



# THE BAPTIST MESSENGER

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...over a little; <sup>24</sup>I will set you over much. Enter into "the joy of your master."  
<sup>25</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more."  
<sup>26</sup>His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."  
<sup>27</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, "Master, I knew you to be <sup>b</sup>a hard man, reaping <sup>c</sup>where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. <sup>26</sup>More than that, what is yours? <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, "You

# Well Done

## PASTORS' CONFERENCE

November 11th, 2024 | First Baptist Church, Moore



2024 ANNUAL MEETING  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS


**2024 Annual Meeting Schedule**



**Fall Back Weekend**  
*by Messenger Staff*



**Church News**



# Well Done

**PASTORS' CONFERENCE**  
November 11th, 2024 | First Baptist Church, Moore



## **'WELL DONE': 2024 PASTORS CONFERENCE TO STRENGTHEN AND ENCOURAGE**

*by Messenger Staff*

The Oklahoma Baptists' Pastors' Conference (OKBPC) is scheduled for Mon., Nov. 11 at Moore, First. OKBPC serves as a time of renewal and inspiration for church leaders across Oklahoma, and this year's theme, "Well Done," seeks to encourage pastors to stay strong in ministry. "Well Done" is based off the words of Jesus from Matt. 25:23: "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"

This year, the concept of faithfulness will be highlighted in five key areas of a pastor's life: family, preaching, leadership, longevity in ministry and personal life. Each theme area will be explored in depth through various sermons, testimonies and focused times of reflection and prayer.

New to this year's conference is the presentation of the J.B. Rounds Award. This award will honor a bi-vocational pastor who has demonstrated exceptional faithfulness in their ministry. Named in honor of Rounds, one of the founders of Falls Creek and leader of Oklahoma Baptists, this award is meant to highlight the importance of recognizing those who labor in smaller or underserved churches while also maintaining other careers.

Notable and respected voices from outside Oklahoma are slated to speak this year. Mark Clifton will bring a wealth of experience to the conversation on leadership and longevity in ministry. Clifton, known for his passion of church revitalization, will resonate with those who are facing challenges in their congregations.

Author and advocate for Gospel-driven ministry Jared Wilson is also scheduled to take the stage. His session, which aims to focus on the personal life of the pastor, will

be a great encouragement for weary pastors serving their churches faithfully and will inspire them to keep Christ at the center of their preaching and ministry.

In addition to these national figures, Oklahoma Baptists will be encouraged through stories of God working in the lives of pastors through testimonies and messages rooted in God's Word. Those who will also share at the conference include Rob Lindley, Brayden Buss, Jase Hargrove, Jake Adams and Keith Wigington.

Of course, there will also be time for pastors to worship together, pray for one another and enjoy times of fellowship. Dustin Searles from Durant, First will lead times of worship throughout the day and guided prayer sessions in the Psalms will give attendees the chance to intercede for one another, their churches and their communities.

There will also be a separate time for the pastors' wives during lunch featuring Tara Matlock and free lunch hosted by Sara Holmes which is sponsored by Moore, First. They will have a panel discussion with a special door prize and other surprises.

The 2024 OKPBC team of Luke Holmes, Jeremy Freeman and Landon Warren have been working hard to ensure that pastors who attend will leave equipped to hear those cherished words, "Well done, good and faithful servant," not only in eternity but throughout their ongoing ministry. Led by pastors, and created for pastors, the OKBPC promises to be a time of rejuvenation, renewal and encouragement for all who attend.

