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Coming Alongside October , 2023

"He likes it! Hey, Mikey!"



I remember the old Life Cereal ad where Mikey was given some of their cereal to eat. It was doubtful as to whether or not he would eat it. But Mikey liked the cereal and someone exclaimed, "He likes it! Hey, Mikey!"

The TBBA can be viewed like Life Cereal and Mikey. You don't know how good it is until you try it. Many pastors, planters, and churches have tried the TBBA and church partnerships and "they like it!" I hope that many more will also participate and partner with us in the days ahead. To assist you in understanding what we do and offer I am sharing some of the highlights of what we have done in the past year. We consider it a great privilege to come alongside each of you for the spread of the gospel, for the making of disciples who make disciples, and much more. Thank you for your faithful relational and financial partnerships.

The following are just some of the highlights from the past year of ministry.

Pastors

For over nine years the TBBA has offered monthly Pastors' Prayer gatherings in English

in Tampa and Brandon, and in Spanish in Tampa. We continued to do that until July, 2023. The prayer gatherings were good but because they were only a prayer time the TBBA staff felt like it was time for a change. Therefore, on August 3, 2023 we launched the first monthly J15 Pastors' Gathering that consists of pastors Reminding Together (in God's Word), Praying Together, and Fellowshiping Together (eating lunch). In September we also started a Brandon J15 each month. It is desired that the monthly J15 Pastors' Gatherings will make it easier for pastors and planters to connect with others in genuine, accountable friendships so that they can be spiritually, relationally, and emotionally healthy and thereby better lead their churches to impact our county with the gospel message.

Evangelism training

On September 9-10, 2022, I trained over 25 pastors and leaders in Panama City in an *All for One* Lifestyle Evangelism Intensive Training. The 6.5 hour training was filmed by Boe Ellis and then edited. Boe also filmed me teaching an Overview of *All for One* and a *Deeper Dive* for *All for One* in March, 2023. The Overview video, the four Deeper Dive videos, and the Intensive training videos and *All for One* workbooks are all available for free at tbba.org/all-for-one and tbba.org/all-for-one-intensive.

Lielson and I developed another evangelism resource for churches. It is called The Resource Guide and it includes ten great personal evangelism resources that pastors and leaders can use to train their people to often have spiritual and gospel conversations with others. I taught all ten strategies to pastors and leaders on June 26, 2023 and July 24, 2023. The training was filmed and edited and is available to be viewed at tbba.org/the-resource-guide.

Boe Ellis and I updated the TBBA website (tbba.org) so that it now includes an Evangelism tab at the top of the page. When a person clicks on the tab they see the below three choices:

1. The Resource Guide
2. What If?/P.L.E.A.S.E.
3. All for One

All the evangelism strategies are packaged in such a way that a pastor or leader can read about them, watch videos, follow along in workbooks, and then decide whether or not one of these strategies could help their church members frequently share Jesus.

Churh Planting & Revitalizations

Robert Beckman and I met with six pastors whose churches are actively training their members or non-members to possibly plant a church. We met with Justin Perry, Edgar

Aponte and Eloy Rodriguez, Bruce Moore, JJ Johnson, and Darryl Williamson. The TBBA staff will continue to work with these pastors so that other TBBA churches can benefit from these churches' multiplying efforts.

Lielson and I have worked closely together with Pastor Rafael Sanchez (Iglesia Bautista Bethel) and Pastor Steve Hogan (Hope Bible Church) to assist Hope Bible in giving their property and buildings to Iglesia Bautista Bethel. This was formally done on October 2, 2023.

I have met numerous times with the Journey Church Brandon elders and deacons as they wrestled with what the future of their church should be. They unanimously voted to merge with and give their church property to Fishhawk Fellowship Church so that a new church plant can be launched in Riverview. The finalization of all of this will probably take place in late October.

Pastors (more)

On December 5, 2022, we celebrated our Annual Pastors & Wives Christmas party at the Puleo farm in Lutz.

