

**May 2025**



# TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## **Executive Board:**

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Fellowship FWB Church  
Bryan

John Collier  
Assistant Moderator  
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Wes Hood  
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Lakehills FWB Church  
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Richard Rust  
Member At-Large  
Faith FWB Church  
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**John Collier**  
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We are closing in fast on the 2025 Texas State Meeting! Will you be joining us June 11-12 at Lakehills Free Will Baptist Church in Cedar Park? I sure hope so! We always have a great state meeting in Texas, and this year is shaping up to be better than ever. We are meeting in a welcoming city. We have a beautiful and friendly host church. The preaching will be outstanding. The theme is important and interesting. And the fellowship is unmatched. Go online to <https://texasfwb.org/statemtg25/> for all the information you need to be ready for this year's meeting, including an online form to preregister. You need to be there!



The theme for the 2025 Meeting is "Reimagining Church" and our keynote speaker is Eric Thomsen. Eric is the Managing Editor of ONE Magazine (<https://onemag.org/>), as well as a gifted speaker, writer, and Free Will Baptist historian. We will take a scriptural and historical look at what the church is and is not, how we came to where we are, and where do we go from here. This is how Eric describes his approach to this subject: "In a sinful world that continually tries to squeeze, to pressure the church into its mold, it is important to stop from time to time and "rethink" the church. How do we do that? We return to the basics —what Scripture really says about the church, and how can we live that out faithfully."

While it's not too late to reserve your hotel room, it is too late to get the discounted rate. Rooms are still available at the Home2 Suites by Hilton Austin/Cedar Park, TX, 14022 US Highway 183 Austin, Texas 78717. This hotel is located about 2.5 miles from the host church. All rooms are suites and include a sofa sleeper and a kitchen. You can reserve your room by clicking this link: <https://bit.ly/2025TexasMeetingHotel>. The reservation page is automatically set to June 10-14. You can change those dates by clicking the date on the page.



Don't forget that in addition to the evening services, there are other activities during the meeting. On Thursday, June 12, TWAC (Texas Women Active for Christ) will meet. At the same time, Eric Thomsen will be leading a session. And in the afternoon, we get down to business, which is officially the reason we have our annual meeting. The host church is providing lunch on Thursday, June 12, and during that time you will get to hear from departments and agencies from across the denomination. Perhaps most importantly, there will be wonderful opportunities to fellowship with other Free Will Baptists from across the state of Texas, as well as those who come to our meeting to represent and report on our various denominational ministries. Register now; you want to be at this meeting!





### State Office Coordinator

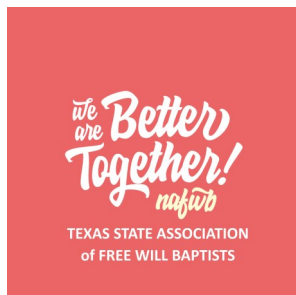
One of the roles John Collier serves as State Office Coordinator for the state association is to promote the work of the association both inside the state of Texas and around the denomination. This includes visiting district association meetings and local churches. As a pastor himself, his opportunities to visit our churches on Sundays are limited. If you would like to invite John to visit your church for a service or special event, please reach out to him directly at 903-570-8279 or [wjcollier3@gmail.com](mailto:wjcollier3@gmail.com).

### Representation Fees (AKA: Dues)

The annual representation fees for local churches has increased to \$200 each for both the national and state associations as of January 2025. A church's fees must be submitted in order for the delegate(s) from that church to be recognized. If fees are not submitted to the national association, the church can not be recognized and will be removed from the national directory.

### Feedback, Comments, Etc.

If you have feedback or comments about this newsletter, the annual state meeting, or anything else regarding the association, feel free to write or call John Collier, State Office Coordinator. As a state association, we exist for our local churches and district associations. We truly are better together!



### **April 12; July 12; October 11, 2025; January 10, 2026**

East Texas District Meeting

Contact David Rudd, Clerk, for details

([etxrudds@reagan.com](mailto:etxrudds@reagan.com))

### **May 3; August 2; November 1, 2025; February 7, 2026**

West Fork District Meeting

Contact Kevin Williford, Clerk, for details

([kwilliford10@gmail.com](mailto:kwilliford10@gmail.com))

### **May 10; August 9; November 8, 2025; February 7, 2026**

Central Texas District Meeting

Contact Sandy Pierson, Clerk, for details

([sgpierson1956@gmail.com](mailto:sgpierson1956@gmail.com))

### **June 11-12, 2025**

Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists Annual Meeting

Lakehills Free Will Baptist Church

Cedar Park, Texas

### **July 20-23, 2025**

National Association of Free Will Baptists Convention

Kansas City, Missouri

For more information, go to [nafwb.org/convention/](https://nafwb.org/convention/)

*If you have events you would like to submit for this calendar, please send them to John Collier. Events will be published on this calendar at the discretion of the Executive Board of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists.*

### **Affiliated Ministries**

During the 2025 Texas State Meeting in Cedar Park, you will be able to hear from our affiliated ministries and spend some time with their leaders. Rober and Judy Posner lead 24:16 Ministries (<https://www.2416ministries.org/>). They com alongside men and women in both one-on-one and group

mentoring, helping men to build and maintain a life of freedom from sexual sin and walking alongside their wives as they heal from the trauma of betrayal. You will also get to hear from Greg and Ana Yacobian and Light of Life Outreach Ministries (<https://www.lolom.org/>). LOLOM provides outreach to the poor, hurting, and lost in the Rio Grande Valley, Mexico, and around the world. Let them share how you can partner with them.



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