# Invested

1700+ Churches 40 Associations 1 Kingdom



## 2024 ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### MONDAY EVENING

*Michael Butler, Presiding*

<b>6:20</b> Pre-Session Music	<i>First Moore Worship Team Daniel Evans, director</i>
<b>6:30</b> Call to Order	<i>Michael Butler</i>
Greetings from Host Pastor	<i>Charlie Blount</i>
Scripture	<i>Elaine Buxton</i>
Prayer	<i>Terry Buxton</i>
Recognition of Special Guests	<i>Joe Ligon</i>
<b>6:40</b> Worship in Song	<i>First Moore Worship Team Daniel Evans, director</i>
<b>6:50</b> Cooperative Program Focus	<i>Todd Fisher</i>
<b>7:00</b> Business Session	<i>Michael Butler</i>
Appointment of Committees	
Report of Credentials Committee	<i>Luke Holmes</i>
<b>7:10</b> Worship in Song	<i>Native Praise Choir Augusta Smith, director</i>
<b>7:20</b> Executive Director-Treasurer's Address	<i>Todd Fisher</i>
<b>8:00</b> Closing Prayer	<i>Victor Cope</i>

### TUESDAY MORNING

*Manuel Parker, Presiding*

<b>9:00</b> Pre-Session Music	<i>Singing ChurchWomen of Oklahoma Randy Lind, director</i>
<b>9:15</b> Call to Order	<i>Manuel Parker</i>
Worship in Song	<i>Singing ChurchWomen of Oklahoma Randy Lind, director</i>
Scripture	<i>Jamie Schilt</i>
Prayer	<i>Chris Schilt</i>
<b>9:25</b> WatersEdge	<i>Robert Kellogg</i>
<b>9:35</b> Baptist Village Communities	<i>Bill Pierce</i>
<b>9:45</b> Business Session	<i>Michael Butler</i>
Financial Plan Presentation	<i>Sophia Geiger</i>
Election of Officers	
Report of Nominating Committee	<i>Michael Taylor</i>
Report of Board of Directors	<i>Todd Fisher</i>
<b>10:45</b> Worship in Song	<i>Singing ChurchWomen of Oklahoma Randy Lind, director</i>
<b>10:55</b> President's Address	<i>Michael Butler</i>
<b>11:25</b> Closing Prayer	<i>Brian Waddell</i>

### TUESDAY AFTERNOON

*Duncan Blackwell, Presiding*

<b>1:15</b> Pre-Session Music	<i>First Moore Worship Team Daniel Evans, director</i>
<b>1:30</b> Call to Order	<i>Duncan Blackwell</i>
Scripture	<i>Courtney Richert</i>
Prayer	<i>Brad Richert</i>
<b>1:40</b> Oklahoma Baptist University	<i>Heath Thomas</i>
<b>1:50</b> Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children	<i>James Swain</i>
<b>2:00</b> Baptist Collegiate Ministries 100th Anniversary Recognition	<i>Cris Lowery</i>
<b>2:05</b> Business Session	<i>Michael Butler</i>
Election of Officers	
Miscellaneous Business	
<b>2:35</b> Worship in Song	<i>First Moore Worship Team Daniel Evans, director</i>
<b>2:45</b> Annual Sermon	<i>Brent Prentice</i>
Alternate	<i>Danny Mills</i>
<b>3:15</b> Recognition of Outgoing Officers/ Presentation of Newly Elected Officers	<i>Todd Fisher</i>
<b>3:20</b> Closing Prayer	<i>Jacob Bice</i>

[www.oklahomabaptists.org/annualmeeting](http://www.oklahomabaptists.org/annualmeeting)





## FALL BACK WEEKEND 2024: A TIME OF INSPIRATION AND REFRESHMENT

*By Staff*

On the weekend of Oct. 18-19, more than 40 churches with approximately 1,000 students attended the 2024 Fall Back Weekend retreat at Falls Creek. This retreat provides a time of refreshment and spiritual growth for students who are on Fall Break.

Thousands of students attend Falls Creek over the summer enjoying various activities, gathering for Bible studies, learning about missions and experiencing powerful worship services inside the Tabernacle. Fall Back still has those times for spiritual growth, but overall, the Weekend is more relaxed, giving students time to recharge from their busy Fall schedules.

This year's services were led by James Poulain, pastor at Holdenville, First, and worship was led by El Reno, First worship pastor Drew Cranford.

