

## our values



### biblically based

Affirmation of a minimal set of doctrinal beliefs.  
Biblical inerrancy is the foundational element.  
Churches working together in mutual accountability.



### kingdom focused

A focus on missions and evangelism in budgeting and staffing priorities. Using volunteers to keep bureaucracy to a minimum. Striving to resource the needs of SBTC churches rather than to direct ministries.



### missionally driven

Partnership with the Southern Baptist Convention through the traditional Cooperative Program.  
Utilizing the resources of the SBC agencies to maximize ministry effectiveness.

## our mission

The SBTC exists to facilitate, extend and enlarge the Great Commission ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist churches and associations of Texas, upon the authority of God's inerrant Word to the glory of God the father, under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.



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reaching texas, touching the world

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## from our executive director

The Great Commission is a term most of us have heard. Matthew 28:19, 20 is the scripture reference most often used to reflect on Jesus' command to make disciples. The full charge is to make disciples, baptize them and teach them to observe the Word of God. Most of us accept that this directive is given to the church. So there is no misunderstanding in what I believe, I would say the local church.

Conventions do not exist to carry out the Great Commission. Headquarters is the local church. It is the privilege of state and national conventions to help the local church. The Southern Baptists of Texas Convention exists to facilitate, extend and enlarge the Great Commission ministries of Southern Baptist churches in Texas. Nothing takes precedent over helping the churches accomplish their calling from our Lord Jesus.

Evangelism is a top priority to the SBTC. Tools and strategies are available through the SBTC. Encouragement and training take place at events like the Empower Conference. The real motivation comes from within the heart of every believer to tell the Good News to those who are without eternal life. Sharing the gospel is at the center of all we do.

Church Planting is the largest line item in the SBTC budget. Every church plant is expected to grow by conversions. People coming to know Jesus is the foundational element of church starts. It is not about gathering a crowd. It is about getting people into the Kingdom of God.

Revitalization is a major need across the church landscape, and therefore, vital to the SBTC. There are varied reasons for church decline. Demographic change, population shifts, power struggles and over extended financial commitments can cause a church to begin a slide toward closing its doors. Evangelism is the answer to bringing the church back. A focus on reaching the people near and far will enable the church to meet these challenges.

As you see our core values listed in this brochure, we remain committed to the Bible as the inerrant Word of God. We are able to do our work together through the Cooperative Program. This makes us missionally driven. Staying "Kingdom Focused" puts action to our beliefs and giving. We have an opportunity to Reach Texas and Touch the World by obeying Jesus' command to make disciples. Be a part of what God is doing through the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention.



Jim Richards  
sbtc executive director



## in-state budget summary

**missional**  
missions & church planting  
evangelism

38.81

**leadership**  
church ministries  
pastor/church relations  
convention strategies

31.28

**supporting**  
operations & finance  
ministry relationships  
communications

23.65

6.26

### in state special allocation

cp challenge fund  
protection benefit  
minister's outside retirement

See [sbtexas.com/budget](https://sbtexas.com/budget) for a detailed budget

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20