

IN 2025 GABC MISSIONS:

- **40+** churches served through teams and gifts
- **24** mission trips
- **236** people trained in evangelism
- **7** of the trips were international to Brazil, Scotland, England, Kenya (2 trips), Colombia, and Mexico
- Engaged with over **100** different churches and ministries in over **30** different countries.
- Over **50** of our GABC Connect Groups were mobilized to engage thousands in our city with the gospel

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- **Easter Outreach:**
 - Cookies and invites were distributed to over 5,000 teachers, school staff, and first responders in Tyler, Bullard, Chapel Hill, and Whitehouse.
 - GABC members handed out over 12,000 door hangers and invites to friends and neighbors across our community.
- **Block Parties:**
 - Over 200 people from 18 Connect Groups from our church hosted or helped host a Block party in neighborhoods, schools, and parks of our city.
 - 3,000 candy bags with tracts and church invite cards distributed.
- **Feed Our Friends:**
 - 171 members of our church served food, had gospel conversations, and prayed with over 1,000 of our East Texas families.
- **St. Paul Children's Services:** Distributed 50 Bibles through outreach efforts. At the summer feeding program, 86 volunteers from the Español and Tyler campuses served, reaching over 100 kids.
- **Disaster Relief:**
 - Sent volunteers to assist in disaster recovery efforts in several states – Oklahoma (15), Tennessee (2), and California (3).
 - Over 50 volunteers from our mobile Shower and Laundry trailer served in both disaster and non-disaster settings.
 - Texans on Missions conducted a city-wide cleanup day, during which we removed approximately 1,000 yards of log and limb debris.
 - During the Christmas season, we partnered with Church Under the Bridge to serve the homeless community in Tyler, distributing popcorn and other essentials to 140 people
- **School Outreach:**
 - Peete Elementary: Provided encouraging cards, lunches, bounce houses, prayer, treats, and volunteers for field day and fall festival.
 - Boshears: Donated a specialized trike for students with severe needs.
 - Promise Academy: Supplied vans and volunteers for 3 field trips.
 - School is Cool: Partnered with the City of Tyler back-to-school program where ministry information and gospel tracts were distributed to 2000+ East Texas.
- **Bethesda Health Clinic:** 41 volunteers served at Bethesda Health Clinic during GABC Serve Day, and 40 Bibles were donated.
- **Christian Women's Job Corp:**
 - 6 Connect Groups served in the form of meals and gifts.
 - 11 volunteers served as teachers, mentors and administrative duties.
- **Men's Prison Ministry:**
 - Ministered to 1,328 inmates, 50 salvations, and around 20 individuals served.
 - Donated 318 pairs of glasses to Calvary Commission to be given to Smith County inmates.



CHURCH PLANTER AND MISSIONARY PRAYER GUIDE

Even more than financial support, our mission partners crave our prayers and encouragement. Below is a list of church planters and missionaries we would love your group to partner with and intentionally pray for. Because the needs of a church planter and missionary are unique, we've included some suggestions of how to pray for these partners. Please contact Missions Associate Stacie Tandy at staciet@gabc.org with any questions or for more information on our GABC Mission partnerships.

How to pray for church planters:

Finances – Church plants often struggle with finances due to small size, high expenses, and lack of regular tithing. Pray that God will provide financial stability so that the pastor and workers can focus on ministry.

Meeting Space – Most church plants do not own a meeting facility and lease space where it is available. Pray that God will provide a consistent place to meet each Sunday that will work with the finances of the church.

Pastor and Family – Pastors of church plants often move away from their immediate family and friends to start the church plant. Pray for encouragement and support for the pastor and their families as they deal with the isolation from family and friends.

How to pray for missionaries:

Safety – Many missionaries are working in areas hostile to the gospel and put their own safety and security at risk each time they share their faith. Pray that the Holy Spirit would go before them and provide protection and peace of mind.

Patience and Perseverance – In many cultures where our missionaries live, ministry fruit is very slow-growing. Relationships may take years to develop because of mistrust and cultural barriers. Pray that the missionary would be affirmed in his/her call and encouraged to stay the course.

Community – Isolation is one of the biggest challenges for a missionary in the field. The feeling of loneliness or being forgotten can weigh heavy and distract from the mission. Pray that the Lord would build a sense of community where they are and that friends, families and partners will be intentional in reaching out to them.

Other ways to pray:

Pray for a close walk with Jesus. Pray for a strong grounding in Christ. Pray for wisdom. Pray for favor in the community. Pray for a deep love for the Lord, the Word and the lost. Pray for physical, emotional and spiritual strength. Pray for holiness and integrity. Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel. Pray for church/team unity.

