Steven Curtis Chapman featured at evangelism conference

January 16, 2024

Recording artist Steven Curtis Chapman is among the featured speakers at Texas Baptists' 2024 Statewide Evangelism Conference, Jan. 21-22 in San Antonio.

Carrying the Great Commission, Great Commandment theme of "Share Christ, Show Love," the conference will be held at Trinity Baptist Church beginning Sunday at 7:30 p.m. and continuing throughout the following day.

"One of the things pastors and ministers enjoy is hearing from other ministers and being encouraged, and the fellowship and camaraderie that happens when you come together and celebrate what God has done," said Leighton Flowers, conference organizer and director of evangelism for Texas Baptists.

"We look forward to the year ahead and hopefully can create excitement for reaching the state for Christ, especially with a new executive director and getting to hear his vision for the convention."

Julio Guarneri, Texas Baptists' executive director, will deliver a keynote address to open the conference during Sunday evening's session.



Steven Curtis Chapman

Chapman will share his heart for evangelism and perform some of his best-known songs acoustically at 7 p.m. Monday. Chapman is a Grammy Award-winning Christian artist with a 30-plus year career and 59 Gospel Music Association Dove Awards on his resume.

He has 11 Gold or Platinum albums and 50 No. 1 hits under his belt, and he penned his memoir, *Between Heaven and the Real World: My Story*, in 2017.

In June 2022, Chapman became the first Christian songwriter to receive the BMI Icon Award. Between touring and appearing on news shows, Chapman and his wife, Mary Beth, are avid adoption supporters and founded the nonprofit Show Hope to assist orphans.

Other speakers at the Statewide Evangelism Conference include Victor Rodriguez, evangelism associate and discipleship specialist with Texas Baptists; Ralph Emerson, senior pastor at Rising Star Baptist Church in Fort Worth; and Mary Jo Sharp, assistant professor of apologetics at Houston Christian University and founder of Confident Christianity Apologetics Ministry.

The worship team from San Antonio's Life Church will lead session worship throughout the two-day conference.

The relaunched Statewide Evangelism Conference last year drew more than 1,100 registrants. Flowers expects the evangelism conference to continue to grow each year as attendees are impacted by the preaching and teaching it provides.

"We want them to walk away with encouragement, current practices and challenges that help people see the importance of evangelism and rekindling that 'first love,' so to speak, to reach others for the cause of Christ," he said.

Audience interaction opportunities—"Talk Back Times"—will follow each session, giving attendees the opportunity to engage speakers in dialogue.

The 2024 event includes a dinner for pastors and spouses at Trinity Baptist on Sunday afternoon, with limited seating available to pre-registered participants. The Texas Baptist Missions Foundation is sponsoring the dinner.

A breakfast sponsored by Baylor University's Truett Theological Seminary will be provided Monday morning. A dessert fellowship will wrap up the conference after the Monday evening session.

To register for the conference, <u>click here</u>.