

IMB kicks off tour to highlight missions yet to be done

RICHMOND, Va. (BP and local reports) – A new initiative from Southern Baptists' International Mission Board (IMB) will seek to include even more partners in the task of bringing the Gospel to the nations.

Together for the Nations is a series of limited-capacity microevents sponsored by churches, associations, and state conventions designed to provide close interaction between participants and IMB missionaries and staff.

The inaugural Together for the Nations event was hosted by Oklahoma Baptists at Henderson Hills Church in Edmond, Okla., on Oct. 11. While this event, which included around 200 attendees, was the first of its kind, the goal is to host several regional microevents per year for the next three years.

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Together for the Nations, Oct. 11 at Henderson Hills Church, Edmond, Okla. (Photo credit: IMB)

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Last year, 592,408 people heard the Gospel through IMB missionaries. Still, there’s work to be done. That’s why, “the IMB has a desire to spend time with missions leaders and influencers on their turfs,” Derry said.

In the subsequent microevents, more missions pastors and missions influencers around the nation are invited to gather to hear the heartbeat of the International Mission Board.

Throughout the Oklahoma event, attendees learned specific ways to be a part of the IMB’s Revelation 7:9 vision by attending Global Missions Focus breakouts where they had the opportunity to hear directly from IMB missionaries and other personnel.

Those who felt called to take a next step toward serving with the IMB were amply resourced and connected to do so by the end of the day.

Amy Cordova walked into the one-day event with high expectations to learn how churches can come together and better learn how to engage with missionaries who are already serving overseas, she said.

The Oklahoma Baptist missions and women’s ministry partner wasn’t disappointed. Not only did she walk away with that information, but she left better equipped with tangible ways to partner with the IMB in praying, giving, going, and sending.

She was encouraged by the overarching theme, We’re Better When We’re Going. “When we’re focused on the task that God has

given us to reach the nations, together, there's an eagerness and an excitement amongst our churches that is so inspiring and motivating to continue the work," she said.

Mike Wall, Oklahoma Baptists' missions consultant, was thankful for the opportunity to bring missions pastors and leaders across the state together to network.

"My biggest takeaway was how God is at work and how there are pathways for us to join that work. We've had a lot of buzz since then," Wall said, noting that the churches he works with are ready to join in IMB's ministries among the nations.

Pastors and state convention leaders interested in hosting a Together for the Nations microevent should send an e-mail to info@imb.org. While the next event date has not been finalized, check IMB.org/events early next year for more information.