

January 2026

HomeMission Report

OUR TEAM. YOUR HOME. GOD'S MISSION.™

Volume 9, Issue 13

SPOTLIGHT CHURCH:

Eagleville church of Christ (Eagleville, TN)

Brothers and Sisters,

I am delighted to share some wonderful news regarding our church family. Recently, we have welcomed seven new attendees to our congregation. This growth is a testament to the warm and welcoming spirit of our church and to the dedication of our members in fostering a supportive environment for worship and fellowship. We have incorporated a couple of different things to reach out to the community. The first of these was a fan ministry

where we gave out fans to those who had little to no air conditioning during the hot months of the year. In the same manner, we reversed the giveaway to heaters in the cold months. We gave out five heaters to those in need, and we captured all data from each recipient and are actively following up with cards and text messages, along with invitations to come and visit us. Our fall festival was a huge success; we had members from the Concord Rd church of Christ assist us. There were an estimated 6000 people according to the city administration. At our booth, we gave away 9 baskets and 20 Bibles. Additionally, we procured golf carts and provided rides from the church to the festival. As a result of the rides, we have had one family attend two services. We explained our mission, and they seem interested in attending. They are already members of the Lord's church. Halloween trunk-or-treat was also a success in the community; we received over 84 kids. We actively planned and executed a workday at the church, cleaning out the pavilion and making it ready for use. Our friends and family day was a success with approximately 34 in attendance. Our last event of the year consisted of a drop-and-shop VBS. We had 15 kids attend, with 3 new kids coming for Sunday worship, telling their parents this was their new church. Wednesday evening Bible study is being conducted each week; a visitor attended, and she said she plans on coming to the next Sunday worship service. On a side note, our "Blessing Box" continues to be utilized by the community to give out food to those in need. We feel another notable mention to the success of our congregation is the utmost support from **HomeMission** (HM). From our LAUNCH, HM organizational platforms were instrumental in assisting us with tools and follow-up methods. Jack Skinner's follow-up with phone calls and text messages before each major event planned was truly a welcome boost and shot in the arm. His encouragement is a blessing as we continue to push forward together. We have followed HM protocol, but continued prayer from each member, and faith in a loving God, truly reflects what can be accomplished by planting seeds. – Michael Loyd



HOME MISSION444@GMAIL.COM | HOME MISSION.ORG | 4100 MCNIEL AVE. WICHITA FALLS, TX 76308 | 940-692-0032

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HomeMission is a Biblically-based church growth ministry that seeks to assist struggling congregations of the Lord's church through an evangelistic method of equipping with onsite training, guidance, tools, and resources - thus enabling them to revive and thrive as a spiritually healthy body of Christ in their community.

Director's Report



John & Susie Orr

We are deeply grateful for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support for **HomeMission**. Every gift of time, resources, and partnership strengthens our shared mission to spread the Gospel and equip churches for growth. Your faithfulness inspires us to press forward with renewed vision.

Goals for HomeMission:

- Empower Evangelism: Provide practical training and resources to mobilize churches and individuals in outreach.
- Support Small Churches: Strengthen and sustain congregations through mentoring, curriculum, and strategic guidance.
- Develop Leaders: Equip future evangelists and domestic missionaries with tools for effective training and follow-up.
- Build Sustainable Partnerships: Engage donors and supporters.
- Locate students for the school of evangelism beginning in August 2026.

Susie and I will be travelling to congregations each weekend to present **HomeMission**. If you can recommend a church for us to make a presentation, please call me at 940-631-5530, or send us a name and phone number or e-mail of one of the church leaders.

May 2026 be the best year ever for the Lord's church in America.

God bless you all, Love, John and Susie Orr

The Advancement Corner

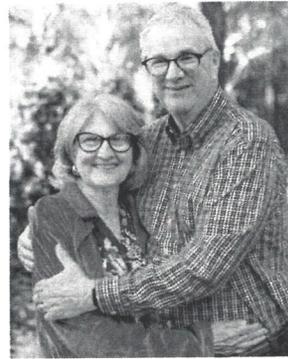
Happy New Year,

As my wife and I sat down and planned our personal household budget for the year, we thought about how life changes and how that affects our plans, and more importantly, the big picture. How do we handle that with which we are blessed? "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people eager for money have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs." (1 Timothy 6:10, NIV).

