groups that visit from North America.



One church planter in the network, Eduardo, has experienced many trials the past two years. Both his family's home and the building his church plant met in were flooded out in 2024. For two years, our network has come alongside him to help him feel less alone and overwhelmed. Brandon taught a theology class to his members and also provided pulpit supply from time to time. One highlight earlier this year was hosting a network equipping event in his church plant's new building!

It is always a joy to come alongside what God is already doing, but it is also humbling to see firsthand the staggering costs – financial, spiritual, physical, and emotional – that go along with planting a church in southern Brazil. We pray in the coming years that God will bless this network with the message that no one is ever alone!

Brandon Jones, Marci Jones, & Lyndell Campbell Réquia
NAB Missionaries in Brazil

SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIPS

Whether it is initiated by Gateway or requested by a church, Gateway leads short-term mission trips. When they are initiated by Gateway, these will often be FUSE Teams, where team members come together from various churches and locations for an overseas ministry experience. Two FUSE Teams are scheduled, to the Philippines in 2027 and to Cameroon in 2028. (See nabonmission.org/fuse for more information.) When it is by request of a church or ministry, Gateway is there to lead the way in providing a short-term mission team experience – training team leaders from the church, possibly providing customized training for the leader and the traveling team as a whole, or even leading the team overseas.

However it originates, a Gateway team is designed for team members to have a cross-cultural experience that will broaden their worldview and allow them to experience God's Kingdom in a tangible way. Gateway short-term mission teams serve in various settings and participate in projects benefiting local churches or organizations, such as children's ministry, light construction and maintenance, sports ministry, basic English classes, etc.

Over the last twenty-one years NAB Gateway has been facilitating short-term mission leader training workshops, more than 500 leaders have been trained in leading short-term mission teams, many of them going on be part of leading trips of their own. Whether one of these workshops is already happening at a NAB church in your region, you've requested to host one at your church, or you'd like to participate in one of our online workshops, ask how NAB Gateway can help you and your church/ministry do short-term mission with excellence!



SISTER-CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

Sister-church partnerships are long-term, mutual relationships for churches/ministries to partner with another church/ministry internationally. They are theologically missional and Kingdom-oriented, focusing on global church identity, mutual relationship building toward reciprocal sending and receiving, and collaborative mission that is shared and endures through many years.



For more than eighteen years, Gateway has emphasized and guided churches, ministries, and our NAB mission fields toward sister-church partnership engagement, believing this approach to be a faithful working out of the realities of polycentric mission and a global church whose epicenter has firmly emerged in the Global South.

Gateway remains committed to excellence in executing and promoting mission trips, in both our leading and training. As a result, we also firmly believe short-term mission teams are best accomplished in the sister-church partnership context, fulfilling one aspect among many of a thriving, long-term partnership.

Vision trips are a key component of the sister-church partnership process. In October 2025, NAB Gateway provided the training and opportunity for seven simultaneous vision trips in Central Europe and the Balkan nations of the former Yugoslavia. From North Macedonia to Hungary, and from Albania to Serbia and Kosovo, these NAB Gateway vision trips provided church and mission leaders from all over the world the opportunity to understand and pursue a possible ministry partnership in a variety of settings. In most cases, these potential ministry partnerships were with Roma (Gypsy) communities.

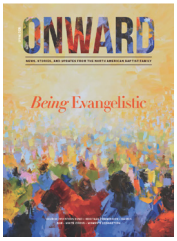
If you are interested in learning more about Gateway or sister-church partnerships, contact Randy Schmor, director of NAB Gateway.



Randy Schmor
rschmor@nabconf.org

RESOURCES

EVENTS
The NAB hosts a number of events throughout the year, including webinars, trainings, book clubs, and in-person and online gatherings. Scan this QR code to discover the upcoming events.



ONWARD MAGAZINE
Full of stories, articles, and resources from across the NAB and partner ministries, this free magazine is mailed to homes across North America twice a year. It is also published online on the NAB website.

EMAIL NEWSLETTERS
There are a variety of newsletters and emails we send throughout the year. In addition to the few below, we also publish Lenten and Advent devotionals and newsletters for the retired segment of the NAB (Servant Link) and for those interested in the NAB Heritage Commission (Heritage Horizons).



NAB UPDATE
These weekly emails provide the NAB family with news, resources, stories, events, profiles, resources, and other information pertaining to the NAB.



MULTIPLIERS MONTHLY
This monthly email newsletter is directed at church planters and revitalizers and includes events, resources, and stories focused on church multiplication.



MIT MONTHLY
Flowing out of the Missional Initiatives Team, this monthly email newsletter offers helpful resources and guidance for those eager to learn how to dwell in our neighborhoods, discern where God is already at work, and discover how we might join him on mission.

CONNECT WITH US

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(916) 797-6222

communications@nabconf.org

Every day, God transforms lives through local churches, emerging leaders, church planters, and global missionaries. The NAB Conference exists to equip and mobilize these servants so more people can encounter the hope, healing, and redemption found in Jesus Christ.

Your partnership makes this possible.

Through the NAB's Ministry Resource Fund, Global Missions Fund, and Connie Salios Church Planting Fund, donors help strengthen churches, develop young leaders, train pastors, multiply congregations, and support cross-cultural and international ministry. From leadership initiatives such as Blue Ocean and Year of Equipping to youth or adult mission experiences with Gateway, to church multiplication and revitalization across North America, to helping ministry candidates discern their next ministry role through our Fit Assessment, every investment creates lasting Kingdom impact.

We are seeing compelling evidence of God's work. Hundreds of young people are engaging in mission and service. New church plants are reaching communities with the Gospel. Pastors and leaders are being equipped to navigate a rapidly changing culture while remaining faithful to Christ's mission. Missionaries around the world are receiving the resources they need to focus on transforming lives and communities.

Over the past year, I have witnessed the momentum building through our combined efforts – momentum I hope we will continue to capture and grow. As a financial supporter, you are not simply funding programs; you are a Momentum Maker who helps people discover Jesus, strengthen churches so they can flourish, and empower leaders to carry the Gospel into future generations. Together, we can participate in God's redemptive work across North America and around the world.

Will you become a Momentum Maker this year with a monthly, quarterly, or semi-annual gift that helps us invest in lives, leaders, and churches that will make an eternal difference?



Terry Okken
Director of Advancement

WAYS TO GIVE

CHECKS: Make payable to "North American Baptists, Inc." with specific fund or project in the memo line.

Mailing Address for US Gifts:
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTISTS, INC.
PO Box 102493
Pasadena, CA 91189-2493

Mailing Address for Canadian Gifts:
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTISTS, INC.
PO Box 57235 Station A
Toronto, ON M5W 5M5

ONLINE giving:
Visit nabconference.org/give.

TEXT to give:
US: Text any amount to (916) 249-0534.
Canada: Text any amount to (204) 400-2238.

E-TRANSFER (Canada only):
Use givecanada@nabconf.org, adding the specific fund or project in the note field.

CREDIT CARD payment by phone:
Contact Briana Eaton at (916) 797-6251.

Gifts of SECURITIES or STOCKS and LEGACY GIVING through end-of-life assets:
Contact Betty Buchholz at (916) 886-2351.

If you have any questions, reach out to us at (916) 797-6251 or by emailing communications@nabconf.org.