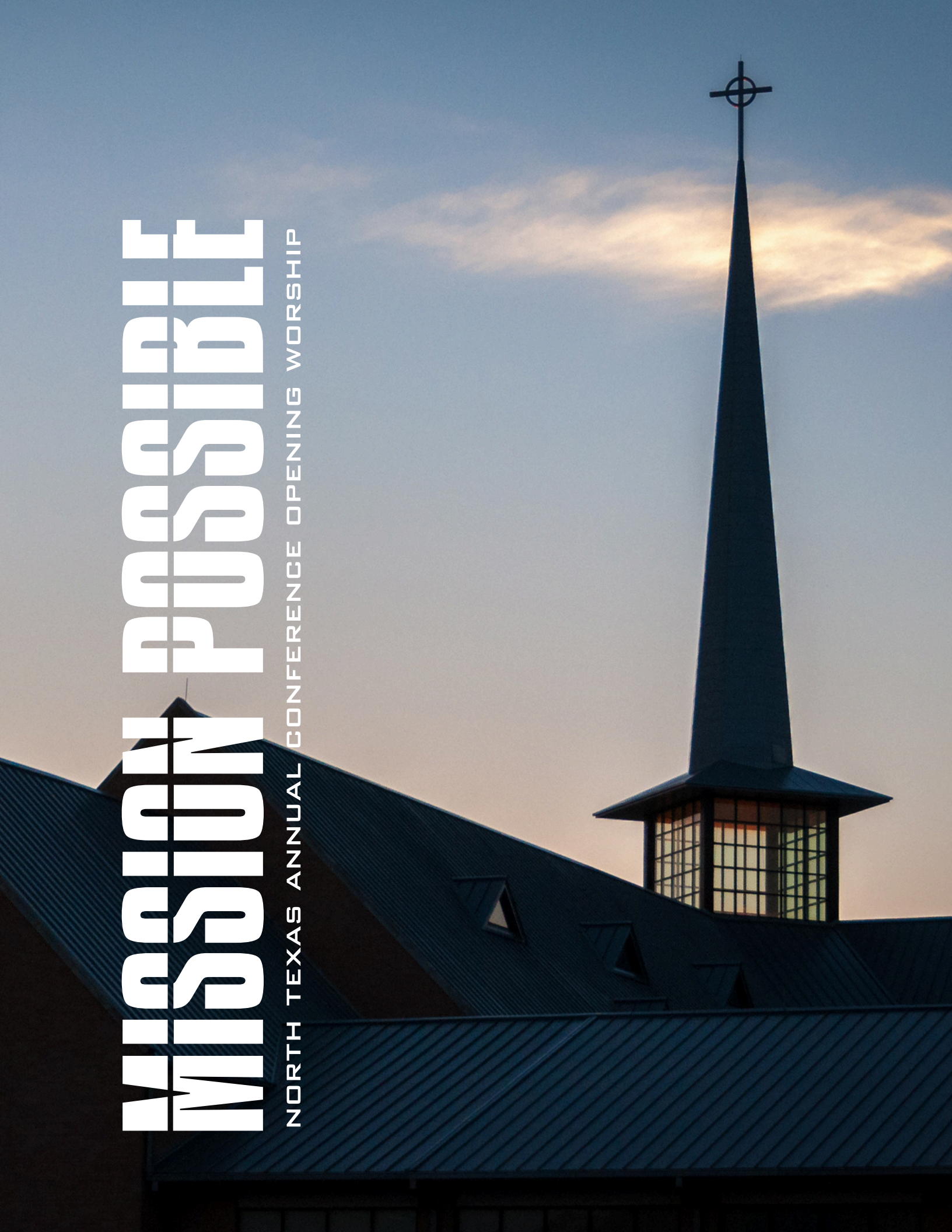


# MISSION POSSIBLE

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENING WORSHIP



# NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

## Opening Worship

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First United Methodist Church Richardson

June 2, 2024 | 7:00 p.m.

Please silence all cell phones as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

\* Please rise in body or in spirit.

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GATHERING MUSIC

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
*Custer Road UMC and First UMC Richardson youth choirs*

Mark A. Miller

Praise  
*Lovers Lane Worship*

Chris Brown, Steven Furtick,  
Chandler Moore, Brandon Lake,  
Pat Barrett, Cody Cranes

GREETING | Rev. Dr. Clayton Oliphint

\* CALL TO WORSHIP | Rev. Marianne Brown-Trigg, Rev. Joshua Esparza, Rev. Ngoni Mukarakate, Rev. Dana Coker, Rev. Justin Hancock

Come, let us gather in the presence of the Almighty God, who makes the impossible possible.  
In times of doubt and uncertainty, we come seeking God's assurance.  
When we face mountains too high to climb and valleys too deep to cross,  
we remember God's promise to be our guide and our strength.