V.P. Black, in his book *Giving Our Way to Prosperity*, warns us to have the right attitude towards material possessions. He asks the question: "Why do I give my money?" He points out that people give for a variety of reasons, and the motives for giving are many. Motives such as fear, duty, self-respect, and setting an example for others are all reasons that people contribute to various charities.

All the motives mentioned enter into our giving to some degree, but the predominant motive for giving is love. We give because we love God, Christ, the Church, and we love the untaught people of the world and have a desire to carry the Gospel to them. When Jesus was talking to Peter, he did not ask if he had done graduate work, and he didn't ask which school he attended. He did not ask about his social standing in the community or about his economic situation. There was one question the Lord asked Peter: "Do you love me?" The Lord is asking you and me that question every day.

Thank you for your support or your considered support of the work of **HomeMission**.



Don and Phylis Lallathin

Please keep HomeMission in mind when estate planning!

Your donations will leave a legacy that will last many lifetimes. We also encourage you to check with your employer about matching donations to 501c3 organizations. If they participate in matching funds, you can make tax-deductible donations to **HomeMission** that will be increased through the generosity of your employer. **Contact me to learn more about how to support HomeMission in this way!**

Memorials

None reported at time of printing.

HOMEMISSION

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HELPING CHURCHES REVIVE AND THRIVE.

HomeMission444@gmail.com

HOMEMISSION.ORG

(940)692-0032

Operations Director Report

Fellow brethren in the faith,

Happy New Year! These words ring out this time each year, and affects each of us in different ways. For some, it is an introspective time; some studies indicate that 60% of us will attempt at least one



Jim and Lisa Lucas

“resolution”. For others, this time is more about the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. For many, it is just another holiday with work and life largely unaffected. However you choose to view the new year, I pray it is a time of happiness and hopefulness.

As we at **HomeMission** reflect on the past year, we can see God working in and through so many of His children. We see His fingerprints all over the spiritual blessings, financial support, and new volunteers who come our way. Truly, “to God be the glory, great things He hath done!”

With God’s wisdom and guidance, **HomeMission** will continue to help the body of Christ in those congregations that desire to grow spiritually and are willing to allow God to work through them to lead others to Christ.

May God bless you all in 2026.

Yours in Christ,
Jim Lucas

Happy
New Year

WFSOE

West Freeway School of Evangelism



VISIT US ONLINE!
wfsoe.school

West Freeway School of Evangelism is closing out the 2025 year with gratitude and celebration. We extend our warmest congratulations to Norfleet Stitts and Tom Cain for earning their Certificates of Completion.

We will honor and remember Tom’s faithful dedication to the Lord’s work at his memorial service on January 17, 2026, at West Freeway Church of Christ from 10:00–11:00 a.m. We continue to keep Tom’s family lifted in our prayers.

We also offer our prayers and encouragement for Norfleet as he begins his five-month internship on Monday, January 12, 2026. May God bless his efforts as he continues to grow in service, building up the Kingdom.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all the teachers who generously shared their time, knowledge, and wisdom throughout the year. We are equally grateful for the students who committed themselves to learning. As we prepare to welcome the 2026 New Year, let us continue to encourage all who have a desire to grow in the Word to enroll and join this important work.

Thanks be to God that in His Kingdom there are no endings—only new beginnings. As we follow the Lord into His resurrection, may we go forth boldly, lifting up prayers for open doors and hearts, sharing the Gospel with all.

To God be the Glory!