Poulain's sermons throughout the weekend were based on Col. 1:19-20: *"For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to Dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."*

Activities this year included the annual dodgeball tournament, a miniature rodeo, inflatables and other activities available on the Falls Creek grounds. The cafe also offered seasonal menu items to accompany the Fall season.

Many churches stayed on the Falls Creek campgrounds after the Weekend was over to continue their time of fellowship while participating in their own activities.

This is similar to how Fall Back Weekend originally began, with different youth pastors meeting at Falls Creek and bringing their students during their Fall Break.

Soon after, Falls Creek Conference Center became involved with the gathering. The Conference Center would provide the weekend speaker and band, while the youth pastors facilitated the other elements of the event.

Even though it is a relatively new event, Fall Back Weekend is a fun, relaxing time for students that is on course to becoming a mainstay annual gathering for church youth groups.

For more information about Fall Back Weekend, [click here](#).



# CHURCH NEWS



During the Sept. 29 LeFlore Baptist Association Annual Meeting at Talihina, First, this group of men were honored for their service—217 total years—in ministry. From left are Charles Caughern, Summerfield; Harold McConnell, Liberty Hill; Rick Snyder, Youth Director at Springhill; and Mark Cook, Talihina.

## CAMPERS ON MISSION RALLY

The annual Rally for Oklahoma Campers on Mission (COM) was hosted this year by Shawnee, Wallace Ave. The speaker was Dee Ann Schroyer, Director of the Shawnee Hope Pregnancy Center. Worship was led by Ken Hudson from Ada. In 2023, OBHC opened the center in Shawnee supporting women and men with unintended pregnancies and help them explore their choices without judgement. The COM sewers presented the clinic with 100 “Positive Bags” to encourage new mothers with a bible, diapers and other baby necessities. A construction project was completed at Macomb for the Student Center supported by Romulus Church. Adding kitchen facilities at this location helps volunteers serve lunch to students from Macomb High school across the street.

## TRIBUTES

**Sue Ellen Albright Ferguson** died on Sept. 21. She served as Youth Director and Minister to Women at Bethany Council Rd. Known as The Glad Hatter, she collected men’s and women’s fashion hats and became inspired to write historical fashion programs for ladies’ church and civic clubs using her hats from different decades, always ending with an inspirational message. She also started the Celebrate Recovery program at Council Rd.

**Ben Morlan**, 19, died on Oct. 25 following a motorcycle accident. He was the son of Lori and Tim Morlan, pastor of Oklahoma City, Classen Blvd.

**Glenda Sebastian** died recently. She was the wife of Don Sebastian, longtime pastor at several churches in Oklahoma.

## VOLUNTEER MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

### Tulakogee Conference Center

Wagoner, OK  
918-462-3212  
[info@tulakogee.com](mailto:info@tulakogee.com)

### The Spring

A faith-based shelter for women who are victims of domestic violence or human sexual trafficking and their children.  
Sand Springs, OK  
Mychaela Burris -918-947-4679

### Hospitality House of Tulsa

Provides family centered lodging, emotional and spiritual support for family members of patients traveling to Tulsa for medical care.  
918-794-0088  
[www.hhtulsa.org](http://www.hhtulsa.org)

### Hospitality House of Oklahoma

Provides for the physical, spiritual needs of families with loved ones incarcerated in McAlester. Lodging available.  
918-429-0142

### OK Jail & Prison Ministry

Needs volunteers to go into the jails and share the Gospel each week.  
For more information call 405-917-2242 or email:  
[ojpm@ojpm.org](mailto:ojpm@ojpm.org)

## UPCOMING DR EVENTS/INFORMATION

### Inaugural Oklahoma DR Roundtable

Nov. 16 | 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Oklahoma Baptist University  
Register at [www.okdisasterhelp.org](http://www.okdisasterhelp.org)

### Orientation and Credentialing

Feb. 22/Mar. 29/April 11-12 (2025)  
Locations TBD  
Register online - [okdisasterhelp.org](http://okdisasterhelp.org)