**With God, all things are possible!**

When the path ahead seems unclear, and we feel overwhelmed by the burdens we carry,  
we turn to the Lord, our ever-present help.

As we seek hope in our despair, strength in our weakness, and peace in our turmoil,  
we lift our eyes to the One who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

**With God, all things are possible!**

Let us remember the stories of old,  
where God parted the seas, brought down giants, and delivered His people from bondage.  
Ours is the faith of Abraham, who believed in hope against hope,  
the courage of Ruth, who chose to risk love amidst grief,  
and the perseverance of Paul, who spread the Gospel despite great trials.

**With God, all things are possible!**

We have seen God's hand at work in miraculous ways,  
providing for us, healing us, and leading us through the darkest valleys.  
As we gather tonight, let us open our hearts and minds to the Word of God,  
trusting that Christ can transform us and renew our spirits.

**With God, all things are possible!**

Let us worship the One who turns our mourning into dancing, our sorrow into joy, and our despair into hope.  
Together, let us lift our voices and our hearts in praise, for we know that God's love never fails.

**With God, all things are possible! Let us worship and walk in this truth! Amen.**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Child of Love  
*Lovers Lane Worship*

Andrew Bergthold, Franni Cash,  
Edmond Martin Cash, Martin Cash  
Scott McTyeire Cash

\* OPENING HYMN

Goodness of God  
*Lovers Lane Worship; Katie Sheetz, organist*

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson,  
Edmond Martin Cash,  
Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER | Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 883 | Rev. Dr. Lucretia Facen

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\* CALL TO OFFERING | Rev. Dr. Chad Johnson

God of all creation, giver of every perfect gift, we offer our thanks for this life and its gifts. Bless these offerings and those given outside this time of worship. May our contributions here and in every part of our lives – our time, our skills, and our resources – work toward a world of justice, holiness, and peace.

**We pray that it be so through the ministries of this Annual Conference and through the work we do together. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Loved  
*Lovers Lane Worship*

Randy Austin, Val Dacus

\* OFFERING RESPONSE 95

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH

INTRODUCTION OF REV. LANCE MARSHALL | Bishop Saenz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION | Rev. Anthony Tang

\* SCRIPTURE READING | Colossians 1:15-20 | Rev. Joy Gonzalez

SERMON | “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior” | Rev. Lance Marshall

SPECIAL MUSIC

You Say  
*Custer Road UMC and First UMC Richardson youth choirs*  
*Lovers Lane Worship, Krystal Stroud*

Lauren Daigle

COMMISSIONING OF MINISTRY GROUPS

Interns serving with Project Transformation and Conference Youth Leadership Program

\* CLOSING HYMN

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)  
*Lovers Lane Worship*  
*Custer Road UMC and First UMC Richardson youth choirs*  
*Siena Kistler, Michael Rosensteel and Maggie Waidler, soloists*

Joel Houston, Matt Crocker  
Salomon Lighthelm

TAKING OUR LIGHT INTO THE WORLD I'll Be On My Way

*Custer Road UMC and First UMC Richardson youth choirs*  
*Wesley Hightower, Evan Gray, Thomas Hinton, Isaac Lindb, soloists*

Shawn Kirchner

SENDING FORTH | Bishop Saenz

POSTLUDE

Child of Love  
*Lovers Lane Worship*

Andrew Bergthold, Franni Cash,  
Edmond Martin Cash, Martin Cash  
Scott McTyeire Cash

Please join the reception hosted by Bishop Ruben and Mayé Saenz  
immediately following worship in Coleman Family Hall.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. | North Texas Annual Conference  
Rev. Lance Marshall | Senior Pastor, First UMC Fort Worth  
Rev. Dr. Clayton Oliphint | Senior Pastor, First UMC Richardson  
Rev. Marianne Brown-Trigg | Director, Denton Wesley Foundation  
Rev. Justin Hancock | Director, Neighboring Movement  
Rev. Ngoni Mukarakate | Associate Pastor, Lovers Lane UMC  
Rev. Dana Coker | Senior Pastor, First UMC Bonham  
Rev. Joshua Esparza | Associate Pastor, First UMC Allen  
Rev. Dr. Lucretia Facen | Senior Pastor, St. Paul UMC  
Rev. Dr. Chad Johnson | Senior Pastor, First UMC Jacksboro  
Rev. Anthony Tang | Associate Pastor, First UMC Dallas  
Rev. Joy Gonzalez | Associate Pastor, Lovers Lane UMC

## MUSIC LEADERS

Lovers Lane Worship Team and Band  
Krystal Stroud | First UMC Denton

### Youth Choirs

First UMC Richardson | Caitlin Molechat, director  
Custer Road UMC | Rev. Tim Morrison, director

### Instrumentalists

Katrina Glaze, fiddle  
Antoine Spencer, piano  
Katie Sheetz, organist

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