On May 25, 2023 we hosted a free Rays baseball game to honor Ken Whitten, who loves baseball, as he had transitioned away from pastoring Idlewild in January, 2023. About 30 TBBA pastors, FBC staff, and family members attended the game and greatly enjoyed themselves.

November 17, 2022, February 16, 2023, and May 18, 2023 I hosted a luncheon for the larger church pastors at the Columbia Restaurant so that they could encourage each other, share challenges they are facing, and share ideas that they are using to lead their churches.

We held our 2023 Annual Pastors & Wives Retreat at Innisbrook on August 10-12, 2023 with 15 couples in attendance. It was a great time of marital refreshment for the couples. Darin Saley was once again the speaker.

Training

On February 12, 2023 I taught over 60 adults and adolescents about evangelism at Bethel Baptist Haitian Church.

Lielson and I attended the Florida Baptist Convention's Challenge 2025 event on February 28, 2023, along with about 40 TBBA pastors. The theme was on personal evangelism.

The TBBA staff recruited about 20 pastors, wives, and leaders to attend the Exponential Conference in Orlando from March 7-9, 2023. It was sold out with 5,000 attendees and the emphasis of the conference was on personal evangelism, making disciples, and church planting.

VBS training was offered in Spanish in partnership with Lifeway to our Spanish churches in April of 2023 at Iglesia Bautista Bethel, with 58 people attending.

I continue to disciple pastors in triad groups for twenty sessions. Lielson has gone through a triad study twice with me and some pastors, and both of us will begin discipling 3-4 pastors for 20 sessions starting in October, 2023. The intent is for the pastors who have completed the discipling groups to begin to find 3-4 men or two couples at their churches to disciple, so that overall we will see a movement in our churches of people discipling people.

On July 29 the TBBA hosted a Smaller Church Worship Enhancement Workshop that was led by Lielson Penido, Pastor Mark Warren, and Danielle Warren. Almost 20 pastors and lay leaders attended and heard about how to use technology to enhance worship.

In October 2022 Lielson coordinated a men's retreat at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center. They had 198 men present and their guest speaker was Pastor Luis Gabriel Cesar Isunza, pastor of the FBC of Ciudad de Mexico. Lielson has worked with some TBBA pastors to offer a Spanish Men's Retreat at Word of Life in 2023. It will be held on October 6-7 and the preacher will be Pastor Edgar Aponte (Idlewild Baptist Church). It is anticipated that between 150 - 200 men will attend.

Ken Whitten, the new Director of Pastoral Leadership with NAMB, led a workshop on August 14, 2023 at Northgate BC for over 25 pastors and shared about the resources that NAMB is making available to help and encourage pastors to be renewed in Jesus and serve Him effectively through their local churches.

On November 7-8, 2023 Dr. Stephen Rummage will return to lead a Preaching Conference for TBBA pastors. Dr. Rummage has served as a preaching professor at SEBTS in the past and is a great teacher of preachers.

We do all that we do for the glory of God and for the benefit of pastors, planters, leaders, and churches. It is our joy to serve you as you serve the Lord.

Coming alongside,
Mike

FEATURED



Annual Celebration

Sunday, October 15

Harvest Bible Fellowship
5902 N Himes Ave, Tampa, FL 33614

4:00 p.m. snack / dinner & 5:00 p.m. Celebration

Keynote Preacher - Pastor Ken Whitten

NAMB - National Director of Pastoral Leadership



Come hear from Pastor Ken, who after 33 years as Senior Pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church in Lutz, is serving now in a new role with our North American Mission Board encouraging pastors.

Praise and worship will be led by the Harvest Baptist Fellowship worship team and stories will be shared about what God is doing in our TBBA churches and church plants.