Jim Tyler
Evangelism Coordinator

HomeMission Statistics through December 2025

1. Churches reported 1228 baptisms to close the year in 2025. 1174 were reported in 2024.
2. We worked with (in some way) 205 churches in 42 states in 2025. We have helped over 700 churches across all 50 states in the past decade.
3. In 2025, we supplied \$187,935.71 worth of materials, tools, and Bibles at no cost to the congregations. This is only possible because of churches of Christ and individuals around the country who support this effort. (Special thank you to Nat Stanaland from the north Houston Area for keeping up with this amount each month!)
4. Fifteen larger congregations worked with sixteen smaller ones through **HomeMission** in 2025. Most of these helped with Vacation Bible School, door knocking, or supplies. Two assisted with building construction.
5. Of the 700-plus churches **HomeMission** has worked with over the past 10 years in some way, 97% are still up and running and trying hard to grow.
6. **HomeMission** added two regional full-time evangelists. One works in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Colorado. The other lives in Ohio and works primarily with West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Western Pennsylvania. We have been praying for this to happen. The call for assistance is increasing. They will be trained to train others and build a team that works with them. We plan to add one more evangelist in eastern Pennsylvania to work in the Northeast, God willing.
7. Elder'sNet (a quarterly publication for elders by elders) is being sent to 738 elders in 31 states representing 224 congregations around the country. Ask your elders if they are receiving this quarterly newsletter.
8. The fourth year of the West Freeway School of Evangelism has now finished its class work. All 13 students who have gone through the school have led 95 souls to Christ and are still going. One of our students, brother Tom Kane, finished the classroom portion before he passed away recently from cancer. He led 2 souls to Christ before he went to be with his Lord. If you know of anyone who would like to attend the school in August, there is no charge for the school. They can come on-site or via Zoom. Please contact Chris Graham if interested (817-797-6325).

All praise and glory go to Jesus our Savior and King.

HomeMission- Did You Know...?

Each month in this column we explain some of the terms and tools used by **HomeMission**. The intent is to give you, our readers, a better understanding of how we assist congregations. Reach out to us if you have questions or would like to know more!

HomeMission Evangelist – Job Description

The **HomeMission** Evangelist is a humble and faithful communicator and mobilizer. Called not only to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with clarity, compassion, and conviction, the **HomeMission** evangelist must have a missionary mindset...with a passion for "field work" training of those wanting to learn. This role focuses on helping churches grow spiritually with a renewed congregational commitment and focus on God's Word, fellowship, discipleship, and equipping themselves to live with an evangelistic mindset with intentional and consistent community engagement. Our mission is simple: Spiritual growth results in church growth.

Key responsibilities include training and equipping members in evangelistic methods, hospitality, and strengthening the bonds of unity within the congregation to grow participation; collaborating with the members to identify needs for future numerical growth and help identify solutions to meet those needs; staying engaged and connected with the congregation to offer support and encouragement on the journey; praying strategically for the

community, workers, and the expansion of the Gospel. Be patient, humble, and kind.

Most of our missionary evangelists are volunteers, retired, or semi-retired with years of ministry and hands-on evangelistic experience, but still have a passion to strengthen churches with a mind to work. Jim Lucas, our Operations Director, identifies, trains, and aligns the evangelists with the **HomeMission** methods. If you would like assistance from **HomeMission** or would like to learn more about becoming a **HomeMission** evangelist, please contact Jim at 615-428-2445.

Upcoming Events

Come See Us!

Evangelism Workshop – Houston, TX, Jan 10, Northwest church of Christ (Jim Lucas)

HomeMission LAUNCH – Ligonier, PA, Jan 11-14, Ligonier church of Christ (Austin Woodfin)

HomeMission Presentation – Callisburg, TX, Jan 11, Callisburg church of Christ (John Orr)

Winter Lectureship (booth) – Columbus, OH, Jan 23-24, Fishinger Rd church of Christ (Austin Woodfin)

SIBI Vision Workshop (booth) – Lubbock, TX, Jan 28-30, Sunset International Bible Institute (John Orr, Jonathan Orr)

FHU Lectureships (booth) – Henderson, TN, Feb 1-4, Freed-Hardeman University (Jim Lucas)

Evangelist Activity Reports: December

RODNEY CARTER

January 2026/ Ave T church of Christ/ Temple, TX/ In-person visit/ I spoke with Robert Hendricks (member). The congregation has been making major improvements throughout the building and most of the major work has been completed. The card ministry has been constantly getting cards out to new visitors.