Pastor Tracy Sullens
The Bridge Church
Bucksport, Maine

Tracy and his wife Elizabeth stay busy taking care of their five kids (ages 6-14) far from the support of friends and extended family. In addition to pastoring, Tracy works full-time as a Special Education teacher, which gives him greater opportunities to connect with the community.

Pastor Dane Helsing
Beacon Community Church
Belmont, Massachusetts (near Boston)

Dane and his wife Laura have three precious young kids—a daughter and two sons. Beacon Community is using their recently purchased building for Kids Ministry, Bible studies and community outreach. They actively seek to engage the community around them with events and teams.

Pastor Matt Kendrick
Redemption City Church
Fort Worth, Texas

Matt and his wife Courtney have three school-aged kids who all jump in to help on Sunday mornings. Redemption City recently merged with another church, gaining new members and a great facility to help accommodate the incredible growth they are experiencing.

Pastor David Whitehead
Connections Church
Kapolei, Hawaii

David and his wife Nancy have grown children and are proud grandparents to several grandkids. They are spending what could be their “golden years” tilling difficult soil in Hawaii away from friends and family. Due to high rental cost and limited available, they currently meet for church in an indoor soccer facility.

Pastor Jason Nelson
Niddrie Community Church
Edinburgh, United Kingdom (Scotland)

Jason and his wife Gretchen have been married over 20 years and are parents to five kids ranging in age from 6-18. Originally from Wyoming, the family recently made the decision to put down permanent roots in the UK and were just approved for permanent residency status in Scotland.

Pastor Dave Elliff
Roots Community Church
Bothell, Washington (near Seattle)

Dave and Mary are the proud parents of six kids! Roots Community recently purchased a building to serve as a community outreach center and church planting hub, and they will prayerfully use it to further engage the neighborhoods around them.

Pastor Josh Elliff
River Church
Loveland, CO

Josh and his wife have 3 young kids and relocated their family to Loveland to plant a church in a fast-growing neighborhood community. Church planting is a family tradition—most in his family are involved in ministry, including his brother Dave with Roots Community in Seattle. River Church is raising funds to purchase an incredible building in the area and currently meets in a local school.

Pastor Josh Green
Calvary Severance Church
Severance, Colorado

Josh and his wife Amy have two grown children who are both involved in ministry. Calvary has been meeting in a local middle school for years and recently purchased an amazing building that will prayerfully help Calvary become an impactful outreach center for the community.

Pastor Michael Talley
Church 8025
Thornton, Colorado

Michael and his wife Dale have 4 busy kids and a thriving church plant in the Boulder suburb of Thornton. Church 8025 got its name from the house number it began in with just 15 adults in 2020. The church was blessed with a small building that meets their current needs but will need to expand soon due to their growing congregation.

Pastor Kirk Shull
Art City Church
Springville, Utah

Kirk, his wife Kathy, and their 5 amazing kids are working hard to sow seeds of the gospel in the difficult soil of Utah, where the roots of Mormonism are deeply entrenched. The small church currently meets in the basement of a massage parlor and is taking every opportunity to share the true love of Jesus with their community.

Pastor Johan Strydom
Osaka International Baptist Church
Osaka, Japan

Johan and his wife Haruko recently planted a church in Takatsuki City in Osaka, Japan, where the name of Jesus is largely unknown. Theirs is a true partnership—Haruko, a native of Japan, translates the services for her husband Johan. Despite the cultural challenges, they are experiencing great interest in their church and outreach events.

Eric Perkins
Church Mission Network
East Africa

Eric and his wife Lacy work together to help plant churches and train pastors in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, and other Africa nations. Eric regularly leads teams from GABC to Africa to engage in village evangelism and lay the groundwork for new churches in unreached villages.

Blair Bulman
Global Gates
South Asia

Blair grew up at GABC and was called to witness to the people of South Asia after several years of living among Hindus and Muslim communities in various apartment complexes in Houston. Blair also spent two years engaging villages with the gospel and planting house churches in India and Bangladesh. She recently married and is currently living in Austin where she is actively engaging the large Hindu population there.

Mark and Effie Tripura
Restoration International
Bangladesh

Mark grew up in the jungles of Bangladesh and has spent over 20 years ministering to villages there and leading teams to translate the Bible. Mark recently received his U.S. citizenship and he and Effie will be returning to full-time ministry in Bangladesh in August.

Blake and Emily Ackerson
CRU
Sydney, Australia

Blake and Emily moved their young family to Sydney three years ago to engage the exploding population of international students in Sydney with the gospel, disciple them, and connect them to local churches. The Ackerson family has some health challenges—their toddler Adeline was born with only one kidney and requires consistent follow-up, and Emily is recovering from a serious back injury—and she has two young boys to chase after!

MISSIONS CALENDAR

FALL 2025

AUG

- Men's Prison Outreach Aug 16
- Loveland, CO Mission Trip Aug 29 - Sept 1 (full)
- Arvada, CO Mission Trip Aug 29 - Sept 1 (full)
- Spokane, WA Mission Trip Aug 29 - Sept 1 (full)

SEPT

- IMB Med Advance Conference Sept 6
- First Responders Luncheon Sept 7
- Men's Prison Outreach Sept 20
- Texans On Mission Crisis Disaster Training Sept 27

OCT

- Amazon Mission Trip Oct 2-11 (full)
- Scotland Mission Trip Oct 4-11
- Hygiene Pack Drive Oct 5-12
- Colorado Mission Trip Oct 17-20
- Transformation Weekend (Men's Prison) Oct 18
- Sean McDowell Evangelism Training Oct 22
- **Serve Week Oct 25 - 31**
- Block Parties Oct 31

NOV

- **World Mission Offering** Kickoff Nov 2
- Men's Prison Outreach Nov 15
- Feed Our Friends Nov 24
- Grace Embedded Nov 26

DEC

- Tree Lighting Evangelism Teams Dec 5
- Men's Christmas Prison Outreach Dec 20
- Salt Lake City, UT Mission Trip (Dates TBD)

SERVE WEEK

OCTOBER 25 – 31

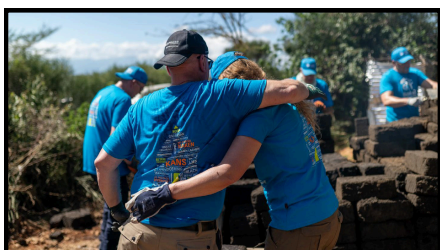


SCAN FOR MORE INFO
gabc.org/serveweek

SERVE WEEK OPPORTUNITIES

October 25 - 31

This is not an exhaustive list of opportunities, but shows the projects already available for Serve Week. Check our website for the most up to date list as we approach October. Email Phil at philc@gabc.org with questions.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Help serve with the program "A Brush with Kindness." ABWK assists low-income families in repairing and renovating their homes so they can continue to live in safe, decent homes. The focus is on assisting elderly, veteran families and those with limited mobility. Projects include painting, landscaping, carpentry, and repair services if the skillset allows.



LIVING ALTERNATIVES

Serve at the AXIA Center. The primary need is outdoor work like flower bed weeding, mulching, planting, potentially mowing, weed eating, and hedge trimming. Several large trees need to be removed from recent storms. Cleaning and organizing inside the maternity home is also needed.



ST. PAUL'S SERVICES

Help St. Paul's clean & paint the interior of a small building across the street from their office. This will be used for small groups, Bible studies, & local neighborhood ministry. Volunteers are also needed to serve with the food pantry on Thursday from 12:45-3pm.



HAMPTONS SENIOR LIVING

Volunteers will guide people through a "Trunk or Treat" and help residents fill their bowls with candy. People are needed to lead group games, and greet guests. Be ready to provide candy!



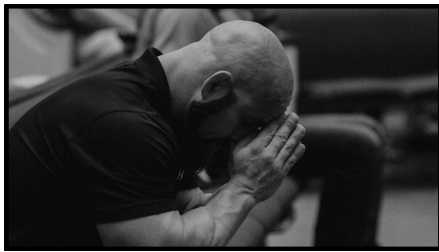
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MINISTRY

Join international students as they are introduced to Pumpkin Carving! We need volunteers to attend the event, mingle with the students, and help carve pumpkins, as well as gather supplies for the carving and goody bags.



NEW CREATION FOUNDATION

Acts of service: the men's Gideon House campus needs building maintenance such as soffit and fasciae repairs and painting interior walls in the men's rooms. The women's Bethel House campus grounds need beautification as well as exterior cleaning and painting of the two cottages



PRISON MINISTRY

Teams will assist Steve Ballard and his connect group as they minister to this community in Henderson with a conference called "Transformation Weekend". We will prepare and serve 6 meals throughout the conference, have a guest speaker and breakout discussions, and will share the Gospel.



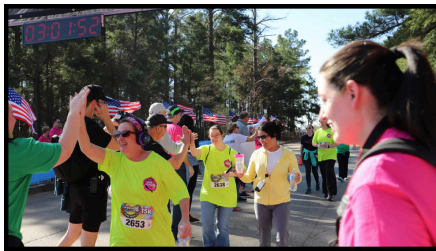
DISASTER RELIEF

Help foster relationships and make disciples with the homeless community of Tyler, as well as the most marginalized and under-resourced families in our community. We will distribute hygiene packs, provide shower and laundry resources, and give out gospel tracts.



EAST TEXAS FOOD BANK

In ETFB's Tyler Volunteer Center, you'll inspect, sort, and repackage food. Other opportunities are also available in our Volunteer Center & Administration offices. After registering through the GABC website, please follow up by registering with East Texas Food Bank.



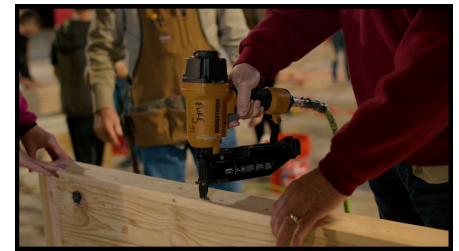
BRECKENRIDGE VILLAGE

Breckenridge hosts a trunk or treat every year. Help host a trunk, run a block party for visiting family members, or lead a devo/worship time to cover an hour. Be ready to provide candy and games or decorations for your trunk!



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S JOB CORPS

Help CWJC host a women's event for CWJC alumni: this involves sharing refreshments, running a large group activity, leading a devotional, and possibly worship.



BED BUILD

Help build and provide hand-made beds for children facing foster placement. No specialized skills are necessary, instructions will be provided upon arrival.

**Flint Campus Exclusive Opportunity*



BETHESDA CLINIC

Medical Professionals are needed to assist with a Medical Clinic hosted by Bethesda.



HOPE HAVEN OF EAST TEXAS

Help build 16 new twin beds for Hope Haven's residential group foster home.



HIWAY 80 RESCUE MISSION

Volunteers are needed to help build fences at Triumph Village. Some experience is preferred, but not required.



HANGERS OF HOPE

There are various tasks Volunteers can help with at the thrift store such as hanging and sorting clothes, cleaning shelves, and emptying clothing racks.



FOSTERING COLLECTIVE

Further the ministry by organizing and sorting their tangible needs closet that serves foster, adopt, and kinship families.



SCHOOL OUTREACH - PEETE

Help put on a block party for students. Volunteers would need to run bounce houses, group games, and pass out candy.



BLOCK PARTY

Host a block party for your neighborhood! Plan to provide things such as decorations, yard games, a staged area for family photos, candy to pass out, or coolers with beverages.



For more information and to register for Serve Week, head to gabc.org/serveweek

GABC SERVES TYLER

Simple Ways to Bless Your Community

Feed & Assist the Vulnerable

- East Texas Food Bank – Tyler Resource Center (3201 Robertson Rd, 903-270-0168)
- PATH – emergency assistance, transitional housing (pathhelps.org)
- HiWay 80 Rescue Mission – shelter, meals, crisis programs (hiway80mission.org)
- St. Paul's Children's Services – food distribution (stpaulchildren.org)
- Meals on Wheels – deliver meals to seniors (mealsonwheelsetx.org)
- Bethesda – Serve low-income families through volunteering at the clinic (bethesdaclinic.org)
- Prison Ministry – minister to incarcerated men and women (mitziea@gabc.org)

Mentor, Encourage & Support Families

- Mentoring Alliance – after-school mentoring & camps (thementoringalliance.com)
- The Fostering Collective – support for foster/adopt families (thefosteringcollective.org)

Build, Repair & Serve Hands-On

- Ramp Ministry – build wheelchair ramps across East Texas (missions@gabc.org)
- Habitat for Humanity of Smith County – home builds & ReStore (smithcountyhabitat.org)
- Breckenridge Village – serve special needs community (breckenridgevillage.com)
- Triumph Village – transitional housing & recovery support (hiway80rm.org)

Disaster Relief & Crisis Response

- Texans On Mission Training – disaster response (texansonmission.org)
- SBTC Disaster Relief Training – clean-up & feeding teams (sbtexas.com/dr)
- Samaritan's Purse – national/international crisis response (samaritanspurse.org)

Everyday Acts of Service

- Prayer-walk neighborhoods, schools, and city parks
- Host neighborhood/park block parties to build relationships
- Organize school supply, coat, or food drive
- Help elderly neighbors with yard work, errands, home repairs
- Drop off thank-you notes, snacks, or coffee at police/fire/EMS stations
- Pray for city leaders and send encouragement to teachers/hospital staff
- Hand out water/cold treats at parks and walking trails
- Assist widows in need through Car-Care Day and various “honey-dos” (cassieh@gabc.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT THE MISSIONS TEAM AT MISSIONS@GABC.ORG