Stories from pastors & planters

J15 THIS MONTH





We are pleased to offer two, monthly J15 Pastors gatherings. Join us in either Tampa or in Brandon in the next month:

J15 Monthly Pastors' Gathering - Tampa

Thursday, October 5, 2023

Every First Thursday of the month

First Baptist Church of Tampa

302 W Kennedy Blvd - Tampa

11:30am – 1:00pm

(lunch provided)

J15 Monthly Pastors' Gathering - Brandon

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Southside Baptist Church

415 W Lumsden Rd. - Brandon

11:30am - 1:00pm

(lunch provided)

Please RSVP each month to Jan at jjones@tbba.org or call (813) 935-3839.



Abiding in Jesus



Abiding in His word



Praying earnestly



Loving your brothers

J15 is a monthly pastors' gathering designed to help pastors build genuine friendships with each other, to more deeply love God (*John 15:4-7*), love each other (*John 15:12-15, 17*), and lead many of their church members to personally share the gospel and make disciples (*John 15:8,16*).

Each **J15 Gathering** will include the following:

1. Reminding Together - an interactive biblical discussion (no sermons)

allowed)

2. Praying Together – earnest prayer based on God’s word (about 45 minutes)

3. Eating Together – friendships are more easily developed around good food

We look forward to being with you!

OCTOBER



Men's Retreat 2023 (Spanish-speaking)

October 6-7, 2023

Word of Life

13277 Word of Life Dr, Hudson, FL 34669

With special guest, Dr. Edgar Aponte,
pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church, Lutz, FL

Less than \$100 per man for one night's lodging and three meals.

Our theme is Integrity: one of the most important qualities a man can have. More than just a lifestyle, our integrity represents the values and ethics that guide us as we live with others.

Get all the details and register here -> www.retirodehombres.org

The greatness of a man is not measured by the wealth he acquires, but by his integrity and his ability to positively affect those around him.

NOVEMBER



TBBA PREACHING CONFERENCE with Dr. Stephen Rummage

RSVP NOW
November 7-8, 2023

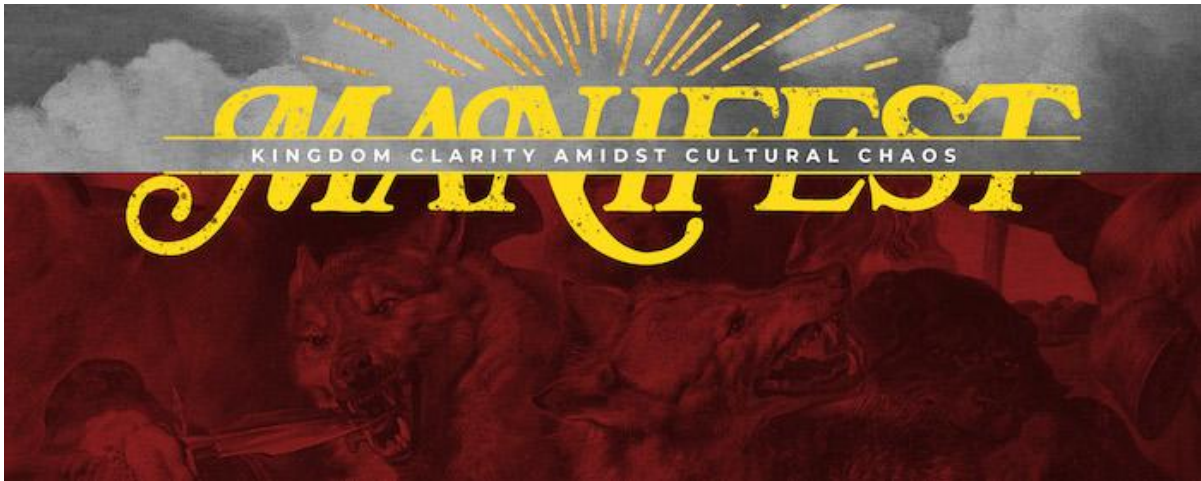
Tuesday night - 6:30pm to 9:00pm
Wednesday morning - 8:30am to 12:00pm

Just \$25 per person includes meals
(mail checks to TBBA, 1060 W Busch Blvd. Tampa FL 33612)

Location:
Living Faith Bible Fellowship
6400 N. 15th St. Tampa, FL 33610

Contact Jan Jones to reserve your spot jjones@tbba.org





Florida Baptist Pastor's Conference and Annual Meeting

THE CONVENTION IS ON OUR HOME TURF THIS YEAR!