MARK MCLEAN

I followed up with the **Sturgis, SD** congregation. The congregation has made some encouraging progress since the LAUNCH workshop in August; there are numerous regular visitors and some new members.

JONATHAN ORR

I visited the **Chillicothe Church of Christ (TX)** and presented a sermon on December 21st. They have grown recently and have had visitors coming back, which is encouraging!

I spoke to the minister at the **Graham Street Church of Christ in Waxahachie, TX**, and will be visiting there in January to preach and discuss possible next steps in their progress since the 2024 LAUNCH.

RANDY REAGAN

December 2025/**Westgate church of Christ/Beaumont, Texas/** I taught the Sunday morning class and spoke at the A.M. assembly on December 21, 2025. For the second month in a row, there was a response to the Gospel due to community outreach by the congregation. There was also a significant contribution by men in the community of food, clothing, and gifts, directly linked to these men noticing the work of the Westgate congregation in the community.

December 2025/**Van church of Christ/Van, Texas/** I continue filling in on Sundays, teaching a Bible class, and speaking until a regular preacher is hired.

JACK SKINNER

Eagleville, TN: The church has compiled "lessons learned" from their Drop and Shop VBS last month. They will use these learnings to improve the 2026 Shop and Drop VBS. It was successful since 1/3 of the kids were members and 2/3 were non-members' children. The church started mid-week services five weeks ago to augment its education program. They have given away five heaters to people in the area and followed up with cards and calls. They are working on a 2026 goal-setting session in the near future.

Newark, TX: John Orr visited the church on December 28th for a "reset" assessment. I had met with our primary contact around the first of the month to discuss the reset and timing. We have scheduled January 25th to kick off this effort using a facilitated process I have used before with a church in a different mission program. John's input, coupled with the facilitated meeting(s), should produce plans for their growth using their current resources.

AUSTIN WOODFIN

12.7.25 / **Strasburg Church of Christ / Strasburg, VA /** I made a follow-up visit with the Strasburg Church of Christ. I presented a lesson from the Foundations workbook during the Bible study hour (which they are currently working through). I then presented the lesson for AM worship. We had a fellowship meal after that, and then a Habanero meeting with the congregation. Strasburg has made several red team visits in the last few months, and they are actively working towards accomplishing their first four goals.

12.18.25 / **Ligonier Church of Christ / Ligonier, PA /** I held a call with their minister to finalize upcoming LAUNCH workshop details. The workshop is scheduled for January 11-14, 2026.

12.27.25 / **Plattsburgh Church of Christ / Plattsburgh, NY /** I have held a few follow-up calls with Plattsburgh over the last several weeks. They set up a booth at a local event on Saturday, December 27th. We provided a few books for them to give away, and the congregation made new contacts in their community. They will follow up with red team visits in the coming days.

From the Field

Future Elder Training

24 Group Coaching Sessions with *Aubrey Johnson*

This opportunity is for men who *aspire* to be elders. No pressure. No commitment to serve. Just a chance to test the waters while making new friends. *Explore* whether this role is right for you. Who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this!

Sessions are based on Aubrey's popular books *Successful Shepherds* and *Effective Elders* (available at amazon.com). Your coach holds a degree in church leadership, is certified as a ministry coach, has authored six books for elders and deacons, and has conducted over 125 seminars. Aubrey preaches for the Old Hickory Church of Christ in Nashville.

- Learn what is expected of an elder.
- Develop basic leadership skills.
- Equip yourself for future service.
- Become an ideal team player.
- Learn how to be a spiritual coach.
- Imagine the confidence you will gain!



Email aubreyjohnson@icloud.com **Text or Call** 615-506-1109

The difference between success and failure lies in the degree of your preparation. ***Prepare more to achieve more.***

Details - The next group begins February 3, 2026

- 24 Zoom sessions (twice a month for a full year)
- First and third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Central Time
- \$240 per participant due at completion (satisfaction guaranteed or free)
- \$1200 church group rate for unlimited participants

aubreyjohnsonministries.com



Austin Woodfin at the Strasburg, VA COC.



Eagleville, TN LAUNCH June 2025 (Jack Skinner & Jim Lucas).



A recent baptism at the Bedford COC (TX).