Idlewild Baptist Church
18333 Exciting Idlewild Blvd
Lutz, FL 33548

November 12-13 - 2023 Pastor's Conference
November 13-14 - Annual Meeting

[Click here or on the image below for details and registration:](#)

CONVENTION SCHEDULE	NEWS & EVENTS	PASTORS' CONFERENCE
TAMPA HOTELS	FREE MEALS	ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE
GUIDEBOOK COMING SOON	WATCH CONVENTION LIVE	

Pastors Conference Speakers

GUEST SPEAKERS

PAUL PURVIS



TOMMY GREEN



JIM CYMBALA





DANIEL HENDERSON



ALAN BRUMBACK



LARRY MOUTON



DECEMBER



Pastors and Wives Annual Christmas Party

Monday, December 4, 2023
6:30 p.m.

The Puleo Barn
19202 Hanna Road, Lutz, FL 33549

Thank you for making your reservations
for the 2023 Christmas Dinner
for Senior Pastors and Wives. This event is free.

Come and enjoy wonderful fellowship, a great barbecue dinner, desserts, Christmas music, gifts, and so much more.

Dress is very casual.

RSVP to jjones@tbba.org or (813) 935-3839

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



J15 (John 15) Pastors Gatherings are Growing and Expanding

We have been promoting J15 Monthly Pastors' Gatherings for over three months and we kicked off our first J15 at FBC Tampa in August. In addition, we started a south county J15 at Southside Baptist Church of Brandon in September. Each month there will be two gatherings (Tampa & Brandon) and all lead pastors and their associates are welcome to attend.

COMMUNITY & MINISTRY

Belmont Baptist

- Belmont Baptist Church is seeking to pay someone with experience with A/V and Facebook streaming to help on Sunday mornings in the sound booth during the 11:00 a.m. service. Please contact Jason at finance@belmonttampa.org for more information. They are also seeking a pianist position - qualifications are to be able to sight read music and play specific parts as needed during rehearsals. For more information including compensation and schedule, please contact Jason.

Carrollwood Baptist

- Carrollwood Baptist is seeking the following: Student Ministerial Intern - 10-15hrs/week. Paid position working under the supervision of the Student Pastor. Submit resume to churchoffice@carrollwoodbaptist.org
- Childcare Preschool Lead Coordinator - Part time childcare nursery lead coordinator position available. Pay rate begins at \$15 hr. (negotiable w/prior experience). Six hour week position of extra hours for events or meetings. Contact Rhonda at Salt2light85@gmail.com or Cindy.Lewandowski@verizon.net.

Exciting Central

- Exciting Central has four 12' wood pews available for anyone that is interested. For more information, call the church office at (813) 226-2923.

Friendship Baptist

- Friendship Baptist Church in Sun City Center has approximately 85 hymn books that they would like to donate to a church. They are in excellent condition. The copyright is 1991. If interested contact Barbara Melton (813) 633-5950 or fbcc-secretary@fbfcc.org for more details.

Manhattan Baptist

- Manhattan Baptist Church in South Tampa is looking for an experienced pianist. The part-time pianist will be paid \$100 per week. The applicant must be willing to work Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings for choir rehearsal. Applicants can contact their Worship Leader, Peter Jensen at the church at (813) 831-1951 for more information.
- Have several pianos and two organs would like to donate. Contact Sue Turner 813-841-4585.

Sheldon Road Baptist

- Sheldon Road Baptist is looking for a part time music leader. Does not need to be a member. Please call Pastor Mark Nunes at (813) 545-6374 for more information.

Tampa Bay Baptist Association | 1060 W. Busch Blvd., Tampa, FL 33612, FL 